TOORA PRIMARY SCHOOL COUNCIL - MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 19th JUNE 2014

PRESENT: Tania Cook, Sharon Mitchell, Kelly Packham, Tara Hollier, Deanna Brown, Brett Whittle and Di Walker.

APOLOGIES:

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING ACCEPTED AS READ:

Tara Hollier moved the minutes be accepted as read, seconded by Kelly Packham

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES:

- Rug for Project Space - Carry over to following meeting when Barb Purvis is back.

MAIL AS TABLED:

INCOMING:

- Sunsmart Reaccreditation
- Bendigo Bank – Cheque for $200 being for support with transport cost for Melbourne Camp
- 5th Gippsland Secondary College – letter of thanks received from You Be The Coach teacher
- Shade Sail invoice – repair $1320 (less than was anticipated)

OUTGOING:

- Account Payments

Brett Whittle moved the correspondence be accepted as read, seconded by Tania Cook

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

I cannot believe how quickly time has gone and that we are already heading into the last week of Term 2. I would like to sincerely thank all the families, students, and staff of Toora Primary School for making me feel welcome and supported during my time as your Acting Principal. The Toora community should feel proud of the amazing school that your children have the opportunity to attend. I have been blown away by the level of commitment and dedication displayed by the staff here. Di has been a wonderful support to me in the office and she keeps the school operating smoothly and she is a constant welcoming face to all families and visitors to the school. Our education support members, Deb and Durelle do an amazing job at supporting all of our students both in and out of the classroom. Many of the extra opportunities our students receive could not happen without their support and hard work. The community should be proud of the teaching staff that you have here at Toora. They all work tirelessly at doing their best to provide all students with a challenging, caring and engaging learning environment.

This term I have been privileged to be involved in many fantastic programs and activities. It was amazing to see the Grade 6 class at the Student Leaders Conference at the beginning of the term, learn about leadership and express their ambitions and hopes for their future and the future of the school. I have seen sheer determination and courage from all our students at the various sporting events that have been held this term. My greatest enjoyment has been being able to teach each class and get to know the students individually.

Thank you to the families who volunteer their time for the school. From providing support at sporting events to being a member on School Council, it is this support and positive role-modelling that helps Toora Primary School be a great learning environment for all our children.
Professional Development

All the staff at TPS was fortunate to attend a whole Professional Development day on our closure day 6th June, at South Gippsland Secondary School. The day was presented by Di Siemons, a world renowned Maths specialist from RMIT University. The staff enjoyed learning more deeply about the way that we all learn maths. The activities during the day were great fun and teachers look forward to bringing the new ideas to all classrooms.

Professional Development is an ongoing process at Toora. Part of our weekly staff meeting is dedicated to looking at evidence of student work and sharing teaching strategies. Over the past 2 weeks we have been looking into the work of John Hattie and discussing the teaching strategies that have the greatest effect on student learning. We are also fortunate to be involved in the Corner Inlet Cluster Alliance where teachers from our school meet with teachers from Foster, Welshpool, Tarwin, Fish Creek and Tarwin Lower to learn from each other. This is all part of our commitment to continuous improvement.

Sports

We again have been very fortunate in being able to offer our students opportunities to participate in sporting events outside our school. Grade 5/6 students have finished their participation in the Winter Sport rotations with the finale being the Lightning Premiership at Mary MacKillop College on Tuesday 17th June. We had students play football and netball. By all accounts everyone had a fun, muddy, tiring day! A big thank you to Mr Whittle and Rob Lewis for transporting our students to Leongatha. Thanks Rob also for being our umpire in the football on this day. Thanks Brett for organising the students for the Winter Sport activities and for transporting them every week.

Drama Class Premier!

We are extremely fortunate to be able to announce the exclusive premier of the Grade 2/3 Drama Class plays this coming Monday 23rd June at 9am. We are all excited to be able to witness the hard work and learning that has been happening in Ms Chalmers drama classes this term. We welcome all families to this fantastic event.

