



**Minutes of the Anzac Park Public School P&C General Meeting**  
**APPS Staffroom + Zoom**  
**Tuesday 12 March 2024, 7pm**

<b>ATTENDANCE:</b>	Elissa (Lee) Auzins (LA) <i>President</i> Eleni Endt (EE) <i>Vice-President</i> Erin Byrne (EB) <i>Vice-President</i> Erin Coyle (EC) <i>Treasurer</i> Evelyn de Moraes (EdM) <i>President (attended via zoom)</i>	Executive Members
	Nicole Creenaune (NC) <i>Tunnels</i> Jill Waller (JC) <i>Tunnels &amp; Safety &amp; Traffic</i> Iris Eustice (IE) <i>Second Hand Uniforms</i> Gemma Ash (GA) <i>Social / Fundraising</i> Kate Piper (BH) <i>Class Parents</i>	Non-Executive members
	Unity Taylor-Hill (UTH) <i>Principal</i> Mr Johnson (NJ) <i>Deputy Principal</i> Mrs Coates (EC) <i>Teacher</i>	APPS Representatives
	<b>In person:</b> Lorey Gough, Libby Langtry <b>Online via zoom:</b> Kambiz Mazaheri, Naz Alavi, Claire Jensen, Holly King, Julia nelson  And others (no last name) Katy, Hendra, Andy, Kristie, Damien.	Parents / Members
<b>APOLOGIES:</b>	Alys Holz (AH) <i>Social / Fundraising</i> Stephen Edwards (SE) <i>Secretary</i> Jessica Peachey (JP) <i>Secretary</i> Corey Googh (CG) <i>D&amp;I</i> Ben Hoch (BH) <i>Class Parents</i> Lauren Dalla (LD) <i>Safety &amp; Traffic</i>	

**P&C General Meeting Opened at 7:04 pm**

<b>1. APOLOGIES/ OPEN</b>	Lee Auzins opened the general meeting with parents. Apologies were received from members as per the list above.
<b>2. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES OF</b>	The minutes of the previous general meeting were accepted as a true record.

<b>PREVIOUS MEETINGS</b>	
<b>3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES</b>	<p>Actions were captured in the Agenda. All actions were updated pre-meeting or added to general business.</p>
<b>4. CORRESPONDENCE IN/OUT</b>	<p>Sub-committees were notified for minor items.</p> <p>The P&amp;C Federation contacted the APPS P&amp;C regarding a petition for lack of funding in primary schools. A resolution was passed in the meeting that APPS P&amp;C will be supporting the P&amp;C Federation in asking for Full Funding.</p>
<b>5. PRESIDENT'S UPDATE</b>	<p>Lee provided an update: <i>Amazing 2024 P &amp; C team who have been very proactive.</i></p> <p><i>This year a different approach, VP's are split into sub-committees supporting each sub committee.</i></p> <p><i>The P&amp;C executives have met and started to set goals for the year.</i></p> <p><i>Also huge thanks to Leticia for envirobank, there was a mishap last week &amp; she handled this very well.</i></p> <p><i>Class Parents has been delayed but as of today we have a class parent for just about every class this year. Class Parents will have the support 2 Class parent coordinators (Ben Hoch/Kate Piper) as well as the support of the Social Committee (Alys/Gemma) &amp; VP's (Erin/Eleni).</i></p> <p><i>P&amp;C goals</i></p> <p><i>By the end of 2024, we aim to:</i></p> <p><i>1 - Create a knowledge hub for the PC to support smoother transitions from year to year and help give continuity to initiatives that run across multiple years</i></p> <p><i>2 - Apply for charity the status that will allow us with tax deductibility for donations</i></p> <p><i>3 - Develop a plan to improve the kiss and drop zone</i></p> <p><i>4 - Identify the main problems of our community in regards to traffic and other North Sydney Council and TfNSW</i></p> <p><i>5 - Raise awareness of diversity and inclusion in the school community and connect parents and the school</i></p>

