

BEAUMONT ROAD PUBLIC SCHOOL



DRAFT Minutes of Beaumont Road Public School Council Meeting 7:45am – 8:50am, Friday 26 August 2016 Library

Present: M McDonald – Executive Member and Principal; Jane Coad - President; T Jenkins – Secretary; C Francis P&C Appointed Member; Mary Ellen Green – Teacher Representative; Punam Wahan - Alternate Teacher Representative (from 8:30am); Jayna Hirani -Teacher Representative

Apologies: Alister Henskens – Community Member

Visitor: Meredith Holt

1	Prior meeting minutes and business arising President welcomed Council members to the second meeting of Term 3 2016. Noted minutes of last meeting of 29 July and resolved to accept minutes as a true and correct record. Noted the following actions arising or carried forward from the 29 July meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the decision to form a Finance Sub-Committee (Item 4, Minutes 3 June 2016) remains subject to review;• the Campus Plan had been posted on the school website;• Principal advised that he had reviewed the Library Fund Constitution, and that this was centred around the purchase of books and computer equipment, and did not envisage expenditure on staff or buildings. Principal was awaiting DEC confirmation on final draft, and will then submit for finalisation; and• the role of Council would be the main agenda item for this meeting.
2	Principal's report Principal provided a brief report, noting in particular good Naplan results and successful performance nights. No discussion occurred on matters such as student and staff numbers, as the Principal wanted to devote the majority of the meeting to discuss the ongoing role of Council.

<p>3</p>	<p>Role of Council</p> <p>Principal led a discussion on his view of the ongoing role for the School Council following his recent discussions with the P&C Executive, Council parent representatives, teachers and some parents.</p> <p>Principal indicated he desired Council to act in an advisory capacity only, and that greater value might be had if instead of Council providing this advice, it was sought from a broader group of community representatives – for example, parents that have been in the school system for some time, perhaps with children already in high school. Instead, Principal wished P&C to fulfil all the roles and responsibilities envisaged by the Council Constitution where these did not fall to himself.</p> <p>Council noted Principal’s view differed from the proposed roles and responsibilities to ensure effective ongoing governance of the school for the Principal, P&C Executive and Council that were being finalised after further discussion between selected P&C Executives, Council Parent Representatives and the Principal following the last Council meeting. Given his differing view, the Principal did not refer to the guidance given by the Secretary as to how the Council Constitution be interpreted or accepted as not being actively followed were the proposal adopted,</p> <p>The Teachers Representatives advised that they have had limited input at Council meetings to date as most issues are dealt with directly between teachers and the Principal. However, they recognised that this could be different were there a change in circumstances; e.g. a new Principal.</p> <p>Secretary noted his belief that the only action in the course of the current Council that caused debate was the development of the masterplan and that this was done based on the needs at the time and was within the Council’s Constitution as it stands. He also noted that apart from this, the Council had largely been acting in an advisory capacity with oversight of the finances, as envisaged by the initially proposed new operating model. Secretary also noted that there had been a complaint to Council earlier this year that it had not followed its obligations as set out in the Constitution, and Council had endeavoured to respond to this desire. Council’s failure to act in accordance with its formal Constitution could be challenged if someone so chose.</p> <p>President noted that the role outlined by the Principal was quite different to the role as set in the Council’s Constitution. It was further noted that neither the Council nor its members had a right in the Constitution to dismiss the current Council.</p> <p>Secretary asked Teachers to consider that the Council provided for teachers to participate directly in decision making and governance of the school and an advisory group as suggested would not afford that opportunity.</p> <p>Principal suggested that it would be appropriate for no Council meetings to occur in term 4 and that the need for a Council would be considered in Term 1 2017 at which time it may become dormant as has occurred in previous years. P&C would take on various roles of Council including school plan and finance review.</p> <p>No resolutions were made.</p> <p>Action: Principal to communicate his intention to the wider school community</p>
<p>4</p>	<p>Financial Update</p> <p>Financial statements were not tabled or discussed at this meeting.</p>

	<p>In the discussion on roles and responsibilities the Principal indicated a preference for a group including school administrators and P&C Treasurer to consider finances. Principal raised concern about sharing of financial information. It was noted that the Terms of Reference for the Finance sub-committee as proposed at the 3 June Council meeting included a Confidentiality agreement being put in place and the members of the proposed sub-committee matched the Principal's desired group.</p> <p>Principal requested that the Library constitution be progressed with P&C.</p> <p>Action: Principal to liaise with P&C</p>
5	<p>P&C Update</p> <p>Noted P&C update prepared by P&C President but did not consider report following role of Council discussion.</p>
6	<p>Other Business</p> <p>No other business.</p>
	<p>Meeting closed at 8:50am.</p> <p>Next meeting not scheduled.</p>