Wahroonga Public School P&C Association
General Meeting Agenda

**Date:**  Wednesday 2nd March 2016  
**Time:**   7pm  
**Venue:**  Staffroom

*Please ensure you have signed the attendance register.*

1. **Welcome**

2. **Apologies**

3. **Previous minutes - General Meeting held 3rd February 2016**

4. **Principal's report - TM**

5. **Treasurer's report - DL**

6. **Band report - AS**

7. **Events and fundraising report - KW**

8. **Correspondence**

9. **General business**

*Next meeting : Wednesday 6th April 2016*
Wahroonga Public School P&C Association

General Meeting

7pm, Wednesday 3rd February 2016 in the Staff room

1. Welcome
Nick Fiennes opened the meeting at 7.06pm extending a warm welcome to all attendees especially those new to the school.
Nick announced that he will no longer be continuing with role of President of the P&C and will not stand for reelection at the P&C AGM in March 2016.

Present: Nick Fiennes (President), Tom Moth (Principal), Derek Lightfoot (Treasurer), Ghretta Smith (Vice-President), Tanya Sandoe (Co-Secretary), Tracey Haynes (Co-Secretary), Anne Seage (Band Coordinator), Hannah Barden, Karen Campbell, Kate Gardner, Darryl Ferreira, Robert Lang, Beatrice Hofmeyr, Lisa Thompson, Jo Jeffcoat, Karen Cannon, Cindy Chin, Rebecca Hanly, Alex Jaksetic, Vanessa Hodgkinson, Judy Hibbert, Laurence Hibbert, Sarah Henry, Katie Toomey, Emma Ashington, Hamish Greig, Nilu Habibi, Amin Manji, Kate Barclay, Navin Giria, Raj Pandey, Mandy Ferreira.

2. Apologies- Kerri Cooley, Ingrid van Loon, Jo Wilbrandt

3. Previous minutes
Minutes from the last meeting on 2nd December 2016 received as true and accurate reflection. Proposed HG, seconded EA

4. Treasurer report
DL read his written report, attached (Appendix A).
In addition:
DL discussed whether there is a need for continuing with insurance of band instruments. Annual premium is currently $9000. The last claim made was in 2011 for damaged tuba ($4678).
AS highlighted:
- instruments worth in excess of $300,000.
- During school break (8 week period), instruments not insured whilst at repairers.
- instruments not covered by school insurance as >3 years old
at the last band committee meeting, it was decided to continue with the insurance. AS has sourced the cheapest possible premium with QBE who have offered heavily discounted rates. In response to NH, AS explained that home contents insurance would not cover portable instruments.

DL suggested increasing the excess to reduce the cost of premium. AS advised that parents would be liable for this increased excess. NF proposed possibly altering the premium to reduce insured sum during term time and increase during peak off site times (band camp). AS plans to investigate whether this is viable option.

5. Principal report

Refer to TM’s written report attached (Appendix B).

In addition, TM discussed:

• Following recent media reports of hoax attacks on nearby schools, TM provided reassurance that the school is adequately prepared to respond to similar emergency situations having recently practised both a lock down and evacuation. In response to a question by RL, TM advised in the unlikely event of an incident occurring, parents would be notified immediately by email. The push notification feature on the new app will be used for all alerts.

• TM described the ‘safety and security’ company who supervise the school during a 24hour period with alarm response. Their contact number is displayed at the front of school during holidays for parents and local community members. The security company are responsible for liaising with the police and media if necessary.

• TM currently considers it unnecessary to have a closed school site with an unwelcoming high perimeter fence. Moreover, any fencing construction costs (in excess of $100,000) would have to be met by school or P&C. If at any point TM thought there was a risk to safety then this may be reassessed.

