



# Falls Road Primary Independent Public School

Challenge the Present – Create the Future

## School Board Minutes

Monday, 19<sup>th</sup> February, 2024

<b>Time</b>		Meeting No. 2024_1  Meeting location: Principal's Office  Meeting time and date: Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> February, 2024, 7:00pm	<i>Board to Identify action by who and whether board is to note, confirm or decide in relation to items.</i>
<b>7:00 PM</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>Welcome and Apologies</b>	
	1.1	Opening, welcome. Megan Leeming (9 years teaching at Falls Road PS) was welcomed on to the Board as a staff representative. Bruce volunteered to be the executive officer (constructing agendas, corresponding with Board members, finalising the minutes etc...). Lorraine offered to scribe the minutes during the meeting.	Liam
	1.2	<b>Attendance:</b> Liam Lynch, Lorraine Sheridan, Nathan Reid, Vanessa Rando, Simon Docherty, Bruce Fraser, Megan Leeming  <b>Apologies:</b> Nil	
	1.3	Confirmation of agenda	
	<b>2.0</b>	<b>Disclosure of Interests</b>	<b>Actions</b>

	<b>3.0</b>	<b>Minutes of Previous Meeting</b>	<b>Actions</b>
	3.1	Review of previous meeting minutes.  <i>Minutes of Meeting No. 2023 - 4.</i> <i>Acknowledgement of Disclosure of Interests</i>  <i>Follow Up Actions</i>	Accepted:  Seconded:

	<b>3.2</b>	<b>Business Arising</b>	<b>Actions</b>
	3.2.1	Liam had organised with John Mogeridge to conduct a smoking ceremony, welcome to the new year; however he was unable to attend, last minute. Bruce offered to meet with John offsite in the near future to establish a connection (as opposed to John coming in to our school 'cold').	

3.2.2	<p>Bruce also asked Board members to be on the lookout for any other local Aboriginal people whom we might make connections with.</p> <p>Vanessa indicated that the P&amp;C meeting had raised the matter of Falls Road PS booklists being noticeably higher than the other schools within our network. Bruce had compiled a spreadsheet of comparisons and whilst booklists are a bit like comparing 'apples and oranges' it is worth a conversation with our teachers.</p> <p>Points to note of other booklists.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not all schools collect P&amp;C contributions.</li> <li>• Not all schools list Voluntary Contributions on their booklists</li> <li>• Some schools ask parents to supply a range of items which are not listed on the booklists.</li> <li>• Several items are redeemable from the year before e.g., calculators.</li> <li>• Some schools request purchase of textbooks outside of the booklist</li> <li>• Some school use online programs and subscriptions, others purchase workbooks.</li> </ul>	
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4.0	<b>Correspondence</b>	<b>Actions</b>
4.1	- Nil	

5.0	<b>Reports</b>	<b>Actions</b>
5.1	<p><b>Principal's Report</b> (attached)</p> <p><b>Financial Report</b> (tabled) Preliminary budgeting has occurred with figures arrived at based upon historic costs, and others reflective of the Operational Plan. Following Census on 16 February we will be clearer of our 2024 income. Our planning is very close to 'actual'. Budget to be finalised at next school Finance meeting, and then passed on to the Board for ratification.</p> <p><b>P&amp;C Report</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minutes of Meeting 12 February (attached)</li> <li>• Nathan confirmed that he was keen to pass the management of the uniform website on to someone else.</li> </ul> <p><b>School Review Information Collected</b></p> <p>The information presented under the 6 domains of school review came about from Bruce's initial one on one meetings with staff (on his arrival) and two x 2 hour sessions with staff who rotated through the series of prompting questions and wrote their responses.</p> <p>Much of the staff ideas are already reflected in the 2024 Operational Plan.</p> <p>Should the school be required to participate in the system Review later in 2023 (no date has been set by DOE as yet), the staff will have engaged in further discussions and reflections. It is expected that the areas identified for development will have been addressed or progressed towards.</p> <p>Teams and working parties have been established to formalise self-reflection and to drive school initiatives.</p> <p><b>Business Plan</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Targets in Business Plan are being reviewed at beginning of 2024. This is due to some of the targets now being superfluous due to a shift in how NAPLAN achievement is described, and the school discontinuing MTS and Spelling Age data (replacing with more diagnostic testing).</li> </ul> <p>In terms of targets and achievement, 2023 data indicates the following;</p>	

