



Newman Parents Consultative Committee

16.03

Monday 24 October 2016
7.00pm, Marist Auditorium – Studios 1 and 2

Minutes

Opening & Prayer Lisa Fogliani, Deputy Principal Learning and Staff Development

Attendance

Executive: Lisa Fogliani (Deputy Principal Learning and Staff Development)
Nerreda Hillier (President), Narelle Pyne (Vice President),
Melissa Hills (Secretary/Minutes)

Apologies: John Finneran (Principal)

Parents: Clara Deans, Veronica Burke, Karen Loreck, Claire Stannard, Matthew Ogilvie, Marina Dall'Occo, Alicia Mason, Ann-Marie Chapman, Jeff Geoghegan, Tiala Hollett, Katuryn Probert, Tara Adamini, Paula Rutherford, Danielle Stahl, Nicole Barnao, Rachel Wheeler, Veronika Metcalf, Narelle Pyne, Caterina Di Biase, Stella Rapanaro, Allison Taylor, Peter , yan, Tanya Sikirich, Marisa Schreier, Michael Burke, Christie Blizzard, Suzanne Joy, Robyn , ames, Kathy Troon, Elizabeth Ogilvie, Guylaine O'Donoghue, Tom Pupazzoni, Pippa Hobson, Rosanna Kojundzich, Susan Sharpe, Sue Forster.

1. Newman College Educational Vision

1.1. Presentation by Lisa Fogliani, Deputy Principal Learning and Staff Development

Lisa Fogliani introduced the Masterplan which provides a fresh approach to ensuring a contemporary and vibrant faith and learning environment integrating modern spaces and 21st century pedagogy. Lisa highlighted the constraints that the College are currently challenged by.

1.2. Presentation by Jeff Phillips, Learning Environments Australasia

Jeff Phillips had spent a number of months preparing an educational brief & audit based on:

- Sufficiency
- Suitability
- Functionality

Marcellin Campus - most learning areas are large enough, but functionality is limited for flexible pedagogy. Issues include large rooms used for small numbers, restricted furnishings, connectivity and circulation.

Lavalla Campus - access between Marcellin and Lavalla is difficult, classroom space is sufficient but not connected to allow teachers to interact.

Marian Campus – has sufficient space but was not built as an Early Childhood Education facility. Connection for indoor and outdoor space is poor.

Jeff reported that he had asked teachers about their learning environments. Responses were:

- Elements affecting students learning – Light air, comfort.
- Lack of natural lighting, lack of spaces where students feel comfortable meeting other students.
- No common educational language.

1.3. Q & A Session

Jeff asked the audience: *What can we “offer” for your children’s experiences at school?*

- Height of students – spaces too small for tall students
- Students with injuries and special needs may need to stand at desks
- Cost to the community to develop this concept and the concerns about cost
- Learning for happy students comes from the inner self not the environment
- Yearn to learn
- Concern about Years 3 – 6 integration and being exposed to Year 10 students
- Jeff commented that the scope is large and over a 10-year plan with Lavalla being addressed in the plan
- Concern about students being displaced with continual building from Marian, Lavalla and the Auditorium: Lisa offered the approach will be coordinated with PK-12 focus
- Lavalla play spaces very formalised: Natural light into Lavalla classrooms would be beneficial
- How can you future-proof these spaces with education and pedagogy changing continually?
- Wetland consultation needed - what direct benefit do the students get from the wetlands?
- Are we consulting what leading countries are doing? Lisa offered that they are working closely with Learning Environments Australasia i.e. Finland has highly stimulating environs to follow
- Questioning the spaces for “Enrichment Learning” as “he” was told there wasn’t space available. Also questioned if the size of classes at Lavalla are not large enough for 30 students
- Nature Play: concerns about Nature Play not occurring at Lavalla for such a long time. Is it possible to create some “temporary Nature Play” spaces?
- What are the forecast numbers for the school? ie is the school looking at expanding in the future?
- Consideration for community use of the school facilities after hours

2. Reports

2.1. Lisa Fogliani, Deputy Principal Learning and Staff Development

Vision for Learning:

- Outlined how we learn as teachers, students, along with parents, has changed
- Discussed the shift of pedagogy from teacher focused pre-programmed to collaborative, solitary to frequent movement, passive to active exploration, individualised to some group projects and peer assessments
- Lisa gave lots of examples of aligning the curriculum across the campuses

Wellbeing Programme:

- Programme that allows wellbeing where teaching and learning is not interrupted to provide a settled environment

3. Parent Consultative Group

Nerreda introduced the Committee and the aim of group:

- Fathering Project
- Social functions of the senior school students
- Social functions for senior school parents to be part of a Newman College community
- Parent representatives for senior school
- Communication: websites
- Calendar for 2017 for Newman Parents and NCCC

4. General Business

Feedback

- Rumour Mill puts the rumours out there
- Students feeling disempowered at present. Lisa addressed this discussing what the College is doing, who and how they can address concerns
- Fees: Will there be a vision for projected fees in the future so parents can plan where their students will be attending i.e. next 3 years - not year by year?
- Concerned raised about the changes to the Year 11 camp – Simon addressed
- What is the Wellbeing Programme (“Old Pastoral Care”). Dedicated time to wellbeing, timetabled into teaching and learning
- Stewardship is not being addressed: Mental Health of students
- Lisa addressed concerns about mental health programmes: 6 Leaders of Wellbeing have been appointed, Counselling services are looking at how to cover across the (3) campuses, Pastoral Care Group teachers
- The issues teachers are going to have to face and how are they addressing?
- Year 12 Leaver’s Jacket, blazer ribbing and Year 12 tie
- Concerns with traditions being lost
- Decisions made without consultation
- Finishing times: Marcellin will have one extra day finishing at 3.00pm in 2017 - Thursday and one other - linked to the Homework Club, NAS sport etc.
- Communication needs improvement
- Fees

5. Close

(Dates for 2017 are currently being scheduled.)
