

Mount Lawley Senior High School (MLSHS)

School Council

MINUTES

Monday 15 June 2009

	ITEM	ACTION POINTS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE
1	<b>Meeting opened: 7:35pm</b>		
2	<b>Introduction and Welcome</b> The Chair welcomed School Council members.		
3	<b>Attendance</b> Jo Furness, Milton Butcher, Neil Hudson, Yvonne Scott, Glenn Innis, Anne Griffiths, Ron Pearce, Gemma Esvelt, Maddy Lovelle and Vicki Nash (Minutes Secretary)		
4	<b>Apologies</b> Catherine Smith, Don Rowe, Theresa Wallooppillai, Olivia Burmester and Kevin Pilkington		
5	<b>Minutes of Previous Meeting</b> The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 18 May 2009 were tabled and accepted as a true record. <b>Moved by Maddy Lovelle. Seconded by Anne Griffiths.</b>	Carried	
6	<p><b>Update on Action Points from Previous Meetings</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Sponsorship</b> No change.</li> <li>▪ <b>Healthy Active Australia Grant</b> Milton Butcher advised that Suzie Barnes was working enthusiastically on this project. The advertisement for a program for female students was so successful that it was oversubscribed, and the program has been extended. Susie has been running dance sessions. Glenn Innis expressed his thanks for the grant which made the dance sessions, which the students loved, possible.</li> <li>▪ <b>Languages Program</b> Milton Butcher advised that there will be two GATE choices in 2010 (European and Asian) but only one language studied. The GATE day had been very successful</li> <li>▪ <b>Centre for Asian Languages</b> The <i>Asian Studies &amp; Language Learning Centre for 21st Century Schools</i> document was tabled and distributed. Milton Butcher apologised for the delay in getting the document, which he has rewritten and is still in draft form, to School Council members. He asked for feedback and guidance on the document, which will be taken to the decision makers. Anne Griffiths believes a case can be put, as MLSHS is on the right track and it should be pushed to the limit. Senators should also receive a copy. Jo Furness asked if there has been any feedback from Building Education Revolution. Milton Butcher replied that MLSHS is very low priority. He tabled and distributed the document. He advised that \$200,000 is available for maintenance.</li> <li>▪ <b>Whole Day School Reporting</b> Jo Furness advised that only half a day was approved. It was brought up with Lindsay Hale who suggested MLSHS write a letter to the Minister.</li> </ul>	<p>Pass on School Council members' thanks to Suzie Barnes</p> <p>A draft letter is to be drafted for Catherine</p>	<p>Jo Furness</p> <p>Milton Butcher</p>

## Discussion Items

### ■ Loss of \$100 Subsidy

Yvonne Scott reported that the State Government has announced that it will cancel \$200 for Year 11 and Year 12 students as of next year. The \$100 government subsidy that each student receives will also cease. Mount Lawley SHS receives \$131,000. Students of families with health care cards will get \$235 but others will not receive anything. MLSHS will probably receive about 80% of the \$131,000, ie a loss of about \$30,000 for MLSHS next year. Jo Furness asked if MLSHS is working around the loss of \$30,000. Milton Butcher agreed that it will have an impact and that MLSHS will have to make adjustments.

Glenn Innis suggested sending parents information regarding the loss. Jo Furness suggested including a notice in the *Lawley News*. She added that there are strategies for next year looking at high cost subjects. Yvonne waiting for advice from the Department before sending information to parents.

**RECOMMENDED** by Jo Furness that Yvonne Scott and she meet to come up with a list of options to address this issue.

■ **Issue of Statements and Collection of Outstanding Funds**  
This matter (agenda item 8) was discussed under **Approved Charges for 2010** (agenda item 6 see below).

■ **Year 10 Working Party**  
Milton Butcher advised that transition from Year 9 to Year 10 was discussed at the last meeting and a working party was formed (Catherine Smith, Milton Butcher, Jo Furness, and Don Rowe). Milton said that Bev Burnside, Ian Johnston and Geoff Clayton were also members and useful to include current or next Year 10 co-ordinator. He would send some suggested terms of reference.

■ **Approved Charges for 2010**  
Jo Furness thanked Yvonne Scott for her efforts with the financial documentation, including the *Voluntary Contributions & Charges Position* document. Yvonne gave a verbal overview of the *2009 Proposed Subject Charges*, adding that there are not a lot of changes. Most of the learning areas seem to be managing on current charges. Milton advised that he has asked cost centre managers to only increase where there is a need. The increases are due to aligning subject or increased costs such as food and fuel.