• TM plans to improve signage on school grounds. In addition, all visitors are requested to wear identification stickers. Both measures would improve school security.
6. Band report
- AS advised 208 pupils enrolling into the band program this year. She has recently met with tutors for discussion including child protection policies.
- Recorder groups will be sent standardised invoices
- Beginner, junior, intermediate, stage and concert band will be sent individualised invoices with $20 reduction in band fees if payment completed by 8th February
- **Tuesday 9th February** - instrument/folder collection and fee payment for all bands (except beginner)
- **Saturday 13th February** - instrument/folder collection and fee payment for beginner band. AS requested that JF attend if possible to assist with credit card payment on both days.
- **Saturday 19th March** - entire band workshop
- **Saturday 19th June** - Wahroonga Public School Eisteddfod

7. Event and fundraising
- TM reiterated his enthusiasm for a 'golf day'. This is proposed to be held at Asquith golf club on a Friday. TM suggested 18 teams of four people participating in a round of golf followed by a light lunch and prize ceremony. This would be a fundraising event aiming to raise approximately $50 profit per entrant.

- TM advised the 'BBQ brekkie' will take place on Friday the 19th of February. TM will cook from 7.00am until 9.30am. It is planned that this occurs once per term to allow parents to chat with the principal in an informal setting.

- GS hopes to finalise a date for the school disco soon and has provisionally booked a DJ for Friday the 29th officials April.

- The next fundraising and social committee meeting will be held on Friday the 5th February. Dates for forthcoming meetings will be arranged.
8. Correspondence - none

9. General business
   - HG requested an alternative storage site for drinks. Several recently purchased boxes had to be discarded due to humidity in current location under the old band room. Alternative storage area to be considered. Generally agreed to be lack of storage within the school

   - KB recommended highlighting and reminding parents of the need for road safety and etiquette during school drop off (in particular Burns Road). TM will address this in the next newsletter and also at the Parent Information Sessions.

   - NH proposed WPS host BBQ and cupcake stall at future swimming carnivals to generate funds. Would need to seek advice regarding whether this would be approved by Knox.

   - TM noted that swim carnival historically held at Knox aquatic centre, though very expensive. Consideration could be given to holding the event at a public swimming pool (possibly Hornsby Aquatic Centre) which would significantly reduce costs.

10. Any other matters - none

Meeting closed 8.13pm

Date of next meeting

Wednesday the 2nd March 2016
BAND REPORT

Band Committee Chairman
The Band Committee is currently operating without a Chairperson.

Wahroonga Band Festival
A group of enthusiastic and committed parents are involved in the Festival Committee and are making great progress with preparations.

I am very pleased to report that Debbie Dietz has again agreed to adjudicate. Deb is very highly regarded as a music educator, band director and adjudicator. She has an excellent understanding of achievable standards for each level of school bands.

We are thrilled to report that Turramurra Music and Tom Sparkes Instrument Repairs will again offer generous sponsorship of the Festival.

Instrument Insurance
The Band Committee decided that insurance with the existing excess is worth continuing, as the risk of loss, although relatively low, would decimate the program.

Enrolments
Band enrolments are currently sitting at 205 with about 56 in Recorder. Just under 200 children attend tutorials at school.
The Bush School Social Committee
Report to P&C - 2\textsuperscript{nd} March 2016

The Bush school social committee will meet on Thursday mornings, in the week prior to the monthly P&C meetings. The social committee has put together a list of fun events, two of which have already been held.

The first ever quarterly Brekky BBQ was held on Friday 19th Feb in the school mulch area. The committee were thrilled with attendance - we’re not exactly sure how many came along, but we plowed our way through 6kg of bacon, 120 eggs, a dozen loaves of bread and around 140 sausages! Parents and children alike enjoyed Tom’s BBQ skills and not one egg on offer was rubbery! Although this was not a fundraising event we raised $125.40 via the donations box we had there on the day. Many thanks to Laurence Hibbert who expertly manned the BBQ alongside Tom. Thanks also to the committee members who arrived at 6.30am to get things underway before the first parents started to arrive at 7am. Thanks to Jo Jeffcoat for the delicious vege muffins, to Ingrid for keeping us tidy, and also thanks to Kylie Foster-Thompson and Vanessa Hodgkinson for their muscle and great organization skills!

