



# JAMES COOK BOYS TECHNOLOGY HIGH SCHOOL

## Parents and Citizens Meeting

**DATE:** Wednesday 9 August 2023  
**VENUE:** JCBTHS Admin Building  
**MEETING OPEN:** 6.05 pm  
**MEETING CLOSE:** 7.56 pm  
**CHAIR:** Irene Omeros  
**MINUTES:** Irene Omeros

**PRESENT:** Mark Marciniak (Principal), Irene Omeros (President), Peter Omeros (Treasurer), Tracy Everson (Vice President), Mary Jordan (Secretary), Iwona Udigwe, Kylie Pamikat

ZOOM attendance: Jim Mallios (Deputy Principal), Helen Gray (Vice President), Lisa Whinnen, Krishna Poudel, HXney Cxmb

**APOLOGIES:** Diane Mouhanna, Teresa Ryan-Teager, Belinda Hocking

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**PREVIOUS MINUTES** accepted by Irene Omeros, seconded by Peter Omeros

**GUEST SPEAKERS:** Nil

### **PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:**

- Congratulations to Irene for receiving her award for outstanding voluntary service to the school by the Premier.
- DoE have released a partnership agreement with the P&C Federation to formalise and strengthen the relationship between schools and the parents and community. Agreement booklet provided to Irene.
- Thank you to the parents who attended our NAIDOC week celebration and the opening of the Yarning Circle. It was a well organised, culturally appropriate, and educationally significant highly engage day of learning and activities to develop our knowledge, appreciation and understanding of our First Nations people. We have been left with two significant artefacts from the day, The Yarning Circle and the school mural that will be used to continue to signify our ongoing commitment to supporting First Nation Students and their culture in our school community.
- Thanks to Nick Hedges and the students for supporting the Red Shield Appeal at Rockdale Plaza.
- Year 9 and 10 2024 elective choices information session are coming up this term. In addition to the curriculum choices that will be on offer in Stage 5 we will also be providing information on our homework policy and Google classroom access to parents to enable them to have a greater understanding of the learning that is occurring at school.
- Our Local Member will be attending on Friday afternoon for a school tour and an update with what is happening in our local area. Items on the agenda is a tour of the STEM building, Yarning Circle, update on the M6 work and its impact on the school and the carpark upgrade.

- Building update, STEM building is progressing well and looking fabulous. We will try and plan a tour for our next meeting. The carpark has been beautified with a garden along the fence line. We are waiting on a set of flag poles, and we have been given approval for new science labs for D Block along with new windows and a roof.
- We wish our Year 12 students all the best in their Trial HSC exams that start next week. Their graduation ceremony is scheduled for Week 10 Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> of September. An invitation will be sent to the P&C. This year we will again be providing all students with a selected book or a book voucher as a leaving gift. Thank you for the P&C for financially supporting this.

#### **DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:**

- PowerPoint presentation of the school's proposed Mobile Phone Management Strategy following the introduction of mobile phone bans in NSW high schools by the Department of Education (DoE) at the start of Term 4.
- The ban is intended to increase focus and learning in classrooms and to remove distractions.
- No mobile phones to be in used during school hours, including recess and lunch.
- The school has considered different strategies such as the off and away, dropping off mobile phones to the office and storing in locked pouches, locking phones in a classroom or locker.
- The school has decided to implement the off and away strategy where the students are responsible for turning off their phone when they arrive at school and storing their phone in their school bag.
- Guidelines will be prepared on how the mobile phone ban will work.
- Students' health and wellbeing outcomes are to be considered on a case by case basis. Exemptions will apply to students who have a disability or for medical purposes use their phone e.g. for glucose monitoring or who have learning requirements and use their phone for self-regulation. The principal is to approve special requests.
- Exemptions to apply for the use of mobile phones for photography and on some excursions.
- A policy in respect of other forms of digital technology such as smart watches and other smart devices will be implemented in the future.
- Students have the use of other approved devices which align with the DoE's policy e.g. tablets and laptops.
- Communication will be via the school office if parents require to contact a student. Students wishing to contact their parent should attend the student services office.
- Canteen sales are mostly made using EFTPOS (approx. 90% of sales). Approximately 70% - 80% of those transactions are from digital cards stored on mobile phones. Parents will be informed that they should arrange for physical cards to be issued by the bank in readiness.
- Transitional activities to be trialled and implemented at recess and lunch for the students to participate in such as sporting activities, board games, communal viewing of You Tube movies etc. to encourage interaction between students and to make students feel inclusive. Consultation with students would be beneficial to obtain suggestions of preferred activities.

