



Since 1899

Honour, Loyalty and Duty

SCHOOL COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 2016

Council functions

- take part in:
 - establishing and reviewing the school's objectives, priorities and general policy directions;
 - the planning of financial arrangements necessary to fund them;
 - evaluating the school's performance in achieving them; and
 - formulating codes of conduct for students at the school.
- also:
 - approve contributions and charges;
 - develop a dress code in consultation with parents and staff;
 - provide advice to the Principal on religious education;
 - promote the School in the community.

Meetings

- School Council is required to meet a minimum of 4 times per year
- 2016: to date we have had 8 general meetings (+ today's APM) and a further general meeting is planned for week 9.

Membership

- **Chair:** Kati Tonkin (Community Rep.)
- **Secretary:** Victoria Bingham (Community Rep.)
- **Staff Reps:** Karen Lockyer (Principal); Sharon Downsborough; Andrew Streeton; Robyn Newman
- **Parent Reps:**
 - Brad Girando, Jane Forward, Anna Taylor
- members are appointed/elected for three year terms
- vacancies 2017: 1 Community Rep. (will be advertised shortly)

School planning documents endorsed

- Annual Report 2015 (May)
- Budget 2016 (May)
- School Improvement Plan 2016 (May)

Main business in 2016

- **Independent Public School:**
 - The main business of School Council in 2016 has been our application for IPS status and participation in the Department of Education's IPS Development Program. Following the program there was a competitive selection process. North Perth Primary School will be an Independent Public School from the beginning of 2017.
 - The Chair and Principal/Deputy Principal participated in a Briefing Day (February) and two Development Workshops (April and June).
 - Between the two Development Workshops School Council was required to undertake a self-audit and to engage with our community in order to find out what they know about School Council's role and how well they believe we are performing this role.

- On the basis of the self-audit and community engagement School Council prepared a narrative presentation to demonstrate our readiness for IPS status against the three selection criteria:
 - i) Capacity of the school to assume greater responsibility for its own affairs;
 - ii) Level of support in the school community;
 - iii) Potential benefits to students and the broader school community.
- In August the Chair and Principal presented this narrative to a panel of IPS Principals and answered their questions.
- In September we were informed that we had been selected for IPS status.
- In October we began the transition program:
 - The Chair and Principal attended the IPS launch with the other successful schools. The Honourable Peter Collier (Minister for Education), the Honourable Colin Barnett (Premier) and Sharyn O'Neill (General Director, Department of Education) were among the speakers at this event.
 - There are five full-day transition workshops. To date the Principal has participated in several transition workshops, in some cases with another member of the administration; the Chair and Principal will attend a further workshop this week.
 - These workshops are designed to support schools and School Councils to assume greater responsibility for their own affairs and to ensure that the increased autonomy will translate into better outcomes for students.
- The transition program will continue into 2017.
- **Homework Policy:**
 - A comprehensive review process was undertaken, including an online survey of parents. On the basis of the feedback, a staff working party drafted a new policy, which was presented to School Council and then circulated to parents for comment.
 - The new policy and homework grid were confirmed in May (meeting #3) and came into effect in June.

Other activities

- **Vision and values:** commissioned new lettering for the school hall; amended school logo and letterhead
- **Strategic planning:** timeline created for preparation of the school's Business Plan (2017-2019)
- Improved **School Council webpage and communications** (May/June)
- Approved **Booklists** for 2017 (September)
- Approved **Contributions & Charges** and **Personal Items** lists for 2017 (September)
- Updated **Sponsorship Policy** to reflect changes to the Department of Education's policy (October)
- **NAPLAN:** analysis of the NAPLAN results was presented by Andrew Streeton – School Council will be involved in the setting and monitoring of targets in response to the NAPLAN results (October)

Outlook 2017

- A new Community Representative will be appointed by the end of this year, to begin a three-year term at the beginning of 2017.
- IPS: The transition from School Council to School Board will involve further training in the early part of 2017. The School Board will have a greater role in the development of the school's strategic direction and planning (a Business Plan for 2017-2019 is under development and will be confirmed in 2017) and the monitoring of progress.
- Policies to be reviewed: Behaviour Management; Dress Code