Rockdale Public School
Parents & Citizens Meeting Minutes
Week 8, Term 3. Tuesday 4th September 2012

PRESENT: Mark Steed, Margaret Paraskevopoulos, Figen Dormanli, Doris Kousoulous, and Nan Chen Gao.

APOLOGIES: Robyn Morris, Michelle Cárati (late), Barbara Karena (late).

MEETING COMMENCED: 9:30am
Previous minutes amended & accepted by Margaret, seconded by Doris.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:
- NAPLAN - results for this year 17/9/12. Will maybe receive data on 10/9/12. We are meticulous in getting all our papers back to the Dept.
- Front row seats for P&C members at Rockdale Rocks - perk for our contributions. Should we consider moving it to Term 4 in future.
- Owls on the tree ($20 each from Bunnings), Bunting (flags on a string on the tree to scare the birds away).

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT: Mark Steed

Photos:
Adv Life: No book & the most expensive.
Photobook $24
Portrait Sheet $6
No sports book $15/photo. Sliding reductions for more sports photos

Photobook $20
Portrait Sheet $8
Sports book $25

Photobook $22
Portrait Sheet $8
Sports/Carnival Book $40
They all have online payment. Pretty booked out. Maybe do Week 3, Term 2.

Photocopiers:
We have 14 printers in 19 out. There are 3 copiers, one in staff room, one in the AP’s office and one in the library. The copiers have USB scan to PDF enabled & files can be scanned then stored in our school drives directly. The main fax is in the copy room, we need each copier to be fax capable & have a second line to library. All are online now. No capital outlay - no charge for scanning as no consumables. Pay per print (per click), every 4 years the copiers are replaced. Before, we paid $25K per copier. Now, there is no outlay. Per click cost is not dirt cheap but is manageable. 1 week of debugging, then 3 hours of training later. We need to rein in the high cost of copying. Allocate copy costs per term. Want the costs to be managed because too much copying not school based. This way, it is online, and the paper is secured as costs of copying can be reduced substantially. It was one of the biggest cost for the school. Now teachers can have a resource that can be scanned, stored & used straight onto the IWB. Maybe teachers can have 1TB of HD on external storage system.

Passive Play Area:
The passive play program has commenced this term. It has been a big hit with the infants. We began with a scheduled timetable that allows access for all the kindergarten, year 1 and 2 classes. This way, students get used to the program and familiarise themselves with the toys and games there. The sandpit has a great lid especially made for it that deters the rain and elements. The equipment is wheeled out in 3 trolleys by volunteers primary students from Years 5 & 6 who help oversee the area while it is in use. Debbie Wicks has outlined a set of rules for the students to follow when using the area, such as no running or shouting, thus it is renamed "The Quiet Area". The volunteers have been keen and helpful so it would be great to have a “thank you” morning tea for them. Each week, a certain number of volunteers can also earn achievement awards for their hard effort and patience with helping the infants. It is another opportunity for primary students to get acknowledgement and practice some leadership skills and show initiative.
Theragames:
Tilda Fossey is in charge. There are 8 other teachers working together. This program teaches social scripting & building friendship. Paul Miljak is our school counsellor. We have trained a group of targeted kids to be leaders to help the students who need this type of learning & are struggling with social engagement. The kids we bring in are not natural leaders but will benefit from this. Term 4 will have kids in Stage 1. How many other schools use this program? Carlton does. This is one of their major programs. We need student welfare that is pro-active, not just reactive. Learning support team fits in here by thinking who needs to be brought in. The students that are leaders or chosen for students - are all picked. This list is not picked just by behaviour alone but for social reasons as well.

Volunteers:
We may need to put a type of acknowledgement for the volunteers - a lunch? a party? 3% of our kids did the reading challenge but now, we have a huge number. We always need a challenge. Term 2 - Morning tea, Term 3 - plus five more books. We need to constantly up the anti. Next morning tea - Thu. so Marg doesn’t miss out on the Wed. We need to encourage kids to do this & participating in school wide programs. Maybe should incl photos - spotlight for the kids on newsletter throughout the term. We need to have a whole school report.

Rockdale Rocks:
We try to make it as transparent as possible. It is difficult. Parents are calling and not wanting to come. We have the following options like having a bigger venue - but there’s a bunch of issues with that (child protection, rain, taking things), What about an additional night/show? But that’s going to have a drop in participation if people have to do put out for 2 places. It’s hard to make everyone happy.

Time Management/Teacher Learning:
TARS - Assistant Principal attends classes to assist and observes a lesson, with the school wide program. Reciprocal learning. Team teach - teaching using feedback, we want the culture on the class changed to have professional dialogue happening. Most people felt this was good, a couple of people feel that they don’t need feedback. Everyone should have the opportunity to have feedback on learning. We don’t sign off on them unless they have 4 feedback (1 per term). Teachers become AP because they are exemplary teachers & other teachers need to have the opportunity to observe this. Teach the lesson, reflect, professional dialogue, then re-teach. AP are brilliant and not used enough to help other teachers. This way the mechanism is in place to help the other teachers. Feedback from students too.

Funding Request for Stage 2:
Will get a plan & present to P&C for funding request.

Stage 1 - Resource
It will cost $7-8K to revamp all the resources. Need to have targets for next year.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT: C/O Margaret Paraskevopoulos (Vice President)

Father’s Day Stall:
The confectionary company that supports us now, donated a lot of chocs. - get $ from Robyn/Figen. Robyn thanks all the volunteers & staff that helped.

Winter Wonderland:
Thanks to all the volunteers for their help. The DJ was great - kids had no time to muck up as he kept everyone busy on the night. We will re-book him again next year.

Roles & Responsibilities:
This will be presented (if no more updates) at the next AGM. Thanks to everyone for all their contributions. It will be updated as needed.

TREASURER’S REPORT: Figen Dormanli
Our expenses to date: $415. Insurance
$74.62 Disco
$660.00 DJ
$2000.00 School resources
$587.24 Uniforms
We deposited: $1954.50 Disco
$2571.60 Father’s Day
Our balance to date: $12,806.37
CORRESPONDENCE:
Annual insurance - we need to renew our P&C annual insurance. There has been some changes made to our insurance this year. We have to fill in individual forms to apply for individual events and provide details of each event, and the safety precautions taken at each event.

NEW BUSINESS:
- Sponsorship - Community sponsored banners on the school fence have been removed. We want to have the opportunity for the school to have a finite period for community partner (for the event only - leading time & small amount of time afterwards). This way we have opportunities for other sponsorship. It is common practice.
- Want consistency with uniform - grey pants & tops look better than trackies. We want to revamp our school uniform policy. It's a good time to update the school uniform and have a think about it.
- New student welfare policies - we will present to School Council at the next meeting & next P&C meeting.

NEXT MEETING: Week 5 on Tuesday 6th November, 2012.
MEETING CLOSED: 10:35am.