

EHPS P&C Association Newsletter

Term One

Next Meeting: 02.03.10 7.30pm

Deborah W, President
Fiona Arduis, Secretary
Eva Chan Liem, Treasurer

Welcome back to another school year and the first P&C Newsletter for the year. I warmly welcome all parents to attend the P&C so that you can become aware, get involved and make decisions for your child in the school community.

I would like to introduce the Executive and Committee members for 2011.

President – Deborah W (Archer 3S)

hipseat@optusnet.com.au or 0412 112 375

Vice President – Tracy Wendelborn

Secretary – Fiona Arduis

Treasurer – Eva Chan Liem

Book Club – Sue Cale

Community Relations – Karen McAlpine

Canteen – Michelle Tilley & Janet Lawrence

Clothing Pool – Cate Grunsell

Fundraising – David Gore

Gardening & Grounds – VACANT

At the end of this year a number of executive members and conveners will be stepping down. Please consider joining your P&C and consider taking on a small role. Membership is ridiculously low at just **50 cents** for the year.

It is important that you read the **P&C Newsletters** as this is the place that you will find **relevant information** about the role of the P&C, the functions of the P&C and the most up-to-date information on what the P&C is currently considering for funding and the position financially of the P&C. For the information of our school community the **P&C is an independent body** of the school and is not run by the school or its staff or the Department of Education, all positions are elected at an annual general meeting each year by the members and all motions are voted on by financial members.

I urge you to read the minutes from the February meeting to see the type of topics plus our financials and information that we discuss. Often this is the forum that the school requests extensive funding for numerous projects. As the school community that raises the money it is your right to come and see it spent on projects that you think are valuable and add value to your child's education whilst at Epping Heights.

If you have any concerns that you would like raised and are unable to come to a meeting please contact me so that I can put it on the agenda.

You will have noticed in the last school newsletter information regarding fundraising for this year. This year a method is being trialed whereby traditional fundraising events done by the school will be assisted by year groups. At the parent information sessions last week a list would have been circulated to add your name if you can assist. A meeting will be held to discuss organization of the activities/ events. Current and past fundraising committee organizers will coordinate the meeting and assist other class groups to plan and organize their fundraising event. I would like to note that the class parents will not be responsible for organizing the event. Also please note your participation is completely **voluntary**. I would also like to note that the Year 6 farewell gift and the Bazaar day are not fundraising activities of the P&C but activities organized by the SRC/school. So the fundraising committee will not be involved in those events directly.

I would also like to canvass with the school community an idea that other P&Cs use and that is a fundraising levy instead of participation in fundraising events. I have put a tear out note in the school newsletter to canvass your opinions on this and we will discuss it at upcoming P&C meetings.

Another project I would like to see the P&C undertake this year is its own website so that we can organise events, have communication with parents, run surveys and look at online ordering for the uniform shop and perhaps canteen eventually.

Items for discussion at next meeting:

- Funding of Electronic Whiteboards by the P&C versus other projects. *The P&C has previously provided significant funding for whiteboards. Come and have your say!*

* UPCOMING EVENTS *

- ◆ The next P&C meeting is Wednesday 2 March 2011 at 7.30pm in the Tech centre.
- ◆ Interrelate Wednesday 16 March in the Hall.
- ◆ 26th March Election BBQ – all volunteers accepted.

Parents and Citizens Association Meeting 9th February 2011 Meeting opened 7.35pm
Previous Minutes: Moved by Janet Lawrence Seconded by Julie Hanley

