



THE FEDERATION OF PARENTS AND CITIZENS ASSOCIATIONS OF NEW SOUTH WALES
2015 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
22 AUGUST 2015
FORT STREET HIGH SCHOOL

P&C Federation President, Jason Vials officially opened the meeting at 10am

- Welcome to country

Attendance :

Kath Styant Central Coast, Nicole Mottlee Central Coast, Craig Kettle Central Coast, Natalie Walker Far West, Bob Dyson Far West, Donna Ambler Far West, Yve Weinmann Hunter, Joel Matthews Macarthur, Ray Mosley Macarthur, Paul Sabatier Macarthur, Roslyn Deal Mid North Coast, Tracy Hunt Mid North Coast, Jason Ryan Mid North Coast, Angela Martin New England, Rachael Sowden New England, John Rosberg New England, Terence Timms North Coast, Sharon Bright North Coast, Lisa Naumovski North Coast, Alan Gardiner North Sydney, Mark Van Kerkwijk North Sydney, Timothy Spencer North West Sydney, Veryan McAllister North West Sydney, Lisa Wilmshurst North West Sydney, Christine Cameron Riverina, Samantha Rudd South Coast, Rob Ingram South Coast, Susan Boyd South West Sydney, Natalie Frolov South West Sydney, Pauline Hedman South West Sydney, Jason Vials Southern & Central Tablelands, Kym Bush Southern & Central Tablelands, Bryce Wilson Southern & Central Tablelands, Samantha Pearce Sydney, Stephen Jackson Sydney, Natasha Coster West Sydney, Kirsten Boerst West Sydney

Apologies :

Adam Nicholas Hunter, Mishell Currie North Sydney, Jane Paterson Riverina, Mihyun Lim South Coast, Tammy Moussa Southern Sydney, Kelly Kershaw Sydney, Tania Bailey West Sydney

President, Jason Vials Presented a report on the progress of the Federation since January 2015

Alan Gardiner Vice President provided a verbal commentary of the audited financial statement issued to those in attendance.

Motion 1

That William Buck be and hereby is re-appointed as auditor of the Federation of P&C Associations of NSW for the 2016 financial year.

Supporting Information

This motion seeks to re-appoint the Federation's current auditors for the 2016 financial year. William Buck is a network of chartered accounting firms across Australia and New Zealand and incorporates the firm Priestley and Morris, Federation auditors since the 2013 financial year.

The Board resolved to recommend the re-appointment of William Buck at the Board meeting of 3 May 2015.

Moved: Alan Gardiner Seconded: Ray Mosley

Procedural Motion:

That the meeting move into committee for five minutes to allow Alan Gardiner – Finance Committee Chair to answer questions regarding this appointment.

Moved: Terry Timms Seconded: Rachael Sowden CARRIED

Procedural Motion: That the meeting move out of committee.



THE FEDERATION OF PARENTS AND CITIZENS ASSOCIATIONS OF NEW SOUTH WALES
2015 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
22 AUGUST 2015
FORT STREET HIGH SCHOOL

Moved: Rachael Sowden Seconded: Tracey Hunt CARRIED

THE ORIGINAL MOTION WAS RESTATED: That William Buck be and hereby is re-appointed as auditor of the Federation of P&C Associations of NSW for the 2016 financial year.

Moved: Alan Gardiner Seconded: Ray Mosley CARRIED

Motion 2

That the Federation of P&C Associations of NSW adopts the Reduced Disclosure Requirements (RDR) financial reporting option

Supporting Information

The Federation's annual financial reports are prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards. In June 2013, the Federation's auditor suggested the possibility of simplifying the Federation's annual financial statements by adopting the Reduced Disclosure Requirements (RDR) reporting option which is available to not-for-profit entities under the relevant accounting standards.

