



Newman Parents Consultative Committee

18.02

Monday 21 May 2018, 7.00pm
Auditorium, Studio 1

Minutes

1. **Opening & Prayer**

ACTION

John Finneran opened the meeting at 7.00pm.
Daniel Lynch led the prayer and reflection on the Feast of Pentecost.

2. **Attendance**

Apologies

Caterina Celisano.

In Attendance

Nerreda Hillier, Jenny Hart, Cait Sfakianakis, Narelle Pyne, Melissa Hills, Caterina Di Biase, Annelise Norgaard, Jane Keet, Mark Offenburg, Cameron Gordon, Nigel Jenkins, Stella Rapanaro, Peter Ryan, Vicki Buchanan.

Members of the Senior Leadership Team; John Finneran, Lisa Fogliani, Daniel Lynch and Mitch Bristow.

3. **Welcome and Introduction of the new Leader of Community Engagement, Marketing and Advancement** John Finneran

John Finneran introduced Tom Wagner, briefly explaining the background as to why this role was created and the importance of community engagement and the need to build our narrative in the wider suburbs of Perth.

John further spoke about the importance of leveraging off our alumni - particularly in industry.

Tom addressed the group providing a brief overview of his background and some of the immediate changes/implementations he will be undertaking.

John concluded by reintroducing Jo Dunn, Marketing and Communications Officer.

4. **Update on the Vision for Learning and Annual School Improvement Plan (ASIP)**

John Finneran

The ASIP comprises six Strategic Priorities and draws from the College's Strategic Plan.

In Terms 1 and 2 the focus has been on *Catholic Identity* and *Teaching and Learning* – with the main focus being establishing a whole school approach to Literacy. In Term 3, the College will be seeking to build the *Wellbeing* framework, with a particular focus on Staff Wellbeing.

5. **Gonski 2.0 Review**

Senior Leadership Team

Gonski paper Through Growth to Achievement: Report of the Review to Achieve Education Excellence in Australian Schools

John strongly encouraged all members of the College community to read the entire report. However, he provided a 1 page overview of the recommendations across the five key areas.

John particularly focused on the three main priorities, highlighting Newman has already adapted the majority of these recommendations, with Newman College being ahead of a lot of schools in implementing them.



Question: How are our kids being engaged in the changing world?

- In 2016 the data suggested our students were happy but wanted to be better engaged
- Identified that there was a need to change the way of learning and student/parent/teacher engagement
- The development of the Vision for Learning
- Looking at different pathway options for our students
- Implementation of SeeSaw (PK-6)
- Secondary assembly last week was a celebration of learning and success

Question: How can our teachers adapt to the changing world

- We are committed to be a school of improvement – we are on a continuous journey with our Staff
- Focussing on teacher efficacy; teachers continually improving and developing themselves
- Dedicated Thursday meetings focussing on teacher learning
- Developing and expanding teachers' pedagogical knowledge

Question: Parents asked to provide feedback on the alignment of our Vision for Learning – *Shine through Discovery* with the priorities identified in the report, 'Through Growth to Achievement'?

- Consensus; we can link Newman College with recommendation areas 2 and 4
- School is on the right track
- What is the Marist tradition? The community needs to be constantly reminded
- Recommendation area 3 is very important. Staff Wellness needing to be expanded on
- Continuous improvement needs to be acted upon more
- Getting the students to be more collaborative a key focus – open communication with teachers has improved
- Need for students to extend themselves outside the classroom – implement more overseas tours, problem crafting, immersions
- Engaging parents is a focus. How we convey the message and interact needs to be clear and make parents excited. Communicate at the parents level needs improvement – parent education
- Pathway collaboration needs to happen in the early years (Years 5 and 6)
- How kids are engaging outside the classroom – holistic approach to student wellbeing

5. Response from the Marist Brothers - Royal Commission John Finneran

- Analysis of the final report was tabled which had been sent to the College by Br Peter Carroll, Provincial - Province of Australia
- John confirmed Newman College's focus; that, as a school, the protection of children is our top priority
- At Newman College, we have implemented a number of measures to ensure we are being compliant;
 - o Complispace is the tool by which Newman College maintains compliance with respective State legislative requirements
 - o Ongoing professional development for all staff and middle leaders is ongoing
 - o Regular professional development for everyone working in a Marist school is now a standard part of the Induction and Training processes
 - o A Staff Code of Conduct is in place, as directed for each Marist school and ministries

- Provide all staff, parents, volunteers policies about how they interact with young people
- Continuing to work with our affiliated clubs with compliance

6. Feedback Session

Facilitated by NPCC Executive

- Parent feedback email needs to be publicised and utilised more. We need parent feedback and engagement. Nothing is off limits; all feedback will be reviewed and acted upon accordingly
- Placement/access to parent feedback form/email on new website a necessity
- Communication and quality of test results in the secondary school vs primary school are not consistent
- SeeSaw being used well but should be used consistently across PK-6
- KPI on how the College is meeting the 23 Gonski recommendations – how is the College adopting the recommendations – a good exercise for SLT to do
- Teacher use of Seqta inconsistent – is the value of Seqta worth the time? – teacher feedback needs to be high quality but efficient and timely
- SeeSaw needs to be better organised but is very useful to see teachers plans – allows parents to be better engaged and better prepared to help their child with homework
- NPCC meetings a very positive platform for parents to engage
- Nature/loose parts play at Lavalla Campus availability – potential to further develop
- An update on the capital development plan to parents is needed
- Increase four square availability at Lavalla Campus
- Dog policy - new signage will be erected in two weeks. The preference is not to fence the school property, however it is intended that a new policy banning dogs off leashes be established

7. Upcoming Events

Newman Parents, Monday 18 June, 7.00pm (School and learning through the eyes of WA students)

Newman Parents Consultative Committee Meeting, Monday 30 July, 7.00pm

Newman Parents, Monday 3 September, 7.00pm (Topic TBA)