Business Arising

- **Interrelate** – Fiona outlined the Interrelate program and its content. Booked for the school for 16th March. Flyers displayed on office window and notice board. Fiona to add details to newsletter regarding cost, payment arrangements and the Interrelate website. Payments to be made to P&C. They will be collected in the office collection box and forwarded to Eva (Treasurer) who will collate a list of paid families
- **P&C committee position vacant**
Gardening and Grounds – still vacant
Fund raising – Discussed the idea of class parents being responsible for the key fundraising events in the school eg Kinder class parents responsible for mothers day morning tea. Suggested that this would be a valuable way of sharing the load and the responsibility for fund raising in the school. Parents are still free to volunteer for any activity or extra activities but if the key ones were allocated it would be more equitable. Discussed putting together a hand out and sign up sheets for parents at the class information evenings. A list would also be available for those parent who feel unable to volunteer to organize. Julie has a list for the role of the class parent and discussed the possibility of expanding this list. This was raised as a possibility for exploration. Also discussed the alternative possibility of a year group being responsible for a fund raising event but not necessarily the class parent. Decided to display sign up papers headed 'class parents' and 'fund raising assistance' at the parent information meetings on 23rd Feb rather than changing the class parent role. Melinda to organize this. David Gore volunteered to assist coordinating fundraising and the P&C will continue to advertise the position.
Nominated: Jo Collins_Secoded:- Theresa Taylor

There will be a BBQ and cake sale for *election day* on 26th March. Will be looking for volunteers to help on the day and make cakes. Aussie Farmers direct have given goods for a raffle that day. Theresa organizing.

Mothers day being celebrated in the evening was raised by some mums as a possibility – will canvas options on this. Maybe could do this through a P&C website. Deborah to explore this.

School Vegie patch – Bunnings have always donated well in the past. Theresa to approach hardware stores asking for planter boxes etc. Julie raised Hills Industry Partnerships as a possibility for providing support in this area. Julie to pass this information to Theresa

Vice president – Tracy Wendelborn volunteered.

Nominated by: Janet Lawrence

Secoded: Jo Collins

- **Motion:** The annual general meeting of the association shall be heard on the 3rd Wed in Nov each year. The agenda of the AGM shall include setting the membership fee of the assoc for the ensuing year. No person shall serve more than 4 consecutive years in the same office. The executive shall consist of the officers of the assoc and convenors of the assoc committees. The term of officers and committee convenors will commence on the first day of the new school term in the year following their election at the AGM. The term of officers and committee convenors who are not reelected to their positions will cease on the day before the first day of the new school term in the year following the AGM.

Moved: Heather Little Secoded: Jo Collins **Motion passed.**

Treasurer – Eva nominated for position.

Nominated by: Theresa Taylor Secoded: Melinda Rundle

- **Motion:** A general meeting of the association shall be held once each month during term time. Moved: Karen McAlpine Seconded: Janet Lawrence Motion passed
- **Motion:** That the P&C allocate funds of \$1000 towards presentation day in 2011. Moved: Fiona Ardus Second: Jo Collins Motion passed
- **Motion:** That the P&C allocate funds of \$1200 towards year 6 farewell in 2011 Moved: Theresa Taylor Seconded: Melinda Rundle Motion passed
- **Motion:** That the P&C allocate funds of \$250 towards postage and stationery in 2011 Moved: Karen McAlpine Seconded: Janet Lawrence Motion passed
- **Motion:** That the P&C allocate funds of \$750 towards administration and miscellaneous in 2011 Moved: Jo Collins Seconded: Heather Little Motion passed
- **Motion:** That the P&C allocate funds of \$1300 towards P&C affiliation and insurance in 2011 Moved: Fiona Ardus Seconded: Theresa Taylor Motion passed

Committee Reports

- Book club – no report
- Canteen – Jo and Theresa have done a fantastic job taking Janet and I through our roles and answering the many questions we have. Janet is working hard on finalising Term 1 roster - I understand we may be a bit light on for people to do the early start on a Friday though this may change with the recent newsletter request and any kindy parents that volunteer. We are looking to review the menu prices and items in time for Term 2 and hope to include the 'green' and 'amber' status of the food on the menu as well as the gluten/dairy status for each food. - Michelle
- Clothing Pool – Sales for December: \$1,650.50 Sales for January: \$1,672.50 Sourcing "excursion bags" so that children may have the option of not taking their large backpacks on excursions. Will bring samples to next meeting. Approx sale price between \$7.50-\$10.00. Hopefully will have more volunteers after second newsletter request.
- Community Relations – no report
- Fundraising – Coles vouchers – equipment may have arrived. Deborah to follow up with Heather to check progress. Suggested that if the promotion is repeated to put a box in Coles itself
- Gardening and Grounds – no report. School Banking – no report