Last Friday saw the first annual bush school barefoot bowls championship. We had a fantastic evening at Warrawee bowling club - the members of which were extremely welcoming and helpful! Much fun was had by over 100 bush school community members who mingled and socialised on the bowling green and in the clubhouse. Thank you again to Vanessa Hodgkinson for your tireless efforts - those lucky dips were sensational! We raised approximately $600 from raffles, the gold coin toss events, lucky dips, etc. Most importantly we had a lot of fun and received wonderful feedback.

As chairperson for the committee I would like to request that we are a formal sub-committee of the P&C, and that we are allocated a budget of $500 to be used for upcoming event expenses. Any donations/fundraising monies raised will be deposited into this account, and when the balance exceeds $500 we will transfer funds back to the P&C account. We will report monthly to the P&C on the committee’s events and financial status.

The social committee schedule of events has been shared with all bush school parents, and we plan to encourage different year groups to assist with facilitating these events. Many people have also expressed an interest in being involved in the planning and implementing of future events, which is fantastic. We are keeping a list of all interested parties, whom we will call upon when required for assistance.

Thanks also to the P&C and the bush school community who are supporting the social events so heartily, and finally thanks to Tom for encouraging us to become the fun, community minded school we all want to be part of.

Karen Welch
Chairperson
The Bush School Social Committee
TEA & TISSUES: What a fabulous event yesterday morning as we welcomed new kinder parents. Congratulations and thank you P&C for organising.

SWIMMING CARNIVAL: The swimming carnival last Thursday was well attended and ran smoothly from our end. Delays at the beginning were due to Knox Pool's equipment failures meaning we didn’t start until 10:00 instead of the advertised 9:00 start. We caught up the time and held finals for freestyle for what I understand was the first time in a number of years. Mr Steel and his crew did a tremendous job.

P&C FINANCIAL SUPPORT: The school is most thankful for the generous donations made by the P&C in 2015 which paid for an audio visual upgrade to the hall, teachers’ aide supplementation and contribution to resource purchasing totalling over $100,000. Thank you also for your pledge to contribute $20,000 towards our gifted and talented program which benefits students throughout the school and $50,000 for technology upgrades. This year the school is requesting financial support in the form of:

- Gifted and talented program & teacher mentoring - $20,000 (passed)
- Reading support for students & teacher mentoring - $20,000
- Technology upgrades - $50,000 (passed)

Beyond this, I encourage the P&C to select a project from my previous list to save towards over time. This might be a playground upgrade, air conditioning of classrooms, sound-proof film studio, etc. I have plenty of ideas!

SAFETY & SECURITY: Media coverage over the last week has highlighted concerning cases of schools, some nearby, receiving hoax phone calls threatening of explosives within the grounds. Please be assured that the Department of Education and each individual school has worked closely with the police force to promptly evacuate the sites, inspect the school and in most cases, return students to their classes. Wahroonga Public School has clear and well-communicated emergency response procedures that are practised regularly. Parents need not worry about the safety and security of their children while at school – it is always our first priority. I am available to discuss any concerns you may have.

SCHOOL CONTRIBUTIONS: Next week parents will receive notices requesting payment for various contributions to school programs, events and the purchasing of resources. It is only through the generosity of and partnerships with the community that the school is able to provide high quality opportunities and instruction, and I kindly urge you to make payment when notices arrive. Parents experiencing financial hardship are welcome to confidentially discuss their circumstances with me, as some support, though limited, is available.

NEW STAFF FACES: This year we are pleased to welcome Miss Nadia Shah and Mrs Tanya Croswell to our full time teaching staff. Both Nadia and Tanya are part of the Year 5 team. Mrs Kim Ross joins us in a part time capacity teaching KGR. Please make them feel welcome as they settle into their new teaching environment. We also welcome back from absence Mrs Kris Graham (KGR), Mrs Fran Hall (2HP), Mrs Louise Fiennes (3F) and Mrs Leonie Hibbert (4H). Job share classes and composite grade classes are unavoidable and should be viewed in a positive light due. Teachers’ skills sets are sometimes different and complement one another’s and multi-age classes often have a lower range of ability than a ‘straight’ class.