

**BURWOOD GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL
SCHOOL COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD WEDNESDAY, 27 AUGUST 2008**

MEMBERS PRESENT:	Lindy Annakin	(parent)
	Judy Bokor	(parent)
	Robert Brett	(teacher)
	Elaine Browne	(P&C President)
	Tim Cunningham	(Chairperson)
	Janina Longman	(Deputy Principal)
	Mia Kumar	(Principal)
	Frank Levy	(community member)
	Karyn O'Brien	(Deputy Principal)
	Christina Nicholas	(student)
	Patrice Simpson	(teacher representative)
	Rebecca Tong	(student)
APOLOGIES:	Steve Chan	(parent)
	Arielle Tsoukatos	(student)

1. Welcome to members and refreshments.
2. Business Arising
 - 2.1 School Website link for P&C/School Council was discussed. Minutes of Council Meetings will be placed on the website. It was suggested that all minutes for 2008 be available so that parents can see what has been discussed. Elaine discussed the parent group that is keen to establish its own parent website. A reminder to ask new students for Year 7 2009 their parents' email.
 - 2.2 Student engagement was discussed as a strategy to assist with non-compliant behaviours (such as smoking). Students reported that there has been a decrease in student smoking as evidenced by the lack of it both in and behind toilets. Discussion continued about disengagement, lack of learning leading to inappropriate behaviours. Karyn spoke about the supportive programs in PDHPE and welfare days which assisted in educating students in the damage caused by smoking.
 - 2.3 Patrice Simpson tabled minutes from Values Forum which met on 25 June 2008. Major concerns for further development were:
 - courtesy
 - establishment of class rules
 - publicise core values (posters, competitions, pictures, captions etc)
 - link the recognition and award scheme to our ten values
 - developing respect (respecting students as people)
 - engagement in class
 - focus on welfare days
 - values forums to continue (revisit each year)
 - "Help Increase the Peace" program
 - develop mentoring program for students
 - promote Duke of Edinburgh programDraft Recognition and Awards Overview was tabled by Karyn.
Judy Bokor suggested good deeds could be rewarded with House Points as well as award recognition.
3. Principal reported on Building Program. The library roof is complete and greatly improved in terms of light in library and appearance. PDHPE area is moving along for completion at end 2008. Toilet upgrades are not included in building program. Students reported that the canteen toilets remain in good condition and preferred them to the outside toilets. Suggestion to paint outside toilets and fix hand dryers will be referred to the General Assistant.

4. The SRC representatives reported that Student Representative Council meetings are formalised, with agendas, and minute taker. Use of the Smartboard has facilitated discussions at SRC meetings. International Day is Italian this week. Suggestion box is a successful initiative. Year 9 are working on charities and are looking at holding a dance to raise funds for charities. Discussion with principal highlighted a number of issues:
 - problems with locks in toilets, door stoppers and door knobs
 - roll call inconsistencies
 - canteen lines
 - Year 10 wearing senior skirts
 - murals around school
 - group charities

Students are pleased that some issues have already been addressed.

5. Cyberbullying workshop was planned for parents and the last survey canvassed parent opinion regarding this issue. There seemed to be a significant amount of interest and Head Teacher Welfare will organise a date with the police liaison officer for end of Term 3.

Karyn O'Brien tabled the results of Year 7, 2008 survey as well as results for parents of Years 11/12. Year 7 students have settled well into high school and an increasing number of parents are accessing information from the school's website. There was great support for the school's uniform policy and many parents were happy to share their skills and expertise with the school. Communication with the school declined in 2007 but was improving in 2008. Parents were not clear about which deputy to contact but were delighted (95%) with the follow up with lateness and attendance. Concern expressed by Judy Bokor about the use of parent/teacher nights regarding length of interviews. Saw them as an inefficient and ineffective system? Progress on targets was sound. Need to reintroduce Year Assemblies to improve communication.

6. Principal handed out the 2007 Annual School Report to Council members and reported that it had been posted to all families at the beginning of Term 3. Targets for 2008 were set to be:
 - Quality Teaching and Learning
 - Improved Administration Procedures
 - Quality Learning Environment

7. School Management Plan for 2009-2011 was being developed by the school executive. Faculties were involved in setting their priorities for 2009 and beyond. Their management plans will form the basis of a school management plan which will determine the direction for the next three years. Some areas for focus that have been identified include:
 - Connected Learning
 - Technology
 - Literacy and Numeracy
 - Student Engagement
 - Quality Teaching and Learning

A paper "School Planning – Implementation Procedures" was tabled.

8. General Business
 - Principal and teachers were anxious to get to the Hall for Year 10 Options evening which commences at 7:00 pm.
 - Tim Cunningham made suggestion for naming new PDHPE building after current principal who has worked hard to achieve these changes. Committee members asked to consider for next meeting.

Meeting closed 7:01 pm.

Next meeting: Wednesday, 29 October 2008