Sydney Secondary College P&C Leichhardt Campus
Minutes June 4 2012

Attendance: Recorded in attendance book. 14 P&C members, three staff, five apologies.
1. Welcome. Welcome to Acting Principal James McMaster, SCC Campus Principal Judy Kelly, HAT (Highly Accomplished Teacher) Carolyn Paget and parents.
2. Minutes of the previous meeting approved unchanged after some discussion of alternate wording.
3. New Principal - SSC Campus Principal Judy Kelly
   - A new principle for Leichhardt Campus has been selected - Melinda Bright, currently the Deputy Principal at Crestwood High School. Ms Kelly said the principal aims to start at the beginning of Term Three and will visit Leichhardt when possible before then. James McMaster said Ms Bright planned to attend the Y7 learning fair and the June School Executive Meeting.
   - Another recently completed appointment is for the position of Principal for the Blackwattle Bay Campus. Sharon Roberts, currently the relieving principal at Barrenjoey High School, will also start in her new position at the start of term four.
   - Ms Kelly noted that NSW Police are attending a meeting at Leichhardt Town Hall on June 13 from 7-8pm. This meeting, of the Leichhardt Residents’ Precinct Committee, is an opportunity for residents to discuss the proposed construction of a large police station next to Leichhardt campus. Parents at the meeting noted that the P&C had protested the Police Station construction last year and had thought the proposal was dead.
   - Parents thanked Ms Kelly for attending and recognised the significant “generational change” in the campus executive team over the past couple of years as most executive staff involved with the commissioning of Sydney Secondary College have now retired.
4. Presentation - Highly Accomplished Teacher Carolyn Paget
   - Ms Paget outlined the Year 7 learning fair to be held June 21 from 9-11am. This is the second year of the learning fair. Ms Paget said the learning fair was well worth attending and the children were very enthusiastic.
   - Ms Paget had some copies of the learning fair instruction book at the meeting. All Year 7s should have one. Ms Paget is available for parent questions.
   - Parents thanked Ms Paget for attending - the number of Year 7 parents at the meeting was a notable response to the agenda item.
5. Principal’s Report - James McMaster
   - Year 10 transition to Blackwattle Bay is well underway. Students visited UTS, are scheduled to visit Sydney University and the Careers Fair at Homebush. Year 10 information night at Blackwattle Bay is on June 21.
   - Parent/Teacher nights are scheduled at Leichhardt Campus for June 26 (Y7&8) and July 19 (Y9&10). Online interview booking is being set up again for these nights, keep an eye on the school Highlights e-mail for more information. The interview booking system is an attempt to reduce congestion at the parent night.
   - Please note the information on Whooping Cough in the recent Highlights. Two cases of Whooping Cough has occurred in the school community.
   - At the last meeting Mr McMaster canvassed opinions on a proposal from the local Anglican church to hold voluntary lunch time meetings at the school for children. After P&C views and Staff views were gathered, Mr McMaster said he had informed the church that meetings would not be held.
6. Business arising from the minutes
   ● **Trivia night. August 11 confirmed.** The Trivia Committee is now active, some expressions of assistance in helping have been received, helpers please e-mail the P&C at ssclpc@gmail.com

7. Treasurer’s report - Treasurer absent
   ● Funding applications have been received by James McMaster. Ms Paget spoke for a proposal to introduce the Elevate Study Skills program at Leichhardt Campus, which would be about $2000 annually, uses an external group to improve student study skills. This program is in place at Balmain Campus but only for enrichment and selective students, it is also in place at many private schools. Ms Paget proposes the program for all Leichhardt students. Mr McMaster said that the English department had submitted two proposals, each for around $3,000, for increasing the number of copies of popular books and for expanding the range of reading material. Parents encouraged the school staff to have a complete set of funding requests for action at the August meeting. **Note:** The goal is to have two rounds of funding approval each year, in August and December, to speed up the return of P&C-raised funds into the school.
   ● James McMaster noted some feedback from parents on the Fast for Word reading program purchased by the P&C last year. Parents said the program had made a noticeable difference to their child’s progress. A good validation of the worth of our fundraising!

8. Secretary’s report - Peter
   ● Continuing issues with access to the P&C web site due to Education Department’s tightened security. James McMaster seeking to resolve this. The new policy means users have to be reconfirmed every six months and we've lost access for weeks each time.

9. Lostock report - James McMaster
   ● Further information on the Lostock water issue tabled at the meeting by Mr McMaster on Vanessa’s behalf. There is rainwater in the tanks for drinking but water supplies to the shower and sink are not available. Lostock co-ordinators tabled options for additional rainwater tanks and for drawing water from the river. All options are expensive and some require co-operation with local landowners. P&C expressed support for making the repairs. There were some questioning of the Council refusal to renew the supply.

10. Future meeting dates
    Monday, August 6
    Monday, September 3
    Monday, November 5
    Monday, December 3