

2018 AGM MINUTES

P&C Federation President and meeting Chair, Susie Boyd, opened the meeting at 09:55am.

Welcome to Country provided by Uncle Bruce, Darug Elder.

Attendance: Nicole Mottlee Central Coast, Craig Kettle Central Coast, Natalie Walker Far West, Helen Carpenter Far West, Jason Ryan Mid North Coast, Alan Gardiner North Sydney, Gregory Burns North Sydney, Tim Spencer North West Sydney, Lisa Wilmshurst North West Sydney, Richard Copnall North West Sydney, Saba Nabi Riverina, Susie Boyd South West Sydney, Bryce Wilson Southern and Central Tablelands, Natasha Coster West Sydney, David Farrar West Sydney

Apologies: Mark Van Kerkwijk North Sydney, Janine Cramond North Coast, Diane Darcy Far West, Sharon Bright North Coast, Angela Martin New England, Ray Mosley Macarthur

Absent: Jason Yeo Southern Sydney

Guest Speaker: David de Carvalho, CEO, NSW Education Standards Authority

David focused on the upcoming review of the NSW curriculum. In the course of his presentation, David noted that:

- There had been extensive consultation regarding the terms of reference for the review.
- He expected the final terms of reference would be released soon.
- He believed (and said) “parents are probably the most important stakeholders”.
- There would be extensive consultation and feedback opportunities provided for stakeholders, including parents.

In response to questions and comments:

- David noted that the consultation process will include 12 venues across NSW, 4 of which will be in the Sydney metropolitan area and the remainder spread across regional, rural and remote areas, including Broken Hill as a specific example.
- Focus groups are planned, including P&C representation.
- David was encouraged to have the consultation sessions canvas all of the aspects of a curriculum and its delivery, as listed in his presentation, and include in the consultation sessions some exposition of the terminology used and topics to be covered in order to prompt broad stakeholder input.
- The difficulty and potential negative impact of having teachers absent from their classrooms while involved in consultation sessions was noted, particularly in regional areas where the impact may be worse due to the difficulty of obtaining casual relief teachers.
- The desirability of considering the linkage and/or integration of the school curriculum with Vocational Education and Training was suggested.
- David noted that NSW adopts and adapts the Australian curriculum where there is overlap, and looked forward to seeing how the NSW curriculum review addresses the linkage of NSW to the Australian curriculum

Annual Report – Susie Boyd, President, Federation of Parents and Citizens Associations of NSW

Susie Boyd highlighted aspects of her President's Report, as included in the distributed Federation Annual Report for 2018.

Finance Report – Alan Gardiner, Secretary, Federation of Parents and Citizens Associations of NSW

Alan Gardiner highlighted aspects of the Federation's Finance Report, as included in the distributed Federation Annual Report for 2018.

Motion 1 – Minutes of 2017 AGM

That Federation of Parents and Citizens Associations of NSW minutes of the 2017 Annual General Meeting be received and adopted.

Moved: Craig Kettle

Seconded: Bryce Wilson

Carried

Motion 2 – Appointment of Auditor

That Federation of Parents and Citizens Associations of NSW appoints William Buck as auditor of the Federation of P&C Associations of NSW for the 2019 financial year.

Moved: Nicole Mottlee

Seconded: Natalie Walker

Carried

Motion 3 – Membership Fees

That Federation of Parents and Citizens Associations of NSW member affiliation fees for the 2018-2019 year be maintained at 2015-2016 rates and confirmed according to the following:

AF6	Primary or Central School 25 or fewer students	\$138
AF5B	Primary or Central School 26-60 students	\$174
AF5A	Primary or Central School 61-159 students	\$226
AF4	Primary or Central School 160-300 students	\$347
AF3	Primary or Central School 301-450 students	\$425
AF2	Primary or Central School 451-700 students	\$441
AF1	Primary or Central School 701 or more students	\$543
AF9B	High School 650 or fewer students	\$431
AF9A	High School 651-900 students	\$533
AF8	High School 901 or more students	\$543

Moved: Saba Nabi

Seconded: Natalie Walker

Carried

The meeting noted that membership fees had not been raised since the 2013-2014 year and that a revisiting of the level of fees may be justified next year.

Motion 4 – Reimbursement Rates

That Federation of Parents and Citizens Associations of NSW reimbursement rates as outlined herein be endorsed.

