



Domremy College Parents & Friends Association

16th February 2009 – Minutes of General Meeting

Attendance

Bianca Rodgrigo	Narelle Gor	Gina Bonaccorso
Cath Rawlings	Ann Maree Holmes	Joy Hamilton
Melanie Rozsnyoi	Jane Lamptsi	Christina Marshall
Anne Iacono	Lia Toscano	Cristina Petruzzella
Josie Ribbo	Sal Calpardo	Joe Reaiche
Carmel Lind	Felicia Cammarei	Sally Puckeridge
Gilda Pussich	Robyn Glover	Reed McNaughton
Glen Magson	Patricia Heffron	Diana Hoban
Cheryl O'Keefe	Lyn Moyce	

Apologies – none

Confirmation of Minutes 27th October 2008 – Diana Hoban / Cheryl O'Keefe

President's Report. Welcome to all parents to the new school year, particular welcome to new parents attending their first Domremy P&F Meeting. Upcoming P&F Meetings, flyer circulated and dates tabled: 11/5, 10/8, 2/11. Late last year the P&F were asked to send a representative to a special meeting with Local MP Angela D'More to discuss the proposed cut to free school travel. A proxy meeting was subsequently held with 88 parents voting unanimously against the Governments intention, minutes of this meeting were adopted and accepted by Diana and Gilda. The end result, with the help of parent power around the state the Government withdrew it's decision and free school transport remains.

Tabled – Thank you letter from TAS Co-ordinator for the P&F Funds donated to the TAS department – a coffee grinder and coffee machine was purchased.

Principal's Report

- P&F Funds donated for KLA's in 2008 has been gratefully received and money spent.
- Tabled document "Australian Government – Building the education revolution" With regard to the indicative funding caps for school size 401+ of \$200,000 – Robyn is waiting on direction from CEO with regard to fund availability etc.
- 2nd Hand Book Store – thanks to all the parents who helped the first 2nd hand book store was successful – with a few areas of fine tuning noted for this year.
- HSC results – as published in latest newsletter – were very pleasing. Year 12 2008 – 85% will be attending University, 10% TAFE. Arts/Science/Teaching degrees being the most popular choices.
- Opening Mass was well attended – this year's theme is "Making a Difference"
- \$2,000 was raised by the school for the Bush Fire victims.



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- Request to P&F for the P&F Levy for the next 3 years to be set aside to pay for air-conditioning for the new hall – which will cost approximately \$100,000 and is not able to be funded by grants. After much discussion and given that P&F last year had voted on P&F funds not being put aside solely for building funds it was agreed that 2009 funds would be earmarked for the air-conditioning should no other immediate requirements be more pressing.
- Uniform update – the new senior and junior winter blouse is now available. Agreed that some time would be allowed for the phasing in with the old style Junior blouse. However, those wearing the older style would still be required to button up the collar.
- Acceptable length of uniform. A general guideline, uniform should be bought so that it is mid-calf length at the start of school career – however acceptable that by year 9/10 uniform may be just below the knee. It was noted that there is very little difference in length of uniform between sizes and parents were being forced to purchase uniforms too large to accommodate the length. Robyn is taking this matter up with the uniform shop. Also the students and parents are finding that the new style “large” bag is too small and has changed substantially, again Robyn was requested to investigate with the uniform shop.

Bus Update – Gilda reported and tabled the bus routes, bus numbers and bus depots. As usual Gilda has been doing battle with all the depots as despite giving them the projected numbers and demographic for 2009 – the continues to be problems. Parents are encouraged to complain directly to the bus depots as many voices have greater impact than just one. Gilda will publish information in next school newsletter. The P&F thanked Gilda for her continuing efforts to ensure the safe travel of students to and from school.

Guest Speakers for P&F Meetings Terms 2 and 3 2009.

Robyn recommended Michelle Wagner present on assessments as well as the school counsellor. Robyn will consult with both these and advise if they are available to give their time and expertise to the P&F.

Gilda will also be offering her Cyber Safety presentation to all Year 7 parents with all other parents welcome to attend.

P&F Social Evening – 10th July. Volunteers were sought to join Social Committee to help organise this event. Thanks to Ann Maree Holmes, Joy Hamilton, Melanie Rozsnyoi and Jane Lampstsi for offering their help to the P&F Executive.

Cocktail Evening – 4th March – volunteers were asked for to help serve at the Annual Cocktail for New Parents. Thank you to the following for agreeing to help
Joe Reaiche, Ann Maree Holmes, Joy Hamilton, Christina Marshall, Sally Puckeridge, Josie Ribbo, Anne Iacono, Jane Lampstsi, Cheryl O’Keefe, Lyn Moyce, Diana Hoban.

Movie Night – Jane Lampstsi will email Tricia possible list of movie night ideas.

Building Update – Reed addressed the meeting with brief update on building. 15 air-conditioned demountables installed in car park. This has meant that street parking around the school has been taken up with teachers cars – so parent parking for pick up is limited. Optical fibre and wireless network has been installed. Staff have received their Apple notebooks with year 9 expecting to receive week 1 or 2 next term. Apple server has been installed. A request was made to Reed to try and ensure that lawns were not mowed during exam block time, as several students had complained to parents about this.