#### **TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Since our last meeting:

- Funds received in:
  - P&C Contributions Term 1 2023 \$100.00
  - Mother's Day Stall \$585.00
  - Bunnings BBQ fundraiser \$1,627.60
  - Bite Size biscuit fundraising \$164.53

- Payments made:
  - Zoom annual licence fee 2023/2024 \$125.00
  - P&C Affiliation fees & insurance renewal 2023/2024 \$540.00
- The current bank balance is \$12,315.41
- An invoice has been raised for the P&C Contributions for Term 2 2023 for \$640.00 and receipt of funds into the P&C bank account is awaited.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT: Nil**

**VICE PRESIDENTS' REPORT: Nil**

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

- Thank you to all our volunteers who assisted with our successful Mother's Day stall fundraiser. Your assistance and support is appreciated. Interest was shown by students at the stall and the plants, which were in minority, proved to be best sellers. A positive outcome for this event with gross sales of \$585 and profit of \$255. A repeat of this fundraiser next year exploring different types of gifts could be considered to encourage student involvement.
- A big thank you to all our volunteers who supported our Bunnings BBQ fundraiser by assisting and to those volunteers who stayed longer when we were short of hands on deck. A special thank you to JCBTHS teacher, Kate Zhuang, and our principal, Mark Marciniak, for stepping in to help when we needed extra hands. This was a successful fundraiser with gross sales of \$2,307.60 (including donations \$126) and after expenses, a profit of \$1,627.60.
- Our Bite Size biscuit fundraiser has successfully completed. A large number of cookies were sold at our Mother's Day stall packaged with chocolates and continued with sales at our Bunnings BBQ fundraiser. Following those events, I continued to fundraise with the small amount of products remaining and they were quickly sold.
- Our new Return & Earn fundraising campaign commenced on 25 April 2023 and runs for 1 year. Your continued support with donations and promotion of the fundraising campaign is valued.
- Thank you to each of you for your continued support in achieving successful outcomes with our fundraising events. Great team effort.

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:**

- Mother's Day stall was successful. Funds raised as per President's report.
- Bite Size fundraiser has successfully completed.
- Bunnings fundraising BBQ was successful. Funds raised as per President's report.

**CORRESPONDENCE: Nil**

**GENERAL / NEW BUSINESS:**

- Zoom Licence Renewal for 2023/2024 processed and paid. Period covered 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024.
- P&C Federation affiliation fees and insurance renewal for 2023/2024 processed and paid. Period covered 1 August 2023 to 1 August 2024.
- Proposed 2023 Community Building Partnership (CBP) grant for grandstand. Awaiting for 2023 round to be opened. The school has provided the P&C with 2 grandstand quotes.
- Proposal of a donation by the P&C to the school's STEM garden of soil, manure, Rooster booster, garden sticks, assorted seedlings and seeds and a new garden bed in the amount of \$1,200 approved by P&C members.

- Proposal for establishment of P&C EFTPOS merchant facility:
    - The President made enquiries with the P&C's bank, Westpac, for a credit card merchant facility. Westpac offered 2 options, a permanent EFTPOS merchant facility and a seasonal EFTPOS merchant facility however the establishment and ongoing facility fees are excessive in comparison to the income to be derived from the facility.
    - The President also made enquiries with Tyro for a Tyro Go EFTPOS reader device. A \$59 fee to purchase the reader device and a 1.4% service fee per transaction is charged. No monthly fee or ongoing fees, no lock in contract and no exit fees.
    - Suggestion was also made about Square. The President had researched this option but it was more expensive than Tyro.
- The P&C resolved to establish an EFTPOS facility with Tyro with a reader device.
- Father's Day stall to be held on Friday 1 September 2023 at recess. A variety of gifts to be sold \$5 each. A raffle draw will also be organised with tickets to be sold \$1 each or 3 tickets for \$2. The P&C to approach businesses for donations for the raffle and stall.
  - Year 12 Graduation Prizes will be donated by the P&C upon presentation of the purchase receipts by the school.

**NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED:**      Wednesday 18 October 2023