Parent-Teacher Interviews

Parents and Teachers will have an opportunity to discuss the learning and progress of each child next Wednesday 25th June at Parent/Teacher Interviews. We will have computers available for parents to log on to GenEd to check in with their child’s progress if they have been unable to do so to date or need assistance.

Thank you again for your welcome this term and I wish you all the best for the remainder of 2014.

Moved Kelly Packham and seconded by Dee Brown

Moved Tania Cook and seconded by Brett Whittle
CURRICULUM REPORT:
- Winter Sport/Lightning Premiership - Thank you to Rob Lewis for his help in umpiring our football matches.
- You Be the Coach – thank you to Shem Hawking
- Gen-Ed / Parent Teacher Interviews - Di has run several parent sessions and one-on-one tutorials to help families navigate through GenEd. Computers will be available in Project Space for families to access GenEd while waiting for their interview.
- Student Performances - Grade 2/3 will be performing a series of short plays at assembly on Monday 23rd June 9:00am. All School Community invited to come along.
- Corner Inlet Cluster PLT’S – Six local schools have networked together.
- Yarram Eisteddfod - Toora PS have sent off their entry form – Verse Speaking Sections and One Act Play sections.

Moved Brett Whittle and seconded by Sharon Mitchell

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS REPORT
- Working Bee - put off until Term 3 when weather maybe better. Weeding, pruning, general clean-up. Brett Whittle meeting with representative from Bunnings – hoping to secure some funding and or equipment.
- Flying Fox – has been fixed.
- Shade Sail – has been repaired $1320

Moved Kelly Packham and seconded by Brett Whittle

PFA REPORT:
- Pie Drive to be organised in Term 3
- Canteen – Kelly Packham tabled a list of things we need to purchase to get the canteen up and running.
  - Suggestion that a sub-committee be formed for Canteen, so that information is shared and everyone is up to date with what is happening in the Canteen.
  - Local purchasing of food ie: local supermarket should be used at all times when purchasing canteen items
  - Suggested Canteen List needed (Kelly had some sample menus to view)
  - List of products we need to stock
  - Proper student Lunch bags (as a fundraiser, sell to families at $5 per bag – Kelly Packham has flyer)
- PFA members were happy to go ahead with lunch bag fundraiser – Kelly Packham to organise and arrange for order sheet to be ready for newsletter.
- Kelly Packham has sourced quotes for all the canteen items. School Council approve the purchase of:
  Sandwich Grill and Pie Warmer. Need to be mindful that we only have $2500 available (which needs to take into account the work Craig Whatley is doing over the holidays, course registration and Register of Kitchen with Shire Council)

GENERAL BUSINESS:
Political Activities Policy tabled by Sharon Mitchell – accepted by School Council

Moved Kelly Packham and seconded by Tara Hollier

Special Religious Instruction Policy tabled by Sharon Mitchell – accepted by School Council

Moved Kelly Packham and seconded by Tara Hollier
Superannuation – Super Stream
School Council move in accordance with the DEECD Super guidelines that “By signing this document, the School Council acknowledges having read and understood the terms and conditions applicable to their use of the VicSuper Clearing House Solution as outlined above. Further, the School Council acknowledges that these terms and conditions form part of their application to use VicSuper Clearing House Solution and agrees to be bound by them. VicSuper Clearing House SOLUTION Terms and Conditions Page 8 of 11. The common seal of the School Council was affixed by order of the School Council in the presence of the President of the School Council and its Appointee”

Moved Kelly Packham and seconded by Brett Whittle

Sign on Multi-Purpose Hall has an incorrect phone number – Kelly Spooner has been contacted about this and will correct this small mistake.

Toora Football Bus – Tara Hollier reported that the bus only has 22 seats including driver. $150 a day plus fuel. Sharon Mitchell reported that DEECD guidelines state that all buses used for Education must be accredited.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday August 14th at 2:00pm in the School Staffroom

MEETING CLOSED: 3:00pm