

## **Xavier College P&F General Meeting**

**3 March 2015**

**Meeting Opened:** 7.00pm

**Attendance & Apologies:** Please see attendance book.

**Prayer read by:** Patrick Finnerty

**Previous Minutes:** Accepted: Jack Maclean

2<sup>nd</sup>: Laura Mueller

**Business arising from previous minutes:** Request by parent present for a list of all Xavier College teachers' email addresses. The list of email addresses is available on Moodle as this is not a public forum.

**Correspondence In:** Two bank statements received for both March and April 2015. Details from these statements included in Treasurer's Report.

**Principal's Report:** Presented by Michael Pate

- Thank you to all who attended the Penrith City Council Meeting. The aim of attending the meeting was for us to arrange for a buffer zone around the school between Xavier College and the housing in Jordan Springs. Lend Lease had changed plans without prior discussion. We have a duty of care to the students at Xavier College (space for our agriculture students, for outside music concerts, play space etc.) and a duty of care to our new neighbours. We will continue to fight for the buffer zone.

John Farrugia said Lend Lease would like to meet again with Michael Pate. Meeting will be next week.

Next Penrith Council meeting we will ensure that we have good student/parent/staff numbers in attendance.

It is important to teach students to value the land and our environment.

- Xavier College is currently at capacity for student numbers.
- Parramatta Diocese Secondary Schools Sports Council (PDSSSC) will be introduced next year for student participation. Sport will not include activities such as roller skating, ice skating etc. Sport will include activities such as volleyball, soccer, netball etc. This will be inclusive of

students in years 7 to 10. Students in years 11 and 12 can participate in sports that lead to Diocese and State levels. Sport will be weekly with a mixture of intra and outer school sports.

- Buses. We will not be introducing early buses. Research has shown that adolescents do not function as well earlier in the morning. At this stage the timetable will remain the same.
- School is currently implementing Focus 20/20 with different focus points including:
  - Learning is Knowledge
  - Learning is Writing
  - Learning is Reading
  - Learning is Understanding Number
  - Learning is Collaborative
  - Learning is Planning

These strategies are to improve overall learning for the students.

- Xavier College is implementing a five year plan to increase Catholicity for our students and school community.

**Report:** Presented by Andrew Wonson (Director of Innovation & E-Learning)

- Have looked at research and at “Flipping the Classroom”. This is where the **higher order** skills (hands on activities such as writing, exploring topics in greater depth through class discussion) are completed at school and the **lower order** skills (academic reading, accessing resources such as watching documentaries in ClickView) can be completed at home. Key content can be captured for students to watch before classroom discussion, or to further study.
- **ClickView.** The ClickView video system is available for students at school or from home, and will work on any device. They can access ClickView via Moodle and instructions are on the Xavier College website. The content available to view on ClickView is inclusive of a large variety of subjects and range from short informative clips to full movies and is selected by the teaching staff as suitable.

**Treasurer’s report:** Bank reconciliation presented. Current balance for P&F funds as at 31 May 2015 is \$4,138.92.

## **Parents' Representative Council Feedback:** Presented by David Rose

- David attended the PRC Term 2 General Meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> May 2015. Guest speaker for the meeting was Shane Morris the Project Leader – System Learning, Student Services for Parramatta Diocese. He discussed Personalised Learning Plans, and how they were important for all students to participate in quality learning. The number of plans has increased dramatically from 700 to 7000. The discussion highlighted the need for students with disabilities to have personalised plans.
- The next meeting will be 3<sup>rd</sup> August and the presentation will be “Unpacking NAPLAN & a case study for improvement”.

## **General Business:**

- Thank you to Fiona Bax for all of her assistance with the debating team for our school.
- P&F requested a wish list for funding for our fundraisers. Michael Pate said the wish list would include further covered areas and technology. Resources for any learning area would be welcome.
- Research is being undertaken for an electronic noticeboard for the front of the school. Have sourced boards and where to purchase them from.
- Question raised as to whether the school would be open to a Market Day for a fundraiser. Michael Pate said yes. And it was agreed by all present that this would be best with a 12 month lead up to the day.
- P&F to look at the possibility of a cake store at Bunnings/Masters.
- Question raised as to why the Year 9 social has been cancelled as it was stated that many students and parents were unhappy with the decision, and that it was the end of their “Junior” school years social. The decision was made by the Leadership Team last year that there would be no formal. There will be a disco during the Year 9 camp.
- It was confirmed by Patrick Finnerty that a phone call, SMS reply, written letter or email are all acceptable methods of letting the school know that your child is absent from school and why.
- Lockers. Question raised asking if we could look at the possibility of having lockers at school as the students need to carry too many books, sports gear etc. An alternative for the students could be to use a folder with dividers to include all subjects. Using their tablets or other devices for note taking is another option but students need to ensure that they electronically back up their information and use options such as cloud storage or drop box.
- From next term the canteen will be open for breakfast.

**Meeting closed:** 8.40pm.

**Next meeting:** Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> August 2015 at 7pm.