Wahroonga Public School P&C Association
Minutes of Meeting
Wednesday 7th May 2014

Attendees
Principal John Benton (JB), P&C President Clair Scott (CS), Derek Lightfoot (DL), Tanya Sandoe (TS), Linda Russell, Tracey Haynes, Jonathan Helps, Anne Seage (AS), Nader Ghavidel, Janine Feurstein, Jonas Ball, Elizabeth Johnson, Fiona Schweers, Prakash Krishnan, Kate Barclay, Vanessa Glastonbury, William Pearce, Ashlee Ball, David Hartshorn, Laurence Hibbert, Judy Hibbert, John Fogarty.

Apologies
Mark Rudlin, Jo Wilbrandt.

Meeting opened 7:02pm.
CS welcomed everyone and invited new members to join. Welcome extended to representatives from Community Against Polluting Stacks (CAPS).

Minutes of previous meeting 2nd April 2014. Proposed TS, seconded Janine Feurstein.

New Business:

NorthConnex tunnel
Discussion, led by CAPS representatives Jonas Ball (year one parent and environmental planner/manager) and Elizabeth Johnson (kindergarten parent and doctor) about new tunnel to link M2 to M1. Bush School is within 1.2km radius of proposed unfiltered northern ventilation stack. Impact on health to local residents and schoolchildren unclear. CAPS’ position is that there has been a lack of consultation with the community about this project. CAPS is pro-tunnel but protest the position of the ventilation stack, suggest moving stack to industrial area at Asquith/Hornsby or into national park. Environmental impact statement (EIS) is due on 30 May; there is a 45-day appeals process after that. CAPS would like support to extend appeals period to at least 90 days, to give community a chance to adequately study the EIS and have meaningful input into the process.

It was resolved:

- P&C to write to NSW Dept of Planning in support of CAPS’ request to extend period of scrutiny to 90 days. Elizabeth Johnson to supply template to CS.
- P&C to disseminate information to parents via class coordinators on email.
- P&C to invite NorthConnex to next P&C Meeting to present their side.

Principal’s Report
See attached (Appendix A)
Band Report
No formal report. AS has had no computer access for weeks. DET resolving this. Band camp notes have gone out to all children. Band committee due to meet next week.

Band Demountable Update
DL reported that project on hold due to advice from company Building Code & Bushfire Hazard Solutions, who say the proposed site is too close to the forest opposite Poole Road. The area behind the library could be an alternative.

DL, bushfire rep and Shed Up are meeting on site Friday 16 May to discuss. Jonas Ball also to attend and advise in his capacity as an environmental planner/manager. JB wants a second opinion: eg bushfire rep hasn’t addressed what modifications we can make to the building design to make it viable.

Treasurer’s Report
No formal report.
DL advised Michelle Lightfoot and Susan Stenning are doing lots of work to get music committee reports up to date and reconciling fees.
JB thinks we should be more transparent re accounts at P&C meetings. DL to work out appropriate level of reporting with the committee.

General Business

1. Events

- Trivia Night 21, June 2014: CS to email budget to executive committee. Planning going well, selling tables, receiving donations. Target for trivia night is ‘general’ fundraising – KLas, learning support, technology.

- Band fundraiser September 2014: Bush dance to include parents and children, whole of school welcome as ‘community event’. Sausage sizzle etc. Planning underway.

- Bangra/Bollywood night: potentially October. Investigations underway as to whether viable.

2. Barriers adjacent to Pedestrian Crossing on Burns Road

- Discussion over installing two barriers on available sides of the road to make crossing area safer. JB advises it will cost $4000 for school to install these, under project management of/pending approval by Ku-ring-gai Council. DL proposes P&C splits this cost with the school to fund these barriers, up to a maximum spend by P&C of $3000. Unanimously agreed.

Ban on poppers

- ERC voted to ban juice poppers. General concensus at P&C to support this move for both environmental and health benefits.