	<p><i>6 - Run one event per term to connect families and build community with a secondary purpose of fundraising by encouraging the local business to participate in such events.</i></p> <p><b>[ACTION]:</b> P&amp;C goals, including sub-committee goals.</p>
<b>6. PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE</b>	<p>Unity provided an update:</p> <p><u>P&amp;C for 2024</u></p> <p><b>Shout out</b> to P &amp; C for fundraising flyer last week, really reiterated importance of P &amp; C funding, great communication that will be ongoing. Stephen (secretary) really took the lead on that &amp; we thank you for that.</p> <p><b>Air-Con Update</b> - School seeking quotes for the Air-Conditioning to see if we can organise to support and afford this project as a P &amp; C funded initiative.</p> <p><b>Newsletter &amp; Parent Comms</b> - Thanks to parent community for feedback on the new newsletter look, this will continue to evolve, Alison as Parent comms coordinator has made a huge difference to the general school communications as it has meant we have our finger on the pulse on issues raised by parents.</p> <p>Previously emails went to individual teachers to didn't give one collective school view on issues raised &amp; where improvements could be made so having a central point gives us the ability for a 'whole school approach' &amp; also realising 'trends' or topics that are an issue across all parents.</p> <p><b>Staff Development Days.</b> Historically, at the end of the school year (Term 4), the last 2 days have been reserved for teacher development days. Unity needs to consult with us (parents) today about a proposed change to end of year staff development days. The proposal is that we have 1 staff development day on the last day e.g. Friday December 20th and then potentially 2 x half days within the year instead.</p> <p><b>Warringah Freeway Upgrade:</b> Contractors regarding the Warringah Freeway upgrade have had meetings [with Unity] &amp; we're discussing about when we have sport programs at Cammeray Oval that we need to advise them that children will be coming through their current work area at the top of the hill, they advised they will need a week notice when this is occurring.</p> <p><b>Tunnel work</b> - There were parent &amp; school concerns in the past around vibration/noise as the tunnel was being built but they're approx half way under St Leonards park already with that build &amp; so far we have not had any noticeable impact on noise so far so this is much less of a concern.</p> <p>Unity flagged some key upcoming events:</p> <p>Yr 6 Canberra Camp in 2 weeks</p> <p>Yr 5 Camp coming up April 8 - 10</p>

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**Student Led Conferences** - Alert coming later this week on Compass for parents to book based on teacher availability, will stretch over 2 weeks due to Yr 6 camp. Miss Wong is taking leave to get married so her class will also be in week 2.

**Real Schools Program** - Restorative practices - **Kirsty Rush** will be at our Term 2 May P & C meeting & will present to the parent community, strongly encouraging parents to come along to the May P & C meeting.

**Lesson Study** Mr Johnson (AP) has been leading the school program regarding the change to a new syllabus for English & Maths - These are significant changes which require a lot of work for teachers in developing programs plus reporting and different routines for teaching as well.

One of the ways in which Mr Johnson (AP) has been leading the school for these changes in the syllabus; Teachers are working closely with Nick (Mr Johnson) to develop the program with him. There is consistent review in practice between teachers to improve the program. It does mean teachers are having to take the time to have a thorough understanding of this syllabus by having this time outside of their regular classroom with Mr Johnson.

**Student Attendance.** Unity shared a screen showing a chart of stats of APPS position compared to NSW averages, proving that APPS attendance needs improvement.

Children's attendance is always a priority but it's particularly a focus/priority from the department of education this year.

We have seen across NSW a fall in attendance since Covid & it has not improved.

**Unity showed a chart of APPS position compared to NSW averages.**

Summary - We are close to the average but need at least a 1.1% uplift to see attendance figures improve in comparison to the state. As a school we will work with our parents & support children to help improve attendance. This data helps support that.

**Question from Zoom (Parent) to Unity [paraphrased]:** What are we going to do about the smart watch rules because for some parents we feel it's necessary for our children's safety

**Unity:** We all know that the department of education has tightened the rules around smart devices. Here we will allow them to have a smart watch in their bag which they can wear later, we want them to have them for safety but with watches having the ability for certain modes and teachers being able to manage that.

If there are personal/special reasons for a child to have a mobile or smart watch, I [Unity] will review those reasons & approve if there is a genuine reason

