

Our Lady Star of the Sea
Minutes from AGM
03/11/20
Via Zoom

Present: Robert Peers (Principal), Maria Kennedy (Deputy Principal), Adam Haines, Jacqueline Powers, Lee Wallis, Chantal Bush, Campbell McArthur, Luna Wainwright, Nadia Aanerud, Katie Moss, Heidi Bridger, Kylie Douglas, Victoria Worrall and Adam Herasemiuk.

Apologies: Paul Quinn & Kristie Stretton.

1. Welcome and Previous Minutes:

1.1 The meeting was opened by the President “Adam Haines” and Principal “Robert Peers” at (7:05pm) and they thanked everyone for attending. Adam briefly discussed the agenda and the opportunity to recap the interesting year with Covid.

1.2 Leading Prayer: Maria Kennedy.

1.3 Business

Opening- Robert again welcomed everyone and thanked all who have attended. He reiterated the tough year the school community has had with Covid-19 but was incredibly proud of how the school community has worked together as a team. Attached is the Principal’s Report for reference.

President’s Report: Adam spoke about the success of the last meeting and his report was to recap “the year that was Covid”. He discussed how incredibly happy he was with the current P & F and Parent Council. He spoke of how the blending of the ‘old/original’ P & F with the mix of the new faces complemented one and other and was looking forward to 2021. His report is also attached for reference.

Treasurer’s Report : Adam also gave an update on the Treasurer’s Report as he maintained the role throughout the year due to some technicalities with nominations and selections. The Treasurer’s Report is also attached. There was some discussion about the remaining funds and where they would go. Chantal explained where finances went in the past and said if there was any confusion we could always check the constitution. Robert was under the impression that all remaining funds went back into a separate school account at the end of the calendar year but was happy for the new principal to make that decision in the coming weeks. He also said it’s very difficult to plan for the year ahead with Covid and the restrictions that may occur. Jacqueline thought the P & F should know where the funds go to prior to going back into the school. Chantal thought it was up to the discretion of the CSO (Catholic Schools Office). Robert reiterated the point of the P & F Levy and explained the main concept is to largely remove fundraising having the levy imposed instead.

Welcoming Committee: Nadia spoke on behalf of the Welcoming Committee. She spoke of how they had welcomed two more families into the school community and had recently been made aware of a few more families and was just waiting on those details to be handed over.

Robert said he would get onto that immediately and that the feedback from those new families was incredibly positive about the committee.

Carers Committee: Apologies from Kristy as she was unable to attend however sent through a few thoughts and ideas. She mentioned putting a few protocols and procedures in place for this new committee. Robert agreed stating it needed to be shaped more, people more aware it existed especially when things were going tough within the family home. Robert also mentioned the privacy that is paramount in a committee such as this and the need for this to be upheld.

Social Committee: Victoria spoke on behalf of the Social Committee and unfortunately due to Covid there wasn't much to report. She stated that they were unable to proceed with many events lined up due to Covid but said the team is very committed and keen to get this committee moving. Victoria wondered if organising something for Christmas would be possible however Robert felt it couldn't be confidently planned as it would have to be a sit down event with number restrictions. Victoria agreed stating it would take away from the parents mingling/socialising and that they have big hopes for next year.

Other Questions: Chantal spoke of how she had been contacted by many parents in regards to the rules around presents for teachers for Christmas, for example students in the class putting in money for the teachers or purchasing of large gifts. She wondered what the protocol was. Robert stated this was a hard question to answer and that it can get "very untidy" despite the best intentions of parents and students. He stated a lovely card made by the students is a lovely way to thank the teacher but understands some parents like to purchase a gift. He explained gifts are in no way expected by the school and it was a difficult question to answer. He said that teachers have to declare gifts over a certain value (of which he thought it may be \$50 but needed to confirm that) and also had to look into possible fringe benefit tax that may go along with receiving gifts. He stated he would give it some thought and possibly put a reference point in the newsletter to clear up any concerns.

1.4 Elections

Executive Committee on the P&F 2021. Robert began the elections/re-elections for the Executive Committee for 2021. Firstly for President- Lee Wallis nominated Adam Haines which was second by Katie Moss and Adam Haines accepted the offer. The Vice Principal- Adam nominated Jacqueline Powers which was second by Chantal Bush and Jacqueline accepted the offer. The Secretary- Adam Haines nominated Lee Wallis and Katie Moss second the motion and Lee Wallis accepted the offer. The Treasurer- Adam Haines nominated Campbell McArthur which was second by Jacqueline Powers and Campbell accepted the offer. The DPC- Adam nominated Paul Quinn which was second by Katie Moss and Paul Quinn accepted via email but was absent for the meeting. Robert congratulated them all and thanked them for volunteering their time.

Parent Council: Due to having a few new faces attend tonight's AGM Robert explained the role of the Parent Council and how incredibly important to work with the P&F committee. He explained how it worked as a sounding board for the children and the community and was extremely valuable for the school community. He spoke of the trust and respectful manner of

which members had to uphold by being part of the group. Robert then asked for those who would like to become part of that group to nominate themselves. The following parents self-nominated: Katie Moss, Victoria Worrell, Chantal Bush and Adam Herasemiuk and Adam Haines second the nominations.

1.5 General Business

Chantal discussed the sub-committee's and mentioned how some of those people who had been involved in these committees were nearing the end of their time at OLSOS as their kids were getting older and would be leaving the school. Chantal mentioned Lenise handing over the daytime committee and possibly Sally with the second hand uniforms. This would be discussed at the next meeting to confirm.

Adam wanted to officially say thank you to Robert for his incredible contribution to the school community. He thanked him especially for his passion and energy toward the Parent Council and the P&F and wished him Goodluck with his future endeavors. All members agreed. Robert stated he appreciated the support and the opportunity to lead an inspirational school over the last seven years and looks forward to the future. Chantal asked Robert if there was any news on the new principal and Robert stated he expected an announcement very soon. Chantal also asked if there would be come type of Farewell Mass for Robert with the Kids and Maria stated that there were things in place and would speak directly with Adam in regards to that.

Next Parent Council Meeting: Adam stated the next Parent Council Meeting would be scheduled for the 24th November 2020 with more details to come.

Second Kindergarten Zoom Meeting: Robert explained that the second parent meeting for Kindergarten 2021 would have to be via Zoom due to Covid. He asked if Adam wouldn't mind volunteering as President to explain the role of the P&F, The Parent Council and the subcommittees to the new families. Chantal stated it was a great idea as it gave the new families an opportunity to look into the school community and to discuss grade parents and exchanging personal details to remain connected. She stated that the school can not hand out these details and it was a good idea if that could be done at that second Zoom meeting. Robert wondered if they could do an online version as it would normally been a hard copy handed to parents when it was in the classrooms face to face.

2. Closure

2.1 Adam congratulated those who had be elected for their positions and thanked them for contributing their time to the committee. He also thanked those that attended the meeting and encouraged them to come back to meetings in the future hoping if restrictions continued to ease it may be face to face.

2.2 Adam Haines closed the meeting at 8.38pm.