



MINUTES
SCHOOL COUNCIL
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 22nd MARCH, 2018
AT WESTERN ENGLISH LANGUAGE SCHOOL
TOTTENHAM CAMPUS

1.0 ATTENDANCE:

1.1 MEMBERS:

Yolette De Zilwa (Principal), Mary Spyropoulos (DET), Colleen Bartolomei (WRECC), Lynn Moloney (DET), Heidi Zwick (MiCare), Denis Margetic (Community), Claire Kelly (DET), Colleen Turner (VICSEG), Sue Tantaró (NWMRC).

1.2 APOLOGIES:

Deng Malith (Horn of Africa Communities Network/Anglicare).
Poly Kiyaga (AMES).

1.3 ABSENT:

1.4 VISITORS:

Denis Margetic welcomed School Council members to the 2018 AGM.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

It was noted that Heidi Zwick was not present at the 2017 AGM as stated in the previous year minutes.

**Minutes of Previous Minutes Accepted: Mary Spyropoulos
Seconded: Claire Kelly**

Recognition from School Council Treasurer:

- The School Council Treasurer, Denis Margetic on behalf of the School Council President, expressed thanks to the leadership staff especially to the Principal.
- Thank you to all WELS staff for their hard work during the year.
- Best wishes to all teachers, parents and students for the 2018 school year.

Recognition from Principal:

- The Principal acknowledged the School Council President, Denis Margetic, for his great work and constant support of WELS.
- The Principal acknowledged the attendance and dedication of School Council members in 2017.

Annual Report to School Community-Process changed for 2018:

- File uploaded and School Council President approves

2017 Annual Report to the School Community:

The Principal presented the 2017 Annual Report data to School Council members.

It was noted the Student Family Occupation (SFO) changes over the years for the base campus. SFO is lower at Footscray Campus. SFO is highest at Wyndham Campus. The SFO for Manor Lakes will be displayed once the campus has comparison data. This will be in the year 2020.

The two key improvements in the Strategic Plan 2014-2018 were firstly, the development and implementation of a syllabus across the whole school and secondly, the introduction and implementation of positive behaviours approach appropriate for newly arrived students at the Tottenham Campus. Extension of the positive behaviours approach to other sites will be implemented in 2018.

Framework for Improving Student Outcomes (FISO):

Over 2017, primary and secondary curriculum leaders delivered a whole school professional learning program (How Language Works) to teach EAL using a logical sequence of genres and a common pedagogical methodology. Equity funding enabled the school to create primary and secondary curriculum teams with the necessary time to plan and deliver the syllabus and whole school professional learning, with consultation and input from WELS staff.

Achievement:

- WELS purpose built assessment tool continues to track individual improvement in student learning. The graphs clearly illustrate the progress made in the areas of speaking, listening, reading and writing by all students from equivalent, interrupted and pre-literature backgrounds over 2, 3 and 4 terms of enrolment.
- A request to include pre-lit data will be considered.

Engagement:

- WELS maintains strong, ongoing partnerships with support agencies to ensure that early intervention strategies for students and families are in place.
- Pastoral care is embedded within all classes and the Student Representative Councils ensuring student voice, operate at each site.
- If students have a clear and inclusive curriculum, delivered by caring and well-equipped teachers, their chances of being disengaged are reduced.
- Induction program is in place for new staff.

Wellbeing:

- It was noted that the teaching staff working at all WELS sites are dedicated and have a genuine passion for teaching newly arrived students.
- Parent satisfaction summary is excellent.
- Feedback from student survey is that they feel safe and very well supported.
- Feedback from community doctor program demonstrates that WELS offers a supportive environment for students.
- The recent student survey displayed very high satisfaction.
- The positive behaviour approach has made students more aware of their actions and how to behave in a respectful manner towards one another.
- Speech in Schools program is invaluable. Speech therapists provide a vital service by helping students improve their articulation and vocabulary.
- Psychologist services are pivotal to the wellbeing of our students.

Performance Summary:

- The Government School Performance Summary provides an overview of how WELS is contributing to the objectives of the Education State and how it compares to other Victorian Government schools.
- It clearly illustrates the excellent parent satisfaction. It also illustrates the staff satisfaction was very high considering the expectations of staff in the 2017 school year.

Financial Report:

- The principal presented the Financial Performance and Position summary for 2017. It was noted that the Financial Performance and Position statement is prepopulated by DET.
- Grants received enabled WELS to run a number of programs such as:
 - Commonwealth Government Science Week grant
 - Young Women's Positive Bodies
 - Stan Willis Trust
 - Ross Trust Take Two Grant
 - Footscray Swim Grant
 - Advance Program for Base and Wyndham Campus
 - VMC Community Kitchen Garden Grant
 - Saturday School Homework Program
 - New Life New Vision (NLNV)-Magistrate Court
 - Phyllis Conner Trust
 - Freemasons Swim Grant
 - Ross Trust-Fly Girls
 - John Byrne Memorial Trust
 - Smaller grants for WOW Talent Show

Reports passed:**Accepted: Denis Margetic****Seconded: Mary Spyropoulos****MEETING CLOSED: 6:50 pm****Next meeting: 14th March 2019**