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	<p>or concern but remembering our teachers are here to have kids focussed on learning so we are trying to strike a fair balance.</p>
<p><b>7. TREASURER'S UPDATE</b></p>	<p><b>Erin provided an update</b></p> <p>There were no cash movements into or out of the P&amp;C bank accounts this month.</p> <p>Biggest update is that the application for the ACNC (Australian Charities &amp; Not-For-Profits Commission) for the P &amp; C to be registered as a charity has been submitted and EC is corresponding with a representative from the ACNC. Charity status would mean the P&amp;C has tax free income status and can apply for Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) status.</p> <p>However, charity status does not mean donations to the P&amp;C are deductible against income tax, this requires DGR recognition. There are very specific activities and purposes that can apply for DGR status. The relevant ones for APPS P&amp;C appear to be to establish a Building Fund and/or a Library Fund. This may be as simple as establishing separate bank accounts to the existing P&amp;C bank accounts.</p> <p>Library fund for books (for example) Building fund could be air-con (for example) but shade cloths/play equipment would still need to be funded from the general donations pool. Next steps for the P&amp;C are to undertake some financial forecasting and planning to determine what school activities can be funded through a DGR fund, and what needs to be funded from the general pool. We can then update our fundraising strategy and requests.</p> <p><b>Lee (President):</b> Thank you to Treasurer Erin for your hard work on this initiative</p>
<p><b>8. ROAD SAFETY UPDATES</b></p>	<p>ROAD SAFETY - Nicole &amp; Jill updated on the following:</p> <p><b>Kiss &amp; Drop</b> - Is a real issue, worse this year. Observed alot of non-compliance. Engaged North Sydney council to design some new signage, should have it by Term 2. Some conflicting information about when signage would be provided &amp; who is responsible for looking after that area.</p> <p>Clarification via Unity is required about things like whether Kiss &amp; Drop is enforceable by parking inspectors (or not) because it's school property, Unity to meet with R &amp; S team to delve deeper.</p> <p>Tim James wants to attend a P &amp; C in June, we will need to flesh out what questions parents may want to ask. He also offered to attend an 'observation of school pick up' in late March (Tue 26th) to observe the 'road safety' issues, team will update us on this afterwards. Unity mentioned this date is when Yr6 are at camp.</p> <p>Speed enforcement camera is also being discussed with Tim James around Ernest for the kids safety. Tim said he has put a request for this with NS Council. Also a mobile speed camera is being suggested by R &amp; S in that discussion. It</p>

	<p>was noted to advise Tim James that the Ernest St issue is a state road issue more than a local council issue.</p> <p><b>[ACTION]</b> Road Safety sub-committee to continue conversations with Tim &amp; also to change the date of the Tim James school observation afternoon and to alert him to the fact that the speed camera issue is a state issue, not local council.</p> <p><b>[ACTION]:</b> Roads &amp; Safety need to collect some feedback from the parent &amp; school community on what they may want to ask Tim James prior to him attending APPS for the meeting (for a planned structure)</p> <p><b>[ACTION]:</b> Roads Safety sub-committee to organise meeting with Unity.</p>
<p><b>9. GENERAL BUSINESS</b></p>	<p>Mr Johnson (AP) &amp; Mrs Coates (Teacher) did a presentation on Reading At Home</p> <p>Summary: How Do we teach children to read, what does the evidence say &amp; key skills when learning to read, why it is so important to read (a huge focus in the new syllabus is fluency in reading, with the ultimate goal being comprehension). Phonic skills are getting more important than reading levels.</p> <p>WHAT CAN YOU DO AT HOME? Encourage a love of reading. If we do it as parents, the kids will mirror this because they see us doing it. Speak positively about reading. Guide them into finding books that interest them, taking them to library or book shops to let them choose the books.</p> <p>BUILD PHONEMIC AWARENESS - Clap to count syllables, rhyming songs, ask them about words that start with certain letters, what is the sound at the end of this word ____? Etc</p> <p>COMPREHENSION - Ask the kids questions about what the characters are doing or thinking to make sure they understand what they're reading. E.g. What colour was the boat in the story? How do you think the character felt in this moment in the story?</p> <p>PAUSE,PROMPT, PRAISE when the kids are reading, wait to see if they'll self correct before you give them the answers.</p> <p>MAKE READING FUN. Create a daily routine around reading.</p> <p>Some reading resources - Department of education website has alot of support, Reading Eggs, Phonics Hero, Epic, Classroom Teacher.</p> <p>Parents in the room questioned how these changes differed to past practices at the school &amp; Mr Johnson confirmed that rather than focussing on reading levels, the focus was on fluency &amp; comprehension, Gemma Ash asked if we could also have a screenshot of the summary of this.</p> <p><b>[ACTION]</b> Mr Johnson agreed to circulate that information/slide</p>

	<p><b>[ACTION]</b> Unity has suggested this is recorded as a webinar &amp; published on Compass, Mr Johnson/Ms Coates agreed.</p>
<p><b>10. CLOSURE OF MEETING</b></p>	<p>Lee: Reminder that if you'd like to add items for discussion, or have questions, please email them to <a href="mailto:anzacparkpandc@gmail.com">anzacparkpandc@gmail.com</a> also please provide feedback via the <a href="https://forms.gle/hRrq7MgCuf5nvcdY7">https://forms.gle/hRrq7MgCuf5nvcdY7</a>.</p> <p><b>P&amp;C General Meeting was closed at 8:04pm.</b></p>