The effect of adopting RDR is to reduce, in the Federation's annual financial statements, extensive reporting of financial asset valuations that are of limited to no relevance in the Federation's circumstances and which contribute to the cost and complexity of the annual financial statements without adding to understanding of the financial affairs of the Federation. The specific sections of the annual financial statements that would no longer be required are the Notes to the accounts with respect to Credit Risk, Liquidity Risk, Financial Liability and Financial Asset maturity analysis, Interest Rate Risk, Net Fair Values, Reconciliation of cash flow from operating activities to current year surplus/deficit

The Board resolved to recommend the adoption of RDR reporting at the Board meeting of 3 May 2015

Moved: Kath Styant Seconded: Bryce Wilson CARRIED

Motion 3

That Federation of P&C Associations of NSW member affiliation fees for the 2015-2016 year be set according to the following table:

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	More than 700 students	\$543
AF9B	High School	650 or fewer students	\$431
AF9A	High School	651-900 students	\$533
AF8	High School	more than 900 students	\$543

Supporting Information

This motion seeks the approval of Federation affiliation fees, as required by s.5(c) of the Federation's constitution, for the membership year from 1 August 2015 to 31 July 2016. The proposed fees are set at the same level as last year. Affiliation with the Federation includes provision of public liability



THE FEDERATION OF PARENTS AND CITIZENS ASSOCIATIONS OF NEW SOUTH WALES
2015 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
22 AUGUST 2015
FORT STREET HIGH SCHOOL

insurance cover, as required by s.5 (f) of the Federation constitution.

The Board resolved to recommend the adoption of the member affiliation fees at the amounts shown at the Board meeting of 20 June 2015

Moved: Alan Gardiner Seconded: Ray Mosley

Procedural Motion:

That the meeting move into committee, to answer questions regarding the figures quoted.

Moved: Mark Van Kerkwijk Seconded: Terry Timms CARRIED

Procedural Motion:

That the meeting move out of committee

Moved: Ray Mosley Seconded: Christine Cameron CARRIED

That Federation of P&C Associations of NSW member affiliation fees for the 2015-2016 year be set according to the following table:

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	More than 700 students		\$543
AF9B	High School	650 or fewer students	\$431	
AF9A	High School	651-900 students	\$533	
AF8	High School	more than 900 students	\$543	

Moved: Alan Gardiner Seconded: Ray Mosley CARRIED

Motion 4

That the P&C Federation lobby the Education Minister to ensure that the enrolment form includes all SRE, Ethics and non-scripture option.

Moved: Samantha Pearce Seconded: Natalie Walker

Samantha Pearce read a supporting statement, including the names of schools that have written to support the motion, she indicated she wished for them to be recorded:

The following schools all passed motions within their own meetings to support this action:

Supporting Documents

From Enfield Public School

Enfield PS strongly believes in the equal and fair treatment of all parents and children, regardless of their racial background, religious beliefs or any other perceived difference.

Section 32 of the Education Act 1990 ("the Act") provides that "In every government school, time is to be allowed for the religious education of children of any religious persuasion".

Section 33 provides that "No child at a government school is to be required to receive any general religious education or special religious education if the parent of the child objects to the child receiving



THE FEDERATION OF PARENTS AND CITIZENS ASSOCIATIONS OF NEW SOUTH WALES
2015 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
22 AUGUST 2015
FORT STREET HIGH SCHOOL

that education”.

Section 33A of the Act provides for Special Education in Ethics as a secular alternative to special religious education.

The availability as regards each option, namely in participation in:-

- Special Religious Education (SRE); or
- Special Education in Ethics (SEE); or
- Passive supervision;

Should consequently be represented to parents and carers in the same manner and at the same time as each other. The previous enrolment form provided a box that could be ticked by parents and carers who wanted to enrol their child(ren) in SEE.

The new enrolment form no longer has that option available but instead advises parents and carers of children who do not attend SRE classes to contact their school about information on alternatives, including SEE. The additional requirement for a parents or carer to contact a school for information about SEE or passive supervision results in a situation where the options to parents and carers are not presented in a transparent and equitable manner.

Our members believe that in order for parents and carers to be able to make fully informed decisions, they should be given the same information about all the options available to their children during the time allocated for SRE. This information should be given to all parents in the same format and at the same time, both on enrolment and at the beginning of each school year.