Travel

Public Transport – Return public transport fare

Rail Travel (non-metro) – Return economy rail fare

Air Travel – Return economy air fare

Private Vehicle - The cents per kilometre rate as set by the Australian Tax Office (independent of capacity of engine)

Car Rental – Total cost \$100 per day

Taxi Full fare up to \$100 per trip

Accommodation

Up to \$140 per night

Meals

Breakfast – Maximum of \$15.00 per day

Lunch – Maximum of \$18.00 per day

Dinner – Maximum of \$25.00 per day

Moved: David Farrar

Seconded: Saba Nabi

Amendment motion:

That Federation of Parents and Citizens Associations of NSW meal expense reimbursement rates be in line with the current ATO rates.

Moved: Nicole Mottlee

Seconded: Craig Kettle

Carried

Motion as amended:

That Federation of Parents and Citizens Associations of NSW reimbursement rates as outlined herein be endorsed.

Travel

Public Transport – Return public transport fare

Rail Travel (non-metro) – Return economy rail fare

Air Travel – Return economy air fare

Private Vehicle - The cents per kilometre rate as set by the Australian Tax Office (independent of capacity of engine)

Car Rental – Total cost \$100 per day

Taxi Full fare up to \$100 per trip

Accommodation

Up to \$140 per night

Meals

Breakfast – Current ATO rates per day

Lunch – Current ATO rates per day

Dinner – Current ATO rates per day

Moved: David Farrar

Seconded: Saba Nabi

Carried

Motion 5 – Free School Opal Card Travel Primary 3-6

That Federation of Parents and Citizens Associations of NSW write to the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure advocating for a change in policy to allow access to the free School Opal card from Year 3 up to Year 6 with no minimum distance restriction.

Moved: Natalie Walker

Seconded: Saba Nabi

Carried

Motion 6 – Bores and Solar Power to run Schools in Rural, Remote & Regional NSW

That Federation of Parents and Citizens Associations of NSW write to and lobby the Minister of Education and the Department of Education for the supply and installation of Bores and Solar Power to schools in Rural, Remote and Regional NSW.

Moved: Helen Carpenter

Seconded: David Farrar

Carried

Amendment motion:

That the motion be amended to add the federal government to the list of organisations to be lobbied.

Moved: Richard Copnall

Amendment accepted as friendly by the mover and seconder of the original motion.

Amendment motion:

That the words “in Rural, Remote and Regional NSW” be removed from the proposed motion.

Moved: Craig Kettle

Withdrawn

Amendment motion:

That the proposed motion be split into two separate motions, one dealing with the installation of bores and the other dealing with the installation of solar panels.

Moved: Nicole Mottlee

Seconded: Craig Kettle

Lost

Tim Spencer assumed the role of meeting Chair in place of Susie Boyd.

Motion as amended:

That Federation of Parents and Citizens Associations of NSW write to and lobby the Minister of Education, the Department of Education and the federal government for the supply and installation of Bores and Solar Power to schools in Rural, Remote and Regional NSW.

Moved: Helen Carpenter

Seconded: David Farrar

Carried

Susie Boyd resumed the role of meeting Chair.

Motion 7 – School finance committee parent representation

That Federation of Parents and Citizens Associations of NSW seek confirmation and support from the Secretary of Education that the Department of Education will address and implement the need for all NSW public schools to have an established finance committee with parent representation from their local P&C nominated and that this committee and membership information be communicated and accessible to the school community.

Moved: Natalie Walker

Seconded: Helen Carpenter

Carried

Tim Spencer assumed the role of meeting Chair in place of Susie Boyd for the duration of debate on this motion, after which point Susie Boyd resumed the Chair.

Motion 8 – Funding for technology and technical support to all NSW public schools.

That Federation of Parents and Citizens Associations of NSW request and seek confirmation from the Secretary of Education and Minister for Education to increase the funding for technology and technical support to all NSW public schools, with priority to regional, rural and remote schools.

Moved: Natalie Walker

Seconded: Helen Carpenter

Amendment motion:

That the words “with priority to regional, rural and remote schools” be removed from the proposed motion.

Moved: Nicole Mottlee

Amendment accepted as friendly by the mover and seconder of the original motion.

Motion as amended:

That Federation of Parents and Citizens Associations of NSW request and seek confirmation from the Secretary of Education and Minister for Education to increase the funding for technology and technical support to all NSW public schools.