Tree update – three potentially dangerous trees in playground
• JB advises application to cut these down is at Council, waiting for response.

**Pedestrian crossing across Wahroonga Avenue**

• Janine Feurstein proposes approaching Council about putting in a crossing at Wahroonga Ave near St Edmunds School. Janine to contact St Edmunds and write letter to Council. JB to bring most recent traffic analysis study to next P&C meeting.

**Lights down** - Water Street back entrance lights not working

• AS concerned. JB to get electrician to investigate.

*Meeting ended 8.55pm*

Next meeting Wednesday 4 June 2014, 7pm in the staffroom.
PRINCIPAL’S REPORT
MAY 2014 – P&C

There is a lot on this term. Student reports are a big task for teachers and I appreciate all the work that goes into them. The NAPLAN tests are next week. Band camp will be with us soon. We have NAIDOC week performers in the last week and I ask classes to focus on Aboriginal Education the following week. Mrs Evans has not returned as expected but she will be here Monday 2 June 2014.

SCHOOL DISCO
The School Disco on Friday 4 April 2014 was a great success. Thanks to Clair Scott & the P&C team for producing this event - which the students love each year.

KINDER 2015 INFORMATION NIGHT
We are holding an information night on Tuesday 20 May 2014 at 7:00 PM for prospective parents. This is for adults only. This is especially for parents who have no association with the school and need basic information. Topics covered will include

- Enrolment policy and procedures
- School facilities and programs
- Primary Schooling in the 21st century
- A day in Kinder at big school
- Should I start my child at school in 2013?

Mrs Graham and I will be the presenters and the session will last for 1 hour and 30 minutes with plenty of time for questions. Our orientation program in November is for students and parents whose enrolment has been accepted.

SCHOOL COUNCIL
The consultation process for the future of the School Council will raised again tomorrow in the newsletter with a vote before the P&C meeting in June.

TEST DATES FOR NAPLAN
13 May  Test day: Language Conventions and Writing
14 May  Test day: Reading
15 May  Test day: Numeracy

ART SHOW 2014
The Art Show is on Thursday 14 August. You can buy your child’s finished work for $20. Last year this covered the costs of the show.

SDD TERM 2-
We had a great School Development Day last week. We worked on teacher learning in the areas of Feedback and Dyslexia.
The Christian Prayer Group provided us with a lovely morning tea.

WAHROONGA PUBLIC SCHOOL APP
Our School now has our own ‘Skoolbag’ Smartphone App which we will be using to send you important information. Please download and install it by searching for our school name in either the Apple App Store, or Google Play Store. Instructions were included in the “BUSH TELEGRAPH.”

You can also click the image above to view the Skoolbag Communication Centre which contains all of the content that we put in our App

CROSS COUNTRY RUN
Our annual cross country run was held today, Wednesday 7 May 2014. Year 3 -6 students and those Year 2 students who turn 8 this year participated.

NEW TUNNEL INFORMATION
A tunnel is planned to link the M1 and M2 motorways. You may be aware of the project and have looked at the NorthConnex web-site located at http://www.northconnex.com.au/faq.php
The Department of Education and Communities has no active participation in the project, however, is maintaining open communication with other NSW Government agencies and community groups. The NorthConnex web-site has a frequently asked questions link which answers some questions regarding air quality in Section 9. This page can be found at http://www.northconnex.com.au/faq.php. Please contact NorthConnex directly with any enquiries or concerns that you have. NorthConnex can be contacted on 1800 997 057 (free call) or at enquiries@northconnex.com.au

WALK SAFELY TO SCHOOL DAY – FRIDAY 23 MAY 2014

Walk Safely to School Day
Walk Safely to School Day (WSTSD) is an annual, national event when all Primary School children will be encouraged to walk and commute safely to school. It is a Community Event seeking to promote Road Safety, Health, Public Transport and the Environment.
It will be held throughout Australia on Friday 23 May 2014