From Bangalow Public School

Bangalow Public School is located in Northern NSW about 10 minutes from Byron Bay. Bangalow Public School (PS) was one of the first regional schools in northern NSW to offer this new option for children who don't go to the available scripture or non-scripture classes in their schools.

Primary Ethics was offered at Bangalow Public School to students as an alternative to SRE in 2014. It has been very positively received. In 2014 Bangalow Public School had four (4) certified Primary Ethics teachers.

The NSW Schools enrolment form for 2015 listed Primary Ethics as an option for those wanting an alternative to other SRE options. In 2015, Bangalow Public School now has seven (7) certified Primary Ethics teachers who teach children from kindergarten through to Grade 6. Children are exposed to a range of age-relevant topics such as *Forgiving and being forgiven*, *Disagreeing respectfully* and *Why should we trust science?*

The Bangalow Primary Ethics teachers facilitate each lesson using an approved curriculum that raises issues that the children discuss, building on one others' ideas, respectfully disagreeing, changing viewpoints and even questioning accepted authority structures at times.

From Marrickville Public School

Marrickville Public School Parents and Citizens Associations strongly believes in the equal and fair treatment of all parents and children, regardless of their racial background, religious beliefs or any other perceived difference. Our members believe that all parents should be allowed to make fully informed decisions and be given the same information about all the options available to their children during the time allocated for Special Religious Education (SRE) and Special Ethics Education (SEE), regardless of their family's religious beliefs. This information should be given to all parents in the same format and at the same time, both on enrolment and at the beginning of each school year.

FIRST AMENDMENT: That the P&C Federation lobby the Education Minister and all local MP's & MLC's to ensure that the enrolment form includes all SRE, Ethics and non-scripture options.



THE FEDERATION OF PARENTS AND CITIZENS ASSOCIATIONS OF NEW SOUTH WALES
2015 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
22 AUGUST 2015
FORT STREET HIGH SCHOOL

Moved: Rachael Sowden Seconded: Ray Mosley

Procedural Motion: That The motion be put

Moved: Tracey Hunt Seconded: Terry Timms CARRIED

THE FIRST AMENDMENT WAS PUT: That the P&C Federation lobby the Education Minister and all local members and MLC's to ensure that the enrolment form includes all SRE, Ethics and non-scripture options.

Moved: Rachael Sowden Seconded: Ray Mosley LOST

Procedural Motion to move into committee to discuss

Moved: Sharon Bright Seconded: Yve Weinmann CARRIED

Procedural Motion to move out of committee

Moved: Sharon Bright Seconded: Yve Weinmann CARRIED

SECOND AMENDMENT: That the P&C Federation lobby to ensure that the enrolment form includes all SRE, Ethics and non-scripture options.

Moved: Terry Timms Seconded: Bryce Wilson CARRIED

THE SECOND AMENDMENT WAS PUT (REPLACING THE ORIGINAL MOTION): That the P&C Federation lobby to ensure that the enrolment form includes all SRE, Ethics and non-scripture options

Moved: Samantha Pearce Seconded: Natalie Walker CARRIED

Motion 5

A) That the NSW P&C Federation strongly supports a needs-based funding scheme as the foundation of equality of opportunity that will allow our nation's children to reach their fullest potential.

B) That the P&C Federation fully support the principles of the Gonski funding model and by doing so actively seek to advocate for the full six years of funding as per the original agreement with the Commonwealth.

Moved: Susie Boyd Seconded: Natalie Frolov CARRIED



THE FEDERATION OF PARENTS AND CITIZENS ASSOCIATIONS OF NEW SOUTH WALES
2015 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
22 AUGUST 2015
FORT STREET HIGH SCHOOL

Motion 6

That the P&C Federation make representation to the Minister for DEC, requesting that prompt action be taken, or policy devised, to ease the financial impost placed on rural/country students who gain representation to compete at state level.

Supporting Information

Regional students that are selected to compete at State level, usually in Sydney, have the added impost of having to pay for their own