Moved: Natalie Walker

Seconded: Helen Carpenter

Carried

Motion 9 – Federal government capital grants program for public schools

That Federation of Parents and Citizens Associations of NSW lobby the federal government to implement a capital grants program for public schools immediately.

Moved: Natalie Walker

Seconded: Nicole Mottlee

Carried

Motion 10 – Fund the Rural and Remote Blueprint Strategy.

That Federation of Parents and Citizens Associations of NSW seek confirmation and an agreement from the Minister for Education to continue to fund the Rural and Remote Blueprint Strategy for the next four years, with particular focus on infrastructure, technology, transitions, transport and wellbeing.

Moved: Natalie Walker

Seconded: Craig Kettle

Carried

Motion 11 – School funding policy

That Federation of Parents and Citizens Associations of NSW previous policies regarding school funding be replaced with a principal-based policy as follows:

Governments must as a priority provide and fund the public school system in New South Wales to the highest standard in accordance with the achievement of the basic aim of education, being to help each individual to progress toward the attainment of their full potential, both as a person and as a member of society. Funding of schools to this level must not depend on fund-raising from the school community, either through direct donations, fund-raising events or from the proceeds of school services such as canteens.

Government funding, federal, state or local, must be adequate, equitable and needs-based, taking into account all relevant factors.

Government funding for non-government schools must not exceed government funding for government schools, on any measure. Parents or guardians of children attending non-government schools should expect to pay school fees amounting to at least a portion of the funding required to equate their funding with government schools, and any excess of school fees above this should correspondingly reduce the government funding such schools receive.

Moved: Alan Gardiner

Seconded: David Farrar

Amendment motion:

That the motion be amended by removing the words “federal, state or local” from the second paragraph of the proposed policy and deleting the third paragraph of the proposed policy.

Moved: Bryce Wilson

Amendment accepted as friendly by the mover and seconder of the original motion.

Amendment Motion:

That the motion be amended by changing second paragraph of the proposed policy to be “Government funding should be needs-based, thereby providing the foundation of equality of opportunity that will allow our nation’s children to reach their fullest potential.”

Moved: Craig Kettle

Amendment accepted as friendly by the mover and seconder of the original motion.

Motion as amended:

That Federation of Parents and Citizens Associations of NSW previous policies regarding school funding be replaced with a principle-based policy as follows:

Governments must as a priority provide and fund the public school system in New South Wales to the highest standard in accordance with the achievement of the basic aim of education, being to help each individual to progress toward the attainment of their full potential, both as a person and as a member of society. Funding of schools to this level must not depend on fund-raising from the school community, either through direct donations, fund-raising events or from the proceeds of school services such as canteens.

Government funding should be needs-based, thereby providing the foundation of equality of opportunity that will allow our nation's children to reach their fullest potential.

Moved: Alan Gardiner

Seconded: David Farrar

Carried

Motion 12 – Adequate provision of after-school care for every school with K-6 students

That Federation of Parents and Citizens Associations of NSW lobby the government to ensure adequate provision of after-school care for every school that has K-6 students, and to ensure commercial concerns don't override the wellbeing of children and communities

Moved: Natalie Walker

Seconded: Tim Spencer

Carried

Motion 13 – Teaching of a second language a mandatory KLA for all K-6

That Federation of Parents and Citizens Associations of NSW write to the Minister of Education NSW, to advocate making teaching of a second language a Mandatory KLA for all K-6 students.

Moved: Bryce Wilson

Seconded: David Farrar

Lost

Alan Gardiner assumed the role of meeting Chair in place of Susie Boyd for the duration of debate on this motion, after which point Susie Boyd resumed the Chair.

Motion 14 – Consent form for school IT services

That Federation of Parents and Citizens Associations of NSW write to the Minister for Education advocating for:

The NSW Department of Education to address all issues raised in the Northern Sydney District Council of P&Cs publication "Why do we need to reconsider the 'Consent' form for school IT services? An opinion piece and discussion paper for parents and parent groups in NSW. May 2018" These issues include: Informed Consent, Screen Dependence, Tracking Cookies and other Data Collection Methods, Conflict of Interest, Data Sovereignty, Out of Jurisdiction, Lack of Action and Ethics and a Good Example.

Moved: Richard Copnall

Seconded: Gregory Burns

Carried

Break for lunch at 1:00pm.

School Funding Presentation and Funding Workshops

Members discussed State and Federal matters and developed key action items and viewpoints for guidance to Board for taking these forward.

Close of Meeting

President closed the meeting at 4:03pm.