Regents Park Public School

MINUTES OF THE P & C MEETING – 9 NOVEMBER 2010

Present Rose MANOUSARIDIS (Principal), Tiva MARI, Julia SIMITSOPOULOS, Yomnah ANTAR, Katy VALENCIA (Chairperson), Sogma LADELFA, Michelle McQUILTY, Cindy Nakalevu ELDICK, Dee COUPE

Business Arising – Nil

Treasurers Report
- Canteen Account – $3027.46 (account not closed) Canteen has now been taken over.
- 3 fundraisers:
  - Sausage Sizzle ($420 profit)
  - Selling old school uniforms ($403)
  - Fathers Day stall ($268.27 profit).
- Main Account – balance of $3671.62
- Audit – An annual audit is a requirement. To be audited – previous cost was $500.

Principal’s Report
- A strong push in Creative Arts and Performing Arts this year
- Debating team has developed and is successful
- Dancers performed at Revesby Workers Club
- Danly Fu received award for community language
- Rochelle Nian was presented with a Citizenship Award at Lidcombe Catholic Club
- School has federal funding for literacy and numeracy and low socio economic status.
- Students tested for reading levels, outstanding growth in results – really working. this is different to NAPLAN.
- Enrolments – Principal has attended some pre schools to help promote the school as there are only 38 new enrolments for next year so far. Enrolments are declining and one reason may be that there is no public transport direct to the school. Principal has spoken to Britannica and Veolia about the situation. Christian Community Primary is opening up in Regent Street, Regents Park as they are moving from Granville.
- Site issues: Issues almost finalised. Hall almost finished – official opening to be planned. New classrooms are beautiful. There is an issue regarding not having a big green fence around the classrooms – someone needs to come and inspect the situation. New parents on Orientation Day were concerned about this.
- Next year
  * Situational Analysis Report
  * National Partnership money to focus on reading – comprehension most immediate concern
    - Pay for 1 Assistant Principal next year
    - Money used to release teachers from class and use casual staff
    - Focus will also be on numeracy
    - A Speech Therapy program will be implemented in the school. The speech therapist will help teachers in the classroom with the children who have speech problems.
    - To employ S L Support Officer, Mrs Herd
    - Will be purchasing 2 Interactive Whiteboards one of which will be located in kindergarten as it is a shared room.
    - $50,000 will be spent on library
    - A class set of laptops to be purchased
  * Improving School Attendance
    - Some children are away or late many times – same children all the time. This distracts other children when they arrive late. Need to communicate with parents and tell them the importance of attending and their legal obligation. May need to have meetings with the families concerned. Maybe have ‘Attendance Awards’.
* To encourage parents to help the school by volunteering to help teachers in the classroom or other areas.

**Secretary’s Report** (Katy Valencia)

- **Terry Herd’s husband passed away.**
  Funeral is tomorrow (10 November). No flowers please, only donations to the Cancer Council. The P&C will make a donation of $100.

- **Lifetime membership of P&C**
  Last P&C Cheryl McKendrick asked if the P&C would consider Ozkan MEHMET becoming a lifetime member due to him being the treasurer of the P&C at Regents Park Primary for 17 years, even being in the position long after his children had left the school. Members voted to award Ozkan with lifetime membership. Katy will organise for a badge and certificate to be presented to him during Presentation Assembly.

- **Noah’s Little Ark**
  Would like to have before and after school care within the school. Principal spoke to the DET school’s director and decided that it is not a consideration at this stage and will not happen.

- **Playgroup**
  This will start on Thursday 25 November and is open to babies through to pre kindergarten children. It will be from 9.00 – 10.30 am. This will be run through the Playgroup Association and parents will donate a gold coin when attending. The playgroup will perhaps encourage parents to come to the school. Some children never go to preschool so playgroup would perhaps help children to adjust to school, especially if they know their friends from the playgroup when they begin school.

- **Canteen Requests**
  The canteen has requested the following:
  1. Stove
  2. New baskets to replace current ones (which are shabby and worn)
  3. Paint
  * *Oven* – the P&C decided not to support this request. Ms Manousaridis would buy one with school funds.
  * *Baskets* – Members voted to replace the baskets.
  * *Painting of the canteen* – Members agreed the P&C will pay for the painting of the canteen

- **Allocation of P&C Money** $6000
  * Suggestion of a new TV for the library. Voted to buy a 50” television with the school paying for the installation. Michelle will contact JB HiFi manager and provide the P&C with quotes.
  * Ms Arevalo needs dictionaries for the ESL class. Voted to purchase dictionaries at a cost of between $100-$150.
  * Assistant Principal Mrs Websdale asked for funds for class sets of percussion instruments for every stage at a cost of $1500. Members agreed to pay this.

**General Business**

- **Bike racks** – could they be moved as very inconvenient where they are now. To be discussed next meeting.

- **Noise in Hall** – Ms Van Dam states there is an issue with noise in the hall – vibration of the noise is a problem. The hall is a multi-purpose centre and is used for various purposes such as gymnastics or dances etc.

- **School uniform for Muslim girls**
  To have a uniform tailor made for headgear for the Muslim girls would be too expensive. Colours can be as close as possible to the uniform colours. Slacks could be worn instead of skirts and long sleeve skivvies can be purchased from Lowes.

- **Children sitting in the hall**
  A suggestion was made that Year 6 sit on chairs when in the hall as they are older and taller and it would be more comfortable for them than sitting on the floor like the other years do. Ms Manousaridis advised there was not enough room in the hall to do this.