Minutes
BRIDGIDINE RANDWICK PARENTS AND FRIENDS ASSOCIATION
Monday 5th August 2013
Meeting Room–Administration Building

1. Opening
The meeting opened at 7.05pm with a prayer by the Principal

2. Attendance
Allison Roberts (President Yr 8/12); Michelle Hilton (Vice President Yr 10); Cathy Soden (Treasurer Yr 9) Susan Glassick (Secretary Yr 9); Kim Dobra (Class Representative Coordinator Yr 9); Kate Edmondson (Principal); Anthony Morgan (Assistant Principal); Sheridan Horne (Yr 9); Ikuko Lucantonio (Yr 7/9); Elizabeth Davis (Yr 9);

Apologies
Catherine Molihan (Yr 10); Liza Campbell

3. Minutes
The minutes of the Term 3 2012 meeting were confirmed by Allison Roberts and seconded by Kim Dobra

4. Matters arising
Matters arising are detailed in the Principal’s report and Road safety item.

5. Correspondence
Email received concerning weight of school bags
It was accepted and acknowledged the weight of school bags is a problem and in-depth debate ensued. Contributing problems included compulsory roll out of individual computers; difficulty in reading text books on screens when also making notes on the same screen; cost of books making it unfeasable to have a school set and a home set; weight of computers; reluctance of students to use wheelie bags. It is also difficult for students to be as organised as they need to be in regard to their Text books and use of their locker for storage. The students are often taking home books that aren’t needed at home.

It was noted that the individual computers have lead to highly developed presentation skills. However, there has been no improvement in learning or critical thinking skills. It was also highlighted that the HSC is still hand written.

There appear to be no easy answers to this problem.

ACTION: Formal letters from parents describing the problem and possible solutions can be sent to the CEO and/or the Principal

6. President’s Report
The President report was discussed in relation to event planning.

7. Treasurer’s Report
The Treasurer tabled the financial report as of 30th June 2013. The account stands at $10,139.27

The TAS night resulted in a profit of $722.30.

The final balance has been paid on the Catwalk.
8. Principal's Report

Founders day and music concert were both successes. The development of the concert over the years was outlined, and it was noted that originally it was a small event with only the parents of the participants in the audience. Now it is a whole school event and the audience has expanded to include family, friends, and other students. Of concern was the late planning of the music concert causing stress to staff working late making costumes.

Year 10 Canberra camp was a success and the behaviour of the girls was outstanding. Anthony Morgan shared his career advice to the girls that “If they work in the Australian Mint they will make a lot of money”.

The school has been challenged by the poor health of several staff members and the Principal highlighted the efforts of the remaining healthy staff during this difficult period.

It was noted that is is only 5 weeks to Year 12 graduation and 10 weeks to the HSC.

Building plans are underway on the entrance at Aeolia Street in the September holidays. There will be granite pillars which are reproductions of the granite pillars at the entrance to the Convent on Coogee Bay Road. Discussions with Council have been held to determine the school’s boundaries accurately. It is also planned to create a new entry to the science block and relacing the windows to the Delany building before the end of the year.

It is anticipated that the building of St Basil's aged care facility on adjacent land will commence in October 2013. It is planned that effective fencing be established in the first instance. However, it is expected there will be dust and noise for a number of years.

9. General Business

a) Events

i) Upcoming event

Art Show August 27
The Art Show co-ordination is underway. Allison Roberts is recruiting volunteers from the Year 12 parents and will contact other volunteers through the email lists. On the night there will be a raffle, free cheese and biscuits, donation for wine and beer (it is hoped people will donate in the region of $5 per drink).

Uniform shop Dec 16/17 TBA
Not discussed this meeting

ii) Completed event reports

Founders Day
Founders day BBQ was coordinated by Kim Dobra. There were 12 volunteers and it was a busy and fun day of cooking. Plans for next year were discussed and it was felt to be preferable to keep Founders day activities at the school every year.

Music Night
The School Musical was coordinated by Sheridan Horne. This year it was noted that there were fewer supper plate donations. It was highlighted that a note was not issued to parents to advise of the usual practice to bring a plate. The late call for costumes was also highlighted as a challenge as over knee socks are not readily found.
ACTION: Sheridan to contact music department to discuss P and F support with costumes and issuing notes requesting “bring a plate”.

b) Distribution lists
Email distribution lists were developed in MyMail and then last week in CEnet after it was noted that MyMail was not receiving any incoming emails. Susan Glassick demonstrated the basic function of the email distribution lists and filing system in the CEnet. Event coordinators will be forwarded the username and password to access the mailing lists. All emails are to have the recipients details in the “bcc” address bar to ensure privacy is maintained. Authors of emails are to place their name in the “To” or “cc” bar to enable replies to the author.

ACTION: Susan Glassick to forward the access details to event coordinators

c) Website
Mr Rawlings has worked hard on the school website and has updated the P and F information. There is potential to use the website further to provide P and F information.

d) Finances
The recommendations from the accountant are underway. The P and F reimbursed the school for the Meet and Greet 2013 event; a donation of $500 was provided to the Art Show and the catwalk has been paid in full.

e) Road safety
The Councillor Bruce Notley-Smith has shown some interest in the school's concerns about road safety when talking with Ms Edmondson.

There was discussion about applying for lower speed limits in La Perouse Road as a high pedestrian area. It is thought the light railway may be travelling through The Spot. This will affect how Council thinks about Brigidine. It is an opportunity to voice our concerns, as well as identifying other safety points, and develop a submission while the planning for road changes in Randwick is in the early phase.

ACTION: Allison Roberts to provide information in BCR newsletter inviting parents to participate on working party to develop a submission.

10. Closure
The meeting closed at 8.45pm

11. Next meeting
AGM - Monday November 18th 2013 at 7pm