



Beverley District High School

Independent Public School

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School Board Meeting Minutes

Meeting 3: Wed 8 May 2019

Attendees: Damien Murray (Parent), Carly Veitch (Parent), Mike Fairclough (Parent), Wendy Moore (Principal), Kellie Shaw (Staff), Samantha Gollan (Staff), Simon Marshall (community member).

Apologies: Lisa Blanch (parent)

Minutes Secretary: Aliesha Murray

Meeting opened 7.05pm

Opening Business Damien Murray

- Review of previous minutes - signed by Chair

Business arising – Wendy Moore

Grounds improvement plan progress update:

- School expertise development aspects have been completed involving soil improvement and reticulation. Some existing reticulation has had to be capped due to the new Primary Path construction and will be fixed prior to summer. The bore tap was found to be feeding water into the tank increasing the salinity of water being used for irrigation of primary laws and ovals. The pump coming in from the dam has been shutting off, likely due to a faulty part in the pump so the tank had not been filling automatically. There are now regular checks on the tank to make sure it is filling.
- 4 weekly checks of the grounds are scheduled. The Baileys Soils analysis of our grass has come in to be interpreted and a schedule of fertilizer for our grounds established with input from grounds committee.
- External contractors have come in and cleaned up our outer scope areas and they are looking much neater. Dan Wilkinson has completed the stabilization of the dam overflow drain leading down to the river. The Six Seasons Garden is continuing with Lisa Blanch's help.
- The Kindy entrance area and limestone entrance wall is the next step for the Edwards St end of the school. The reticulation for the front lawn will depend on the amount of water we have available as to if it is worth doing it this year or next year.

School chaplain appointed: Linda Footer has commenced at BDHS 2 days per week. She has had a positive start.

Contact with junior sports: Simon Marshall confirmed that the football club is keen to get involved with the school. Justin Mann is happy to contact Narelle to negotiate a development program involving the football club and the students.

Financial report Wendy Moore

2019 school budget was formally noted by the Board. Moved: Damien, Seconded: Mike Fairclough. The school funding agreement was noted by the Board and signed by the Chair and Principal. Wendy presented the comparative budget statement and one line budget summary. Damien asked for clarification on:

- The rate of voluntary contributions. Wendy clarified that we are up to 10% higher in contributions than like schools. We don't plan for 100% but we continue to send invoices for the year.
- The amount the Chaplain is paid – there is disparity between the funding provided and the budget. Wendy clarified that the Chaplain top up payment ensures the chaplain's employment for 2 full days and is funded by the school.

- Sporting Schools payments. This is a line in the cash budget D5615 with a disparity between planned and YTD because this federal grant funding is applied for on a term by term basis and not always confirmed prior to the school budget. This funding is used to employ accredited coaches each term in line with the funding requirements.

Reporting policy review Kellie Shaw

Current and draft reporting policies were presented to the board, along with the Department's guidelines.

Discussion around Department requirements for reporting, reasons for areas and ages of reporting, as well as funding arrangements linked to student performance.

- Simon noted that he would like to understand what the A – E grades look at. These are outlined in the formal report that students receive each semester. The board suggested that the link to the SCASA website to be available for parents to access directly from the reporting policy.
- Damien liked the list of key reporting dates in the 2013 policy as this is easy reading for parents. This type of summary will be included in the current policy.
- Mike asked about access to the policy, which will be via the website.
- Carly noted some typographical errors to be corrected.

The board endorsed the current policy with the suggested amendments. Moved: Damien Carried

School review planning Wendy Moore

Review of business plan targets

- This Business Plan ends at the end of 2019. The board reviewed the targets set in the current plan. These targets have been reported against in our Annual School Report.

Discussion and questions from the Board

- The board felt that the targets needed to mostly stay the same to provide valid and comparative data.
- The board discussed the health and wellbeing targets with the definition of an 'at-risk group'. This is a continuing focus in the school and high evidence based programs have been put into place after consultation with the school psychologist and existing staff. The board feel that a more specific target to improved ratings in relation to health and wellbeing of groups within the school that are identified at the time rather than an overall target. The Health and Wellbeing group will be asked to formulate different targets to advise the board.
- Wendy presented the board with the student performance summary from Schools Online. The current business plan target for our Year 10's was for 100% of students to achieve a pass in OLNA. This has not been achieved over the past 3 years. Intervention programs that our students have undertaken appear to have been effective in improving student achievement, but when comparing our school to like schools and in consideration of the small cohort size, our current target is unrealistic. Wendy suggested that a more realistic goal would be a progress target rather than a 100% achievement target. Some options suggested were that:
 - 75% of students achieve an OLNS A pass in all areas by the end of Year 10
 - All students achieve a minimum of Category 2 in all three areas of OLNA
 - Individual targets – all improve their Category ratings by the end of Year 10

The board suggested that the target be reviewed by staff including secondary teachers and presented at the next meeting.

- Attendance target to continue
- Sustainability targets – 2 parts: School Grounds and Longevity of the school and governance.
 - The description of the sustainability part of the plan is poorly reflected in the milestones. Suggested changes – to change the current targets to those specified in the commitments section

- School review process and timeline has now changed with a change of government and our school review will not be until 2021. This will be based on our own self-audit of the current business plan and our planning and development of the 2020 – 2023 Business Plan. Wendy invited a board representative to be on the school review team when we are planning for reporting and collection of data for the new Business Plan. Mike Fairclough volunteered to be the representative; Damien formally nominated him as Board rep. Carried.

Governance review planning Damien

Damien highlighted some points from a paper; Research into Developing Highly Effective School Boards for Independent Public Schools. Damien pointed out that highly effective school boards are boards that fit the needs of the school, that bring the community voice into the school, advocate for their schools, support the principal and clearly understand their role in the school.

Board survey distributed by Wendy prior to the meeting. Damien suggested an additional question: Do I feel valued as a board member by the community and by the board?

Wendy to amend as required and forward to the Board as an online questionnaire.

Training for board members

- Online webinars links will be sent to board members as training options for board members.
- Damien suggested that Board members may benefit from seeing how other School Boards operate. Wendy will contact the Avon Network to approach them to be observers at their School Board meetings.

Carly suggested that the training agenda item be included in the annual agenda of the board.

Preparation for student leaders' visit at June meeting

Board members tabled suggestions for information they would like from student leaders. Kellie Shaw has discussed this with the Student Leaders and Sheera and Thomas will attend the next School Board meeting.

- What do they want to talk to the board about?
- What do they want to ask the board?
- Feedback on the hangout area
- What do they enjoy about being a student leader at Beverley?
- Do they feel like there is anything they miss out on compared to students at other schools?
- Student Leaders perception of how feel comfortable in the classroom and in the school yard?
- Is the SPARK matrix effective in the school?
- How do you feel supported in personal health and wellbeing?
- What is your understanding of what the governing bodies are for in the school?
- Some questions for the school board as to why and how the board makes decisions regarding school uniform
- Do you feel proud about being a student at BDHS? Why?
- What activities would you like BDHS to offer you?
- Do you feel like you have been supported as student leaders? How? Why?

No further general business

Wendy handed out new School Board badges to members.

Meeting close 8.59pm

- Next meeting confirmed for 12 June @7pm