- Reading and Numeracy are areas of strength.
- Writing is strong with elements to work on, which may boost it further including spelling, punctuation and grammar.
- Falls Road PS (2023 Year 3s and 5s) have a very high percentage of 'Strong' performers (second highest band). The focus now is to provide opportunities for students to move in to the 'Exceeding' band. Teachers are investigating a shift in approach e.g., the Writing Revolution is just one possibility, to assist in this area without taking away from the support being provided to those children who do require it.
- Overall, we note that this is data from 2023 only, and Year 3 and 5 only. Data can be cohort dependent, and we look forward with interest to our 2024 information to see a more clearer school picture.
- Data suggests that teacher judgement is very closely aligned with testing data, which indicates that the judgement of well informed, educated teachers is very valid.

5.2

### **Operational Plan**

Priorities 2024 were presented in the 2023 Board meeting, and in the Principal's Report at this meeting.

5.3

The Plan is very reflective of school data and staff input during 2023.

5.4

This is a fluid, working document, constantly being redefined as more information comes to hand.

Accountability to the plan will develop through constant review at staff and board meetings.

5.5

Vanessa observed that student well-being, social and emotional growth is mentioned as an objective for K-2, however not as obvious in the upper school. She acknowledged that there are many strategies and programs which are pointing to supporting students in this area, and wondered if it might be made more prominent. Megan indicated that student well-being is weaved throughout (integrated) in that so much that is done in our school. Bruce explained that students will be undertaking a Well-being survey in the upcoming weeks, which should identify areas of need, so that we can plan. Lorraine endorsed the use of the ACER Well-being survey (given her background in this field).

5.6

### **Policies**

Determine which policies to be reviewed in 2024, and prioritise.

- BMIS (2)
- Uniforms (1)
- Homework (tbd)
- Attendance (tbd)
- Student Leadership (3)

At the next Board Meeting, the Uniform policy will be up for discussion/review, which will include input from staff and the P&C.

Staff will undertake a BMIS review which will then feed to meeting 3 of the Board.

### **School Improvements**

- Flag Pole relocation is proposed so they are more prominent at the front of the school. A P&C busy bee is hoped for. Bruce will make the request to the P&C and the broader community (via Newsletter)

6.0	Other Business	Actions
6.1	<p>Promoting the Board and its actions in the broader school community. We will share Board minutes with P&amp;C, staff (through daily notices), on our website. The P&amp;C liaison person (Vanessa) will continue to share with P&amp;C and Board on the activities of each.</p> <p>This meeting formally acknowledges the passing of active and supportive parent Mr Richard Coney.</p> <p>This meeting acknowledges the excellent service of Mrs Erin Burns to the School Board for the past 2 years. Bruce will compose a letter of thanks, co-signed with Liam (Board Chair).</p> <p>Annual Report; Bruce asked that Liam compose a couple of paragraph for the 2023 Annual Report on behalf of the Board possibly acknowledging the service and retirement of David Ingle, the leadership of Simon Docherty, Clare Miller and Erin Burns, and mention achievements of the 2023 Board. Bruce and Simon explained that the focus of the Annual Report needs to be one of celebrating achievements – more photos, less writing!</p>	
7.0	Next Meeting	Actions
7.1	<p>To be discussed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Policy Review (Uniform and Student Leaders)</li> <li>• Ratification of 2024 Budget</li> </ul>	
8.0	Meeting Close/Adjournment	Actions
9.1	Meeting Closed at 8:55 pm	