**Moved** by Ron Pearce to approve the proposed subject changes. **Seconded** by Glenn Innis.

### ■ ICT Reserves

Milton Butcher advised that Catherine Smith had a query as to how this meshed with the innovation plan. He apologised for not providing the replacement plan to members and advised that some computers are on lease while others are owned outright. MLSHS is looking to enhance facilities with whiteboards, however, there are only two companies in the State. Last year there were a number of whiteboards to be installed but the supplier could not do so. The ICT fund has been committed but not paid. The ICT Committee sees the fund as a means to improve facilities for students and not for replacement of computers. This is done through the School Grant.

Meet with Yvonne Scott

Jo Furness

Terms of Reference to be emailed to members and brought to the next meeting

Milton Butcher

Carried

	<p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> <b>Possible Changes to the 2010 School Day</b>  Milton Butcher advised that this was briefly discussed at the last meeting and tabled for discussion. Milton would like feedback from School Council members on issues to be considered in terms of making a decision, which will hopefully be at the end of this term, to start the timetabling process for next year. Jo Furness stated that there has been some concern from parents about physical activity being dropped from the MLSHS curriculum.</li></ul></p> <p>Maddie Lovelle advised that this was brought up at Student Council, with mixed reactions - some students like to have a choice rather than being forced into doing a sport they do not want to play while other students like the period to escape from studying. However, leading up to exams, students would like the time for private study instead.</p> <p>Gemma Esvelt asked why the timetabling was being changed and Milton Butcher replied that it was necessary to get periods to align to maximise use of teachers and rooms.</p> <p>Neil Hudson observed that students are not keen on staying late on a Tuesday or Friday to make up time.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> <b>Report from Directors Standards Visit</b>  This document was tabled and distributed. Lindsay Hale has accepted the recommendations made by the School Executive in terms of where MLSHS needs to improve, including Year 12 performance. Lindsay acknowledged the fact that MLSHS is taking action, eg after school tutoring, and he endorsed all the recommendations for the issues identified as concerns.</li> </ul> <p>Milton added that there are other papers in respect to student performance, and he asked School Council members to let him know if they would like a copy of the papers. Milton thanked Jo Furness, Catherine Smith and Suzie Barnes who met with Lindsay Hale and talked about this issue from a parent perspective.</p>	<p>Email a copy of the papers to adult members</p>	<p>Milton Butcher</p>
<p>8</p>	<p> <b>Financial Report for 2008</b>  The document was tabled and distributed and Yvonne gave a verbal overview of the report. The report was accepted.</p>		

9	<p><b>Principal's Report</b> Milton Butcher gave his report, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ parents night to be held on Thursday, 2 July 2009;</li> <li>✓ at the Year 7 GATE day on Friday, students were telling friends how good MLSHS is;</li> <li>✓ last Thursday's Science Day was very successful .</li> <li>✓ as of today, there have been 170 applications for Year 8 next year which is a good number to keep MLSHS strong and, at Year 11, students will have a good, wide curriculum choice;</li> <li>✓ at the meeting with Lindsay Hale and Allan Blagaich (MLSHS's Executive Director), Allan was keen to support the Asian program and MLSHS's initiatives in language. He was also keen to support the Confucius Classroom.</li> <li>✓ the Art Auction is on this Saturday, 20 June, which he hopes School Council members will be able to attend (the presentation for Christine Richardson is at 6:45pm, just prior to the auction).</li> </ul>		
10	<p><b>P&amp;C Report</b> There was no P&amp;C Report; however, Ron Pearce asked about the sibling rule and Milton Butcher replied that in Year 11 and Year 12 if a child comes in under GATE, MLSHS has been able to treat that child as an ordinary student.</p> <p>Glenn Innis thanked P&amp;C for providing funding for equipment to create a reading area in Middle School. He advised S&amp;E teachers are developing grading exemplars for state-wide use.</p>		
11	<p><b>Staff Report</b> Neil Hudson reported that a Year 10 leadership camp was held successfully. This is now a standard annual event.</p>		
12	<p><b>Other Business</b> Anne Griffiths advised School Council members that she is retiring and will discuss with Milton Butcher a good replacement for her place on Council. She stressed that, even retired, she will have voluntary time for MLSHS. On behalf of the School Council, Jo Furness thanked Anne for the time and effort which she has committed to the school through her work with the School Council.</p>	Discuss a replacement for Anne Griffiths	Milton Butcher & Anne Griffiths
13	<p><b>Next Meeting</b> Monday, 17 August 2009 at 7:30pm</p>		
14	<p><b>Meeting Closed</b> At 9:15pm, Jo Furness declared the meeting closed.</p>		