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Other Business brought to the meeting

2008 Speech night was brought up for discussion. Questioned as to why those students who were asked to attend although not receiving awards were for the first time requested not to sit in their year groups but sit with parents. This caused a number of groups of girls sitting unsupervised as parents were not in attendance or hadn't saved seats. Gilda is to investigate why this happened. It was generally agreed that the evening is too long. Suggestions were made for ways in which to speed up proceedings without actually taking anything out. It was agreed that the performances were well received, as were the year speeches. However the award presentations could be quicker – suggestions included but not limited to having two presenters per year with girls approaching the stage from both sides and crossing over. Also to have the special awards included in each year award – rather than have the special guests brought to the stage a second time to present these awards. Other ways to streamline the evening were to be investigated.

There being no further business the meeting was declared closed 9.00pm

Next meeting 11th May 2009 – 7pm



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Australian Government



Secondary schools

Building the Education Revolution for secondary schools

The Australian Government will deliver a \$14.7 billion boost to the Education Revolution over the next three financial years. The Building the Education Revolution (BER) begins this year and provide new facilities and refurbishments in schools so each of Australia's 9540 schools can meet the needs of 21st century students and teachers.

Every Australian school will be able to access part of the Government's investment of \$987.2 million during the 2008-09 financial year, \$8.5 billion over 2009-10 and \$5.2 billion in 2010-11. The BER complements the existing and planned investments by the states and territories and non-government systems and schools.

This is a critical component of the Government's economic stimulus package, giving our schools the attention they so richly deserve. To ensure that BER has the greatest impact on job creation, it is essential that construction and maintenance work commences as quickly as possible.

The program builds on the Rudd Government's commitment to deliver a world-class education to all Australian schools.

The three key elements of BER are:

Primary Schools for the 21st Century: \$12.4 billion to build or renew large scale infrastructure in all primary schools, special schools, and K-12s (primary component), including libraries, halls and indoor sporting centres.

Science and Language Centres for 21st Century Secondary Schools: \$1 billion to build up to 500 new science laboratories and language learning centres in secondary schools that can demonstrate both need and readiness and capacity to complete construction during 2009/10.

Renewing Australia's Schools: \$1.3 billion to refurbish and renew existing infrastructure and build minor infrastructure of up to \$200 000, subject to the size of the school.

Science and Language Centres for 21st Century Secondary Schools

\$1 billion is available for the building of new science and language centres for 21st century secondary schools.

Up to 500 schools will be funded to construct new science laboratories or language learning centres. Funding will be allocated on the basis of demonstrated need and provision of evidence that schools are ready and capable to have construction of the facilities completed within the 2009/10 financial year. Proposals will be subject to a competitive application process.

The investment in science laboratories and language learning centres will bring technology directly to students. It is essential to provide secondary students studying the sciences and languages with access to modern and cutting edge technologies in their own learning spaces. This will drive personalised learning approaches in an environment where students and teachers can respond to individual learning needs.

Access to this sophisticated infrastructure will ensure students are equipped with the resources to support the development of their skills to compete and prosper in a modern, globalised economy of the 21st century.

Sciences and languages are two subject areas in particular where the advances in modern technologies and infrastructure have had a significant impact on the interactive nature of teaching and learning in secondary schools.

Building opportunities for all Australians



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Building the Education Revolution in secondary schools

Renewing Australia's Schools

\$1.3 billion is available for Renewing Australia's Schools. All schools will be eligible to apply to state and territory education authorities and the Black Grant Authorities for funding through BER for small scale infrastructure building and refurbishment funding of up to \$200,000, subject to the size of the school. These projects could include: minor refurbishment of buildings, fixed shade structures, covered outdoor learning areas, green upgrades (water tanks), support for students with disabilities or special needs.

All Australian schools—primary and secondary, government and non-government, urban, regional, rural and remote—will be able to access funds for much needed small scale infrastructure and minor refurbishment.

The building of new school infrastructure and the refurbishment of existing ageing infrastructure over the next three years will not only improve Australia's education system, but it will have a major stimulatory effect on national and local economies.

School Size (FTEs)	Indicative Funding Caps
0 to 50	\$50 000
51 to 150	\$75 000
151 to 300	\$125 000
301 to 400	\$150 000
401+	\$200 000

Building the Education Revolution today

BER will start immediately with the first round of funding expected to be paid by June 2009. Many projects under the Renewing Australia's Schools element will be able to begin almost immediately.

Minor infrastructure builds will be completed within 6-8 months, and major infrastructure builds such as libraries or multipurpose halls will take 15-18 months.

The building of new science and language centres will be fast-tracked to be completed in 2010.

Strengthening existing investment in schools

BER will build on and complement investment in the Education Revolution including the National Secondary School Computer Fund and Fibre Connections to Schools elements of the Digital Education Revolution, and the Trade Training Centres in Schools Program.

The program will be delivered through cooperation between federal, state and territory governments and the non-government school sector.

Government schools will be able to apply for funding through the state and territory governments and non-government schools through Black Grant Authorities from February 2009.

For more information visit

www.deewr.gov.au/buildingtheeducationrevolution