

# Mercy Catholic College

## Parent and Friends Association

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### Meeting minutes 19 October 2016

**Meeting opened:** 19:01

**Attendees:** Catherine W (Yr. 8), Robyn S (Yr. 11), Carmel D (Yr. 11), Kieran G (Yr 8), David B (Yr 8 & 12), Derek & Naina W (Yr. 7 & 8), Suzanne K, Liz K

**1. Welcome from Vice President**

**2. Meeting opening prayer**

**3. Apologies** - Phillipa S, Meredith C

**4. Confirmation of minutes of previous meeting**

Proposed: Catherine W

Seconded: Carmel D

**5. Business arising**

- a. It was mentioned that the Father's Day breakfast was a success and Mr Cuttler was thanked for his great contribution.
- b. Suzanne received a lot of positive feedback from those that had attended the Year 12 Graduation. Carmel D suggested that next year there are more volunteers to help clear up at the end of the function.
- c. Catherine W attended an education conference recently and she found some literature regarding an ebook platform – shared with Suzanne K. She asked whether it would be something the school would like to join. Suzanne K. mentioned that ebooks are already available to the students but she would speak with the librarian about further publicising this facility with the students.
- d. There was a discussion regarding the lack of availability of school uniform at Lowes – insufficient stock and a lack of larger sizes available. It was also mentioned that the quality of the uniform was questionable, such as problems with zips and hems. Suzanne suggested that she would look in to this.

**6. Correspondence** – None

**7. Treasurer's report**

- a. Balance as of 4 August 2016 - \$58,678.74
- b. Expected balance on 17 October 2016 - \$9,730.98
- c. Further costs expected this term – Book vouchers for Awards Night and the Year 7 Information Evening

- d. An audit is required at the end of term. It was agreed that the previous auditor from Blacktown seemed too far. Robyn S. asked if anyone knew of another auditor closer to the school. Suzanne said that she would look to see if she could find someone.

## **8. Principal's/ Vice Principal's report**

- a. HSC exams are currently taking place. The girls are sitting the exams in the building across the road. Feedback so far has been that the exams 'seem fair'.
- b. Cath Parker has recently joined the school as a Business Manager.
- c. There are currently 180 applications for 2018. It has been decided that 135 places will be available in Year 7 for 2017. There will also be 135 places available in Year 7 for 2018. Preference will be given to girls currently attending Catholic primary schools. Suzanne mentioned that the school has an excellent reputation. There were many positive comments made by parents who attended some of the recent Year 7 interviews. Carmel D also mentioned that a Fitness First member had recently written a letter to acknowledge the excellent behavior of some of the Mercy Catholic College girls she had seen at the fitness centre.
- d. Suzanne has received 9 tenders for the canteen. She plans to interview 3-4 companies and intends to include representatives from the students in the interview. Suzanne expressed an interest in the canteen opening before school so that breakfast is available to the students.
- e. Next year the school will be introducing a new wellbeing program based on positive psychology. It will cover issues such as stress, anxiety and friendships.
- f. Suzanne asked attendees to 'save the date' 29 November 2016 – Volunteer Cocktail Party.

## **9. President's report**

- a. Phillipa would like to formally acknowledge the time and support given by the current and continuing committee members. She also acknowledged and thanked the parents, carers and students who have helped at each P&F event this year as well as with the Activities Club and the Canteen.  
Phillipa is very grateful for the P&F members and other parents who work full time, but generously take a day of annual leave here and there to help with all events. The committee also wished to thank Phillipa for her all her hard work and for giving up her time to organise so much for the P&F this year. Phillipa has done a great job.
- b. Year 7 (2017) Information Evening - Year 9 Parents are aware we seek their support for this event on Friday 11 November 2016 from 6.00pm until 8.00pm to run the BBQ and serve food. There have been two notes in the newsletter and a follow

up email will be sent. Carmel D. recommended that a sausage order be placed with Devitts in Narrabeen as they are much easier to cook and were a great success at a function in Pius. Carmel D. agreed to contact Devitts to get more details.

c. The Cocktail Party (Kirribilli Club) has been booked for Friday 10 March 2017. An invitation has been prepared and included in the Year 7 2017 welcome pack.

d. Dates were requested for the following events for 2017

Open Day

Mothers' Day (change to a different day of the week from 2016)

Fathers' Day

Graduation Afternoon Tea

Year 7 Welcome

P&F Meeting Dates

Liz K has begun to work on finalising these dates and agreed to let the P&F committee know when these dates have been confirmed.

There was a discussion around the change in day to the Mother's Day breakfast.

Different opinions were voiced on changing the day. Catherine W said that she would take the suggestions back to Phillipa S. The other possibilities mentioned were to hold it on the Wednesday (Thursday not available due to school photos) or to keep it on the Friday and wait to change the day in 2018.

## **10. General Business**

a. Naina W. spoke about the possibility of the school applying for a grant from Share Australia. Naina has discussed this with Mr Cuttler and Mr Bishop and has said that she would be happy to support the school should they wish to make an application. She also recommended that the school works on an application with another school – such as Marist College North Shore – as it apparently strengthens your application.

**Meeting closed - 19.56**

**Next Meeting - TBC**