

Minutes of the Bream Bay College PTA
Meeting held on Wednesday 21 June 2017.

Present:

Alison Dalgleish, John Kramer, Maree Wright, Sharon Carroll, Carol Tolley, Yvonne Boakes, Sandra Lucas, Julie Winslow, Jane Hall, Yette de Jong, Bev Webb and Wayne Buckland.

Apologies:

M: Maree S: Sandra

None.

Minutes from last meeting:

M: Maree S: Yvonne

Approved.

Correspondence – In and Out:

Nil.

Bream Bay College PTA Treasurers Report from 20/4/2017 to 15/6/2017

M: Sandra S: Maree

Opening Balance \$9,627.14

Income

2nd Hand Uniforms \$155.00

Expenses

Dance Workshop Donation \$400.00

Reversal of incorrect Entry \$20.00

Closing Balance \$9,362.14

Fun Run Money still to be t/f \$5,522.70

Still to pay (pinkies issued)

Sharon – plants \$148.99

Sandra – flowers \$50.00

BBC - Printer \$2,300.00 \$2,498.99

Still to pay (no pinky issued)

BBC - Furniture \$8,000.00 \$8,000.00

Balance is everything paid and t/f \$4,385.85

Fun Run Account (As per ledger report at 6/6/2017)

Opening Balance _____ \$0

Donation for Fun Run – Northport \$500.00

Closing Balance _____ \$500.00

(Money still to be transferred to PTA Account...Katrina has consulted Auditor) \$5,522.70

Principals Report with Alison Dalglish:

Wayne Buckland

Thank you to Alison for staying on at school to help us all understand the concept of the **Future Me** programme.

A few parents at the college have questioned the need for an extra *compulsory* subject that appeared at the start of the year, and which seemed to add additional stress to the students' workload.

Alison explained that it was originally a study period for the students, designed so that the kids could catch up on homework, and act as a flexi period in case of shortened days etc.

Unfortunately some of the students wasted this time, and in an attempt to make the period more constructive, it was decided that the school would structure in some valuable lessons on life skills. This was also appealing to the students as it gave them the opportunity to gain some extra credits. This year each term will focus on either creating CVs or learning how to write a job application, note taking, how to study, and Health as the students want to talk about Sexuality and safety, anxiety and depression.

A suggestion was made that perhaps the school needs to make parents fully aware of what is done in this period before the year commences. It was also suggested that working with Gateway and looking at career choices, should perhaps be done in Year 10, NOT Year 12, as kids need to have some direction before they choose their NCEA subjects for Year 11. Parents are supportive of the choice to teach the kids how to note take and study, and for the discussions about anxiety and stress – especially as NZ has the highest rate of youth suicide and depression in the world. It is more the concern over extra homework and study that is added to their increased workload from Year 10, and the anxiety that comes from that. It was also suggested that rather than write job applications, perhaps learning how to touch type might be more valuable.

Wayne discussed the number of credits that our school has made available for the students in order to help them get across the line for NCEA, with some subjects offering 26 to 30 credits. With other schools opting for just 24 credits, discussions are underway regarding whether making more credits available is actually having the reverse effect on the kids by creating more pressure and anxiety.

General Business:

- **A1 Printer** – The school has printed off a huge selection of our students' artwork into poster size, and they now adorn the corridor walls. We hope they make them appear a little brighter.

- Carol brought up the continuing issue of devices at school. She wondered if it was concerning that children weren't encouraged to do something physical outside of the classroom in their morning tea and lunch times. That the continued and unsupervised exposure to too much screen time, is putting our kids at risk of developing an addiction harder to kick than drugs.
- **Ball** – For the first time the senior school ball will be held on the last Friday of the Term 2 school holidays (21st July). This has been done in an attempt to eliminate student absences from valuable class time for tanning, hair and makeup. The ball is opened around 7.30pm to 8pm, and runs to 12 midnight. Once students arrive, they must stay until the end. The reason being that they can then almost go directly to any 'after ball' function, allowing no time for them to consume alcohol beforehand. Wayne reiterated that the school does not approve any 'after balls' and would prefer them not to happen.
6 or 7 parents are required to act as security for the night, and the volunteers so far are...
Nigel Bradley, John Kramer, Maree Wright, Yvonne Boakes, Lynda Swanson, Jette de Jong, Pam Bartlet and Travis Worthington.
- **Auditorium Hireage** - The school has increased the cost to hire the auditorium. The new fees are based on various factors - whether for fundraising or not, whether lighting and sound, or the kitchen is required, and to cover cleaning fees. Some people in the community have questioned whether the huge jump should not have been advertised sooner, as a warning period might have allowed them to book elsewhere. Their concern was that they feel the school is not encouraging their students to showcase any extracurricular activities in the community.
- Wayne is communicating with Kathryn Berkett, endeavouring to entice her to the college as a guest speaker next term. Kathryn's last evening held at the college, centred on neuropsychological changes and challenges of the adolescent stage, and how we make a difference to those negotiating this intense stage. She was amazing last time and it would be wonderful if we have the opportunity again to listen to her give us a better understanding of the learning and behavioural challenges ahead of our youth.
- Maree suggested Dr Tony Fernando as an alternative. Tony is a psychiatrist and senior lecturer in Psyc Medicine at Auckland University, who focuses on the science of happiness, compassion, mindfulness, anxiety and stress. He has just completed a series of lectures at Huanui College.
- **Working Bee** date will be set for Term 3, as Matthew thinks the gardens will be fine until then.
- Shaz discussed whether the after school tutorials might benefit from anyone's excess fruit supplies and some PTA bought biscuits, to keep their brains functioning for another hour of school. Shaz has offered to get the ball rolling with her excess mandarins, and the PTA purchase of a box of biscuits.
 - M: Shaz S: Yette
- **Fun Run** organising has begun, and the monetary sponsors have all been approached. Ideas are being sought for alternative fundraising events for 2018, and discussion to be held on whether the Fun Run has 'run its course'.

Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday 02 August.

Meeting Closed 9.15pm (if you don't include the yacking afterwards!!!).