

St. Patrick's College Parents & Friends' Association

General Meeting, Tuesday, 19 September 2017

Welcome: Greg welcomed all and thanked them for their interest in the Association and attendance at the meeting.

Opening Prayer: Provided by Ann Viney

Meeting Chair: Greg Boon

Minute Taker: Stephen Burke

Status of Minutes: The minutes of the General Meeting held on Tuesday, 19 September will be distributed in draft form and approved at the next meeting.

Attendees: Greg Boon, Simon McInerney, Ann Viney, Stephen Burke, James Byrne, Tony Daley (Principal), Filomena Brown, Damian von Samorzowski, Janette Kenyon

Apologies: Nil

Previous Minutes: Minutes from the General Meeting held on the Tuesday, 15 August 2017 were tabled.

Decision: The minutes were true and correct

Proposed: James Byrne **Seconded:** Greg Boon

Business Arising from Minutes:

- a. Undertake a Review of the Constitution (Action Item 1/17)

Action: Closed

- b. Re-Branding of SPP&FA Stationary (Action Item 13/17)

Action: The College re-branding exercise is still in progress and Stephen Burke will contact Tina Boon for an update.

- c. Changes to Management of SPP&FA Finances (Action Item 6/17)

Action: Closed

Correspondence In: Australian Business Register, Adriana Sorman (email)

Correspondence Out: TCEO (email re: SPP&FA Constitution)

Treasurer's Report: James Byrne advised that the letter from the Australian Business Register related to an ABN that had been issued to the SPP&FA sometime in the past. As the Association was not a legal entity and would not be conducting any business that required an ABN, a motion was put that it be cancelled.

Decision: That the ABN issued to the Association be cancelled.

(refer: Action Item List)

Proposed: Tony Daley

Seconded: James Byrne

James also advised that the transfer of Association funds into the College had been completed and all outstanding matters had been dealt with. He recommended that a letter of appreciation be sent to the Business Manager expressing the Association's gratitude for the assistance provided by Michelle Walker in the transfer and establishment process.

Resolved: That the Treasurer's recommendation be adopted.

(refer: Action Item List)

The Treasurer tabled the following documents:

- A statement of the Association's financial position as at 19 September 2017

Decision: Statement of current financial position is accepted.

Proposed: James Byrne

Seconded: Stephen Burke

Principal's Report:

- a. Tony advised that he was continuing to move forward with a number of initiatives following the completion of his review. There will be an increased emphasis on academic outcomes, with particular focus on the early years through new appointments to roles in support of Maths and Science, and English and Humanities. In any school, there will be a tension between pastoral and academic life, but he did not accept it was a 'seesaw' and an appropriate balance was achievable.
- b. A new Strategic Plan for the College had been developed and was before the Board for approval. Following consideration by the Board, there would be consultation with stakeholders, including the Association.

- c. He noted that St Patrick's was a very busy College, as evidenced by our participation and success across a broad range of sports. There had been a number of finals at regional and State level in which we had enjoyed success, including Netball and Soccer. He also noted student participation in equestrian events at Westbury and the State Championships for Chess in which a College student placed third. In addition to sports there had been:
 - 1) Social for Year 10 students
 - 2) Music movie event
 - 3) Winter Concert
 - 4) 'Lap It Up' 24 hour bike run for charity (\$24K raised)
- d. Senior students would be heading into exams soon.

Tony was continuing to crack down on breaches of uniform standards, inappropriate language, and encouraging mutual respect. Inappropriate language was a big challenge because of changes in social norms and while it was largely confined to the playground there were still isolated incidents in learning spaces.
- e. Following a question from Damien, Tony confirmed that currently Board approval was required for the Strategic Plan.
- f. Following a question from Janette, Tony acknowledged that there were too many 'interruptions' to student learning throughout the year, but while that was not ideal it generally arose involved activities that were considered part of the fabric of the College. He was looking at ways to address this issue, and as an example, he had cancelled the senior school swimming carnival from next year due to low participation rates. He also stated that what we do in the classroom is important.

Tasmanian Catholic Schools Parents Council:

- a. The TCSPC will be holding its AGM and Conference at Croagh Patrick on Saturday 21 October 2017. In attendance will be the Deputy Premier and Minister for Education, the Leader of the Opposition and a number of other interested politicians, along with the Archbishop. The focus of the conference will be on VET education in this state, and speakers would be talking about the new Associate Degrees from the University of Tasmania and current offerings at the Australian Maritime College. Attendees at the conference would also have the opportunity to tour the College Aquaculture facilities.
- b. The film evenings for 'Screenagers' had been successful with more attending in Launceston than Hobart. There had been flow on interest expressed in showing the film at various schools and the cost of hiring had been subsidised to assist in this process.

- c. Greg reported on a debrief for participants in the national funding campaign conducted in relation to future funding. He advised it was his impression that the national association established to specifically represent Catholic Schools on a national basis (CSPA) was still struggling for recognition with the Australian Government. However, the longstanding representative body (APC) still had access to the Minister and Greg has recently been elected to its Board.
- d. Meetings are to be conducted on the West Coast and Smithton to better understand the impact of funding decisions on regional education.

Greg noted the upcoming parent information session with cyber safety seminar author Susan McLean on Tuesday 24 October, 2017, in the College Chapel.

General Business:

- a. The Treasurer advised that he was regularly receiving Scam emails in relation to the Associations Account but they posed no threat.
- b. Simon advised that it was the end of the hockey season, but as they had struggled for numbers throughout the year he wondered whether there was an opportunity to involve primary school students in the future. The Principal advised that there would be some complexities in relation to insurance and control because they were from other schools, albeit Catholic Primary Schools.
- c. There was a general discussion in relation to Friends of St Patrick's and the various bodies that had been established to support specific activities e.g. music. The Principal advised that in his experience elsewhere these bodies came under the umbrella of the Parents and Friend's Association, however at St Patrick's College this was not the case. This raised some issues that would need to be addressed.
- d. There was general discussion around the Parents Levy (its ownership, management methodology and uses), but no conclusions were reached.
- e. The Chair flagged an agenda item for the next meeting on the future of the SPP&FA and the establishment of a parents' advisory body. The Chair undertook to provide a brief explanation at the next meeting to assist with the discussion.

(refer: Action Item List)

Meeting Closed: 9.00pm.

Next meeting: General Meeting on Tuesday, 17 October 2017, at 7.30pm

Closing Prayer: The Lord's Prayer

St. Patrick, Pray for us/St. Mary MacKillop, Pray for us.

Signed President: