

# BANKSTOWN WEST PUBLIC SCHOOL

RESPECT, BELIEVE, SUCCEED



## P&C SEPTEMBER 2020 MEETING

<b>Meeting Date</b>	10 September 2020
<b>Commenced</b>	10.00am
<b>P&amp;C Committee</b>	<b>President:</b> Lina Yassine <b>Vice President:</b> Rola Aiche & Fatinah Zirein <b>Treasurer:</b> Aysha Haddad <b>Secretary:</b> Aisha El-Cheikh
<b>Attendees</b>	Nicole Benson, Fatima Krayem, Fatinah Zirein, Dalal Dabboussi, Olisyah, Sameena, Badria, Shiho, Jacquie
<b>Guests</b>	Nil
<b>Apologies</b>	Lina Yassine, Rola Aiche, Aisha El-Cheikh, Aysha Haddad

### 1. PRINCIPALS REPORT – Nicole Benson:

#### • **New buildings**

Double classroom with the tech hub, sink areas and verandas coming to replace 6/5M's demountable. This will be started at the end of term, across the holidays and completed into term four.

#### • **Projects for 2020**

The electronic signs have been installed after a long DA process, costing approximately \$48,000.

Staff will be trained in usage over the next week or so.

The school is continuing to put money aside towards redesigning the field area. We have submitted a proposal for \$30,000 for a local council grant towards the project.

#### • **Enrolments**

Enrolments are very healthy. The panel which considers out of area enrolments for 2021 (all Kinder) have met and considered each applicant on their individual circumstance. Three applicants for Kinder 2021 who have siblings already attending the school were approved, as parents had considered they would be able to enrol the children's siblings on point of enrolment of their elder child.

#### • **Fundraising**

Water cooler has been very well received particularly now the weather is warmer. Thank you for your support and to Fatinah who spearheaded the project.

# BANKSTOWN WEST PUBLIC SCHOOL

RESPECT, BELIEVE, SUCCEED



- **School photos**

At this point school photos still scheduled to go ahead next term.

We are considering a different supplier for 2021. Proposal from Advanced Life photographers tabled.

→ Does anyone want to research this?

- **Staffing for 2021**

We may require a community member on the panel for merit selection of staff for 2021.

→ Fatima Krayem has volunteered as a community representative for the panel.

→ Any other volunteers for staff replacement panel, please let the executive know regarding your interest.

- **Canteen Tender**

The canteen tender process has been done as it's a necessary part of the five-year cycle. The position has been advertised in the local paper over the past three weeks. Tenders are due in next Tuesday, 15<sup>th</sup> September and Fatima Krayem as the P&C rep and Mrs Benson will go through them late next week. Thank you Fatima for volunteering to be on the panel.

- **Future directions**

Operating under the DoE guidelines we have had to cancel many events and activities. This is as frustrating for us as it is for our families. The guidelines are very clear: no excursions, no Kinder or year 7 transitions, interschool competitions, assemblies, mixing of kids across stages, school camps etc We are hopeful there may be a softening to these guidelines to allow the year 6 farewell, though it will be possibly different to the way it has been in the past.

Ms Harb and Ms Dixon are investigating some online transition sessions, videos, and take-home packs for our Kinder kids in 2021.

We will be guided by new policies and directions next term.

## 2. Questions and concerns received from parents:

- **Question regarding school transition for kindy 2021, what it will look like etc.-**

*-Guidelines are very clear at this point-no transition sessions-Ms Harb is off class on Fridays to facilitate zoom meetings, take home packs, podcast videos etc. Hoping things may change into next term and we are thinking of changing the structures to support kids next year i.e. few kids in at a time etc. Ms Dixon and Ms Harb have started organising this. If directions are eased, we are in a position to go ahead immediately.*

- **Questions about staffing in 2021, replacements for Ms Goodman and Mr McKendrick, and affected programs they were involved in, such as, Drama, ICT:**

# BANKSTOWN WEST PUBLIC SCHOOL

RESPECT, BELIEVE, SUCCEED



*-Both Mr McKendrick and Ms Goodman took promotional positions. Currently looking at employing a DP/IL through an Expression of Interest process to lead professional learning, school directions and meeting of school targets in literacy and numeracy.*

*Need to wait for approval from staffing before I can fill Mr McKendrick's position-also looking at an additional 13th class position to be filled permanently.*

*Mr McKendrick has only taken over ICT this year. Next year someone else will have the opportunity and with the possibility of three new staff members bringing new passions, talents, and skills there may well be new things the kids get to participate in. We have yet to see about Drama or the School Musicals, but we would need the guidelines to change significantly to allow a school musical in 2021. Ms Dixon, Mrs Floyd, Ms Vuong and Ms Kotsaris were already key personnel in our school musical, with Ms Dixon taking on a leadership role working in partnership with Mr McKendrick.*

- **Questions about canteen, variety of snacks, being operational for longer than first half of lunch:**

*-There is a limited menu due to the new Healthy Schools Canteens program introduced into schools last year. This has a very limited menu as food types are broken up into Green (always), Amber (select carefully) and Red (not recommended) items. Unfortunately, under this program some of the traditional canteen type food is not allowed.*

*→Further investigation, adding variety could be forthcoming and negotiated with the successful tender.*

*The canteen officially closes at 1:50pm. Children are allowed to purchase from 1:20pm which gives them half an hour. We have also been encouraging kids to pre-order items so they don't have to line up for as long. Extending the canteen hours would need to be a condition of their contract and I believe would not be financially viable to do so. I am happy to monitor over the next few days the number of kids there after 1:50pm to see if it is warranted and feedback at the next meeting.*

- **Question about Athletics Carnival 3-6, possibility to hold similar to K-2:**

*-The K-2 carnival was more like class sport-kids competed in some races across the stage-Kinder separate to year one and year two. There weren't any other novelty events which involved sharing of equipment. The 70m distance is difficult for older kids to run in races due to the short distance.*

*We are waiting to see if the Cross Country can be held at school which will involve running races next term.*

- **Question about black sport shoes, and clarification if colourful sport shoes are permitted for sport days:**

*-My apologies if this was poorly communicated or if I was incorrect. Basically, kids may wear black school shoes or black sports shoes on any day. Coloured sports shoes may be worn on Tuesdays for K-2 and Fridays for kids in years 3-6.*

*This will be clarified in the newsletter.*

- **Questions about year 6 and camp, and if it was a possibility to hold a camp on school grounds:**

*-I understand the issue and the disappointment of kids and parents-we always try to do our best for kids. That's why we have had a deliberate push on 'fun'-dress up days, movie sessions, minute to win it and in week 10 a school online trivia. These things take a long time to organise and teachers do it strictly for the kid's enjoyment. We do have camps every year 3-6 and most kids have had the opportunity to go on camp already.*

# BANKSTOWN WEST PUBLIC SCHOOL

RESPECT, BELIEVE, SUCCEED



*The guidelines are very clear-no school camps (at school or away). To do something outside of a directive would be contrary to my employment.*

*We are hopeful there will be a year 6 formal and still have the booking. Parents are perfectly able to have small slumber parties to celebrate the end of their primary schooling.*

- **Question about William St drop off, kiss and drop zone, update from council:**

*-The school has been actively in contact with a Local council and State member of Parliament regarding this issue and have had engineers look at the possibility of putting into place a kiss and drop zone, however all parties concerned have given feedback that it is not possible on this side of the school due to the street being so narrow. If we agitate this further, we run the risk of losing complete access to this side of the school, requiring all students to enter/exit the school from Dutton St.*

Meeting closed: 10.56am