

GENERAL MEETING – Minutes
25th October 2023 at 7.00 pm
Video Conference

General Meeting

Chairperson: Simon Cahill

Official Meeting Opened: 7.00 pm

Attendance & Apologies: Zoom: as per Zoom log, including Kathy O'Sullivan (KO), Simon Cahill (SC) and Derry Finkeldey (DF), Richard Williams (RW), Fiona Cahill (FC), Caroline de Montfort (Patty), Tania Tan (TT).
Apologies: Roman Ialovega and Ben Mills.

SC opened the meeting at 7 pm and welcomed the community, including an acknowledgement of country.

Minutes from Previous Meeting:

Tabled minutes of previous General Meeting

- Motion: Minutes of the previous meeting are true and accurate.
- Moved: Richard
- Second: Fiona

Result: Approved – unanimous.

Actions from previous minutes:

- Update on progress in Meeting 1 Term 4 from Kathy - delivered

Principal's Update

Kathy O'Sullivan provided an update:

- Kathy acknowledged Marissa Carolan for relieving her during her role as acting head of the college.
- Sent congratulations to Ben Mills on the birth of his daughter, Alexandra from school.
- Term 4 – tour in the last term for year 7s starting in 2024.
- Working on lobbying for a Chatswood bus as route more students are coming from out of the area.
- Continue to face challenges with staffing – no open permanent positions but 4 temporary positions open.
 - Chloe Woodward is at the Arts Unit 2 days a week and they require a replacement for this term.
- Mobile phone policy: student response has been fantastic. Some phones handed in, and a small number of repeat offenders. The Year 8 SRC Big Games are going well. Librarians report that a few laptops are now out during break, which they may address.
- Lots of events in term 4: year 12 graduation and formal; year 7 orientation; presentation day on 11th December – exact timing to be announced. Big Band Bash and Jazz Night Out in new gym, and the Strings Soiree in Mosman.
- Already had 2 events in the new gym. Official opening on Monday with media and politicians in attendance. Can hold the whole school at assembly, and have had 900 chairs for one event.
- They are getting new windows in the school for better ventilation – the Manly makeover continues. New ceiling in the library, new ovens in kitchens, resurfacing courts in the new year and toilets in the new year.

Q&A

- Question re gender imbalance in selective schools and changes to testing. Tabled idea that younger girls are unconfident to try. Current year 12s, 40 girls, new year 12s less imbalanced.
- Is it possible to change the bus times to suit the new bell times? Hard but will table – the department looks at the numbers on Opal – so important for students to tap on and off.

Executive Reports:

- **President:**
 - Rang a prize donor for the Trivia night – overwhelmed by community spirit and generosity. A lot of good will in the community.
 - Request – need a new treasurer. Please offer. Need someone with a financial control background. Current treasurer has a year 12 student.

- Patti mentioned Gabrielle Darabi who is treasurer at Merryweather and a CFO, with a child starting in 2024.
- SC mentioned that we have a bookkeeper for support and Roman has offered to support the transition.
 - No funding request.
- **Uniform Shop:** FC mentioned that they will have a special opening of the uniform shop during the Year 7 orientation day- call out for volunteers on Tuesday 28 November between 8.30 am and 12:30 pm.
 - Year 10 going into year 11: will have a special opening in late November for the new senior polo shirts.

Subcommittee Reports:

- **Events:** TT - Huge success and great feedback, and raised \$19,000. Shout out to Michelle Heaton-Jones for unmissable magic support.
 - Need volunteers for the 28th also and TT will be away.
 - Will put issue a sign up genius to take names in next Pines.
 - Ceremony at 9-9.30 am
 - Tours: 10 am – noon – serving tea and coffee.
 - KO thanked and congratulated the Events team for the Trivia night.
 - SC mentioned the Year 12 farewell which the P&C will support sign and photographer.
 - TT asked about year 12 alumni email – to ask to volunteer.
 - Ben Mills historically involved. Tried to set up an alumni website but was discontinued when families left. Bec Fee is organizing (careers advisor) now.
 - Wendy Montelone is in charge of the school calendar.

Actions:

- The final meeting will be in person and include a celebration
- Add melswitZ@gmail.com to the members list.

SC closed the meeting at 7:45 pm

Next Meeting: 14th February, 2024

Notes: voting was done via the chat in the Zoom call. A copy of the chat transcript can be obtained from the secretary.

Membership – costs \$1 to join – and allows you to vote.