Principal's Report

- Looking forward to working with the P&C Executive and the rest of the parent community. I am sure 2011 will be another successful year for the Epping Heights school community.
- The year has begun very smoothly – we have formed 14 classes including 2 composite classes. 65 new K students have been enrolled and we have welcomed a number of students in other grades. This brings total school enrolment to 340.
- Our staff has changed considerably this year. We've welcomed a number of new teachers including our new AP, Paul Johnston who will commence following leave next Monday and a teacher of Korean who has begun working with the children this week. Roles and responsibilities were put in newsletter last week.
- Swimming Carnival – a well run and successful event with high levels of participation and success. Several school records were broken during the day.
- Annual School Report - this important school document is almost ready. I'd like to thank the parent reps especially for their contribution: Rachel Hedges, Stephanie Schwarz and Tracy Wendelborn.
- The School Management Plan is also almost ready with budget adjustments currently being made. I will present to P&C at the next meeting.

Targets for 201

Target 1 - To continue to provide opportunities for all students, staff and the parent community to acquire knowledge and develop a deeper understanding of Aboriginal histories, cultures and experiences.

- A main strategy will be the development of a relationship with a member of the Aboriginal community, possibly Lewis Burns, who worked so successfully with the children at the end of last year.

Target 2 - To improve outcomes in Reading and Comprehension, for all students.

- A main strategy is the conducting of small group Guided Reading sessions in all classrooms K-6.

Target 3 - To improve student engagement and student outcomes in mathematics.

- A main strategy is the teaching of the curriculum without textbooks, enabling more relevant and engaging tasks to develop maths concepts.

Whilst these are our targets an important and overarching target across the region and at EHPS is 'Student engagement'. The installation of further interactive resources in classrooms will be a continuing priority. We would very much like the support of the P&C in funding the installation of a Smartboard package in one or more classrooms this year. We have budgeted to install 2 IWBs in the classrooms which already have data projectors. This will result in all of J Block having data projectors and 1 K classroom with an IWB. We would also like to install data projectors in demountable classrooms and are investigating more portable IWB options for these classrooms.

- Parent/Teacher sessions to be held Wed 23 Feb.
- Traffic review – received response from council. Will not provide pedestrian crossing. Council did consider a children's crossing. Found Kent St warrants the installation of a children's crossing but needs to be considered carefully by the school due to availability of parking. Barombah Rd not suitable for children's crossing. Also to discuss the provision of a bus zone. Julie to contact Mrs Harrison to pursue this.

Julie Hanley - Principal

Treasurer Report:

General Account

The main expenditures were incurred during Dec with the P&C contributed \$1,200 towards the Yr 6 Farewell.

We also donated \$7,500 to the school to help equip the new hall with sound and lighting.

Fundraising Account

We fundraised a net amount of \$2,600 during the Christmas Carol event. Thank you to everyone who had donated food and assisted at the event.

Our cash balance @ 31/1/11 stands at \$43,000. We have a working capital reserve of \$25,000 and a proposed budget of \$4000 to cover presently expected 2011 spending.

Moved: Fiona Arduş

Seconded : Theresa Taylor

General Business

- Letter from school principal requesting P&C funds for a smartboard package for the school costing \$8000 (attached). Discussion followed re use of whiteboards, past funding, access by students. School to provide more information at the parent information evenings (23rd Feb) and also provide an information evening for interested parents.
- Korean lessons – feedback from parents mentioned to alert the school to some early concerns.

Next Meeting: 2nd March 2010

Agenda items:

Smartboard funding

Meeting closed 9.25pm