INABURRA PARENTS & FRIENDS

Minutes of Meeting held on Tuesday, 23 February 2016 at 7.30pm in the Drama Studio, Inaburra School

Attendees and apologies: See Parents & Friends Attendance Book. Quorum for meeting was reached.

Chair: Barbara Curtis, President (PL), Parents & Friends
Secretary: Chris Yee

1. The minutes of the previous meeting on 20 November 2015, were accepted as a true record of that meeting.
   Motion: put forward by Dotte Derrickson (DD), seconded by Paula Linton (PL).

Special item: Student Voice – Global Education

2. Mr Watson introduced the Year 10 Global Education program. The program now consisted of 5 trips; each trip included a service component as well as a cultural experience. 4 students came and spoke of their experiences and an overview of each trip.

- Amber: Greater Sydney – service work in the wider Sydney community and urban exploration. Some activities included visiting Westmead’s Children hospital, packing Christmas boxes for underprivileged children, walks through Kings Cross, working with students with severe disabilities at Caroline Chisolm school, visiting a church service in the city for those people they suffered abuse in the church.
- Hamish: Tasmania - conservation projects (such as looking for supposedly extinct caterpillars), visitation of historical and geographical sites (such as Port Arthur), and an overnight stay on Maria Island (once a convict settlement, now a refuge for endangered plants and animals)
- Oscar: South East Asia – immersive tours of Cambodia and Vietnam, delving into the culture, religion, food, and visiting orphanages and war museums. Oscar noted the trip was draining not just physically, but emotionally.
- Rachael: Yasawa Islands – trip consisted of sustainability (chicken coop), visiting remote schools, and marine biology and conservation. Students were partnered with Australia Pacific Youth Foundation (APYF) who, in turn, worked closely with the Fijian Government.
- Remote Australia – currently targeting Broken Hill; working with local communities and youth groups, and visiting national parks.

All students noted that the Global Ed trips had given them a better “world view”, shaping their thoughts on future occupations and how lucky and appreciative they were to live in Sydney and Australia.
3. **Principal’s Q&A:** Mr Bowden had not much to remark as he had been away on study leave the last 2 weeks for his Executive MBA. He thanked the teachers and Mr Coote and Mr Collins for keeping the school running smoothly without him.

Mr Bowden gave an update on the *Inaburra Building Project*; there were a few (valid) complaints by local residents – mainly due to the parking and movement of contractor vehicles. Local residents have been given the contact numbers for the school as well as the site manager.

4. **Head of Junior School:** Mr Coote noted:
   - New procedures for the *Car Pick-up Line*; using alphabetical groupings for pick-up locations.
   - The builders had broken some of the school toilets and the school was attempting to rectify this as quickly as possible.
   - The Junior School was working to improve the *Learning Enrichment program* processes, such as communication to/from parents and students.
   - The *2016 Canberra trip* was now combined for years 5 and 6 as part of the process to integrate the stage 3 (which will occur more often when the new build is completed).
   - The school was reviewing *Junior School reports* to more easily identify, for parents, whether their children had reached their potential in the reporting period and, if not, what support would be needed to achieve that.

5. **Head of Senior School:** Mr Collins made mention of the following:
   - The Senior School would be initiating a *Senior School Blog* (hoping to emulate the success of the junior school blogs).
   - A concentrated effort was being put in to analyse the senior school student *Effort Point Average* (EPAs) to mark trends in performances and to improve feedback to the student. The EPA is a measure of a student’s participation and effort put into classes and not on their specific grades themselves.
   - They school was working to bring back past students of Inaburra to share their insights on how they prepared for the Higher School Certificate exams.
   - Senior school students would be receiving an *interim report* at around week 10, as parents noted that 6 month between reports was too long an interval to be notified of any concerns/issues with their child.

6. **Year 4 Fathers & Daughters / Mothers & Sons Dinner:** An event that has been proposed as an alternative to the Father & Son / Mother & Daughter camps. Domenic Valastro to meet with Maree Staples to discuss this further.

7. **Mother’s Day and Father’s Day Stalls:** will be kindly organised by Melissa Frost (MF). She confirmed that she had already purchased items for the events. The *Mother’s Day stall* has been scheduled for Wednesday 4 May.
8. **Inaburra PJ Movie Night**: is an outdoor movie event proposed by the P&F to run on Saturday 2 April 2016, with the movie to start at 7pm. The events aim is to foster community spirit (i.e. not a fundraiser) and to also appeal to students as well as parents. The P&F have already resolved to cover the cost of the projector hire, while food purchase and gold coin donations would cover the movie rental.

Betty Velovski (BV) and Vera Auerbach (VA) graciously agreed to organise the night and had begun pre-planning, contacting vendors and answering concerns/questions raised by Mr Coote.

BV and VA asked for more assistance to run the event and Barbara Curtis (BC) noted the P&F will need to tap into the volunteer network, as the P&F would not request any time commitment from the current Inaburra staff.

Future movie nights could include student participation such as viewing student short films.

**Action:** Mr Bowden to give final approval of Inaburra PJ Movie Night so BV and VA can proceed with organising the event.

9. **Inaburra Fete & Open Day**: Vera Auerbach (VA) gave an update of the Fete preparation:
   - A planning meeting was held on Monday 22 February.
   - Steve Samois will be organising a school “walk-through” to work out the logistics around the school construction.
   - Discussion required on the usage of the Junior School oval (and what can be put on it)

10. **Junior School End of Year Party**: Dotte Derrickson made mention that the Junior School End of Year party was scheduled for Friday 25 November at Hazelhurst Art Gallery Café.

11. **Inaburra Gala Dinner Fundraising Event**: Barbara Curtis noted that an Inaburra parent had proposed a Gala Dinner as an alternative to the Trivia Night event. It was felt that, at the prices quoted, the dinner may not match the current fundraising efforts of the Trivia Night but would perhaps be an option as a school anniversary event.

The meeting closed at [9.08pm]

**Next meeting:** Friday 18 March, 9.00am for 9.30am start at The Project Y Hall (between Café Y and Menai Library). Topic: Windows into Innovative Practice.

**Signed as a true record of the meeting.**

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President