

MINUTES OF MOUNT ASPIRING COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 12 AUGUST 2014 AT 6.00 P.M.

Present: Wayne Bosley, Eden Brown, Tracey Gibson, Richard Hemingway (Chair), Ian McNabb, Diana Schikker, John Watherston;

In Attendance: Maxine Bird (Secretary), Dean Sheppard, Gena Bagley, Kate Brown

Apologies: Paul Tamati

CURRICULUM REPORTS:

English

Kate Brown showcased how junior English was taught in her classroom. The class start the day with fun mental challenges. Year 7 & 8 focussed their PD at the beginning of the year on spelling, with an online session from Joy Allcock. This system helped to identify the gaps in skills and knowledge. They learnt to proof read their own and other's work. A similar approach was taken with writing, where students critiqued each other's work "two medals and a mission", with the writer and editor being different each time. Use of themes such as Commonwealth Games and the WWI centenary, keeps the interest up.

Writing was a target for National Standards, and there is a definite improvement in spelling, and purposeful writing has also helped. Kate showed us some amazing examples of student work.

The effect of IT on English was discussed including the truncation of text and loss of connection. It was agreed that IT had a place, especially when addressing the gender difference in writing. But it was still important to foster handwriting and correct spelling.

SPECIAL TOPICS:

Professional Learning Groups

PLGs have been set up to utilise in house expertise, talented people in the school, rather than outsourcing, and are done over terms 1,2 and 3 in six week sessions, culminating in a whole staff presentation to the whole group. Sharing consolidates the knowledge for the presenter, with obvious benefits to the attendees. It is important that the investment in sending staff away on courses comes back to the school. When it is presented in house it then becomes relevant in our school context.

There are two sessions that are compulsory for every staff member to attend on a biannual basis; Improving Outcomes for Maori and the Student Management System. Other topics and facilitators are self-selected, with a little shoulder tapping, to ensure that those who have benefitted from courses bring that back to school, while also aligning with strategic goals, and

the performance management system. Resources are being uploaded from our IT whizzes and Inquiry Learning has been a key focus for our Specialist Classroom Teacher. Information collected from facilitators has been really positive. There has been a good buy in from staff, with a nice even spread across the options.

Students will be surveyed near the end of the year to evaluate the effectiveness of the sessions run.

Student Leadership

Now beginning to review the inaugural year of student leadership, from the students themselves and the staff. Definitely committed to a similar system next year. It has provided an avenue for many more students to be involved in a leadership capacity with a clearer student voice. Its been very successful in its infancy, but there is still a lot of uncapped potential. More support will probably need to be looked at, and some practicalities ironed out. It will be exciting this year to see this year's leaders selling it to the potential new leaders for 2015. Eden was congratulated on being instrumental in getting this up and running for 2014.

SELF REVIEW:

NAG2 & 2a Curriculum

Diana, Ian and Tracey presented the final audit report and recommendations for Nag 2 & 2A. The report is filed in the minutes folder, the audit folder and digitally in the EO's Board Audit folder.

RESOLVED: to adopt the audit report and the recommendations

R.Hemingway/J. Watherston
Carried

NAG3 Personnel

In progress.

Richard pointed out that NZSTA had recently advertised some local professional development opportunities around personnel, if Board members were interested.

There was also material from the Education review office re appraisal etc.

REPORTS:

Principal's Report

Wayne's written report was circulated prior to the meeting.

Marae visit tentative dates.

Youth Council – Goal to get an opinion at council level from a youth perspective. Calum instrumental in getting this off the ground. The impetus has to come from the school, not council, it did not gain the traction we had hoped at this point.

Eden acknowledged as ODT class act.

Senior resignations of Jane Hamilton, Assistant Principal and Joss Walker, Year 13 Dean, at the end of this year. Management roles will need to be discussed. Wayne spoke to staff last

week about their intentions for next year. Provisional staffing numbers will be out about mid September.

Simon King broke his thumb in the workshop. Wayne has talked to him and it was discussed at Senior Staff and decreed no further action in regard to safety requirements.

Decision of church not to fund Kahu Youth Mentoring, disappointing. The school have committed their half for the year. This is the third year Kahu Youth have worked with our Y10 students.

The MOE promised independent support for Jeremy van Riel for targeting Maori achievement. To date has not been evident, and no replies to emails sent.

Police vetting camp volunteers, process going well, but we do need to review the time frame required. The level of support has not diminished because of this requirement.

Wayne advised that the draft of the community mailout will be emailed to the Board next week.

At this point the Board moved that the public be excluded from the Board meeting to discuss a student discipline issue. This resolution is made in reliance on Section 48(1)(a) of the LGOIM Act 1987.

R. Hemingway/E. Brown
Carried

At this point the Board resolved to move out of committee

R. Hemingway/D. Schikker
Carried

Property

Written report received by the Board prior to the meeting.

International Learning Centre Report

Written report received by the Board prior to the meeting.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes of the previous meeting on 22 July 2014 had been circulated prior to the meeting.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 22 July 2014 were a true and accurate record

J. Watherston/I. McNabb
Carried

CORRESPONDENCE

The correspondence schedule was included with the agenda.

In addition to the list of correspondence provided, Richard read out a letter received from the Minister of Education thanking the Board for their professionalism in their roles.

RESOLVED: To accept inwards correspondence

D. Schikker/J. Watherston
Carried

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Student Elections:

The annual Student Trustee elections were due. NZSTA have advised a common election date of 19 September, and the Board were happy to also adopt that date. A returning officer needed to be appointed, this is usually the role of the Executive Officer.

RESOLVED: To adopt the 19th September 2014 as the Student Trustee Election date, at Mount Aspiring College

W. Bosley/J. Watherston
Carried

RESOLVED: To appoint Maxine Bird as the Returning Officer for the Student Trustee Election at Mount Aspiring College.

R. Hemingway/D. Schikker
Carried

Eden to talk to student body at assembly about the role.

Swimming Pool

Richard Fairbairn revisiting the context of swimming pool in this area. Learning to swim statistics in Year 7 & 8 show having the pool where it is, works.

Festival of Sport and Recreation

Upper Clutha Sports community -Festival of Sport and Recreation on 20 September at MAC. Will be like a home show for sport, winter and summer codes are invited to show what is available in the area.

Curriculum Handbook

These have been handed out. The Options evening is on 18 August 5 – 7pm. There will be Student leadership representation and Board representation if possible. This year the students are required to also submit their option choices online. There will be some booths set up at the option evening if students want to start the process. If parents can't attend on that night, they can make a time to talk to deans, HODs or Whanau teachers.

Professional development

NZSTA are hosting several professional development opportunities locally. Richard will be attending the Charter Review session in Cromwell. There is also one on the Board as Employer and Strategic leadership.

Investing in Educational Success

The Board need to consider how we might or might not get involved in this MOE initiative.

DATES

Next Board meeting: **Tuesday 9 September, 5.30pm**

Next Meeting Agenda:

Learning Area: Learning Languages

Self Review: Nag 3

Special Topics: Sports Coordinator

Discussion Topics:

General Business

Meeting closed at 8.45pm

Signed as a true copy of the minutes:

Chairperson **Date**

Action Plan

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| Clarify process for getting on to Intermac for Curriculum reports | Maxine |
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