Sydney Secondary College P&C Leichhardt Campus
Minutes for November 3rd, 2014

**Attendance:** Recorded in attendance book. 13 P&C members, 2 staff members, 2 apologies

1. **Welcome** from Nick Potter.

Minutes of the previous meeting, Sept 1st, 2014, approved by Vanessa Palfreeman, seconded by Karen Korras.

2. **Matters Arising from Minutes:**

Nil

3. **Reports**

3.1 **Principal’s Report:**

College Principal, Judy Kelly, present to give report on College Planning Session that was held recently. Thanks given to those who attended, approx 25 parents over the 3 campuses plus staff. Information collated from other sessions with parents/staff/community members/src focus groups. Common themes with all groups included:

- Issues with BYOD continue - Desire for uniformity, consistency and equity, parents unsure about what to provide and how necessary, difficult for some older carers, lack of IT support for staff as no longer have tech support officers, difficult for teachers not knowing what devices are in the room. College needs a policy.
  Balmain asking yr 7’s to buy laptops and bring to school. Upskilling of staff needed.
  College group started, called ‘Intech’, will meet and bring new tech ideas to the school.
  Vanessa brought up topic of ipads. Private schools returning to laptops, workplaces demanding coding skills and laptops better for this. School feels ipads good for Yrs 7 & 8 as programs are good for creativity. Blackwattle not using devices consistently, including whiteboards. Staff want consistency across KLA’s. (Key Learning Areas). Carmel suggested that school could provide a shortlist of devices to help with consistency.
  Students want open, futuristic classrooms and engaging learning environments.

- Textbooks - a contentious issue between students and parents. Students prefer technology as hate copying workbooks. Also, devices are lighter than textbooks. Older students like textbooks. Project based learning appealing to parents.

- Facilities - biggest issue is toilets, some were built in 1920!. Boys want higher walls between cubicles and mirrors in toilets. Regarding other facilities, students generally want fresh paint, better utilization of rooms, wifi, weed free gardens, more clean tables and seats, gum free environment and classrooms open in wet weather.
- College and Community partnerships - parents and students would like the 3 campuses to do more together so the students know each other when they go to the senior campus. Sport and IMP help create this familiarity. Greater and earlier exposure to senior campus suggested. College uniform suggested and promotion of co-education.

- College team will present to Principal’s Conference. Have come up with strategic direction and vision statement and will pass on to school community.

SSCL Principal, Melinda Bright reported -
- Yr 10 girls are to run a program on body image, ted talk, inspiring women in the community, gender discrimination, sexual harassment, youtube clips etc.
- Quotes being sort for artificial turf for a small section of quadrangle to move towards softening quadrangle and adding colour.
- Looking at next year to redevelop downstairs workshops, creating “make-a-space’ multipurpose learning spaces and updating the technology.
- Enrolments for yr 7, 2015 are high. Normally get approx 340 and drops to 200 by now but is currently staying at 293. May have 9 classes. Out of area enrolments will likely be affected except for siblings.

3.2 President’s Report

Nick sat on canteen tender committee and waiting on tender acceptance.

Emails received suggesting public/private relationships and decided not to pursue that path. newsletter not to be commercialised. Trish suggested these companies could support trivia night?

3.3 Treasurer’s Report

$63k in the bank currently with possibly more parent contributions to come.

$17k to send to school and Aboriginal day costs to come - day went well and staff pattied 16 kilos of roo meat for food stalls.

Approx $55k available to spend including on donations.

George Catsi (parent) present to discuss hall improvements. Sound bad at back of hall, so speakers have been realigned and projection screen moved back making it more professional. Sound desk needs to be moved so that those operating it can see what is happening on stage. Cabling, electrics and digital capacity all need upgrading. Approx cost is $17K. George can do this over the Christmas break to be ready for start of school year. Nick moved to proceed, Vanessa seconded.
3.4 Secretary's Report
Nothing to report

3.5 Lostock Report
Some OHS safety concerns have come to light. Brown snakes found in area recently. Posters to be made re. snake bite care. First aid kit to be reviewed and updated on the weekend of the 22nd/23rd Nov. Also, smoke alarms need to be installed and plumber required to replace small water heater in kitchen. Lostock bank account is healthy so above suggestions to proceed.

4.0 General Business
Carmel asked if p&c registered to vote in p&c association elections. Nick and Trish doubted it was done before the cut off date in July so probably not registered.

Meeting closed 8.37 pm.
Next and final meeting Monday 1st December at 7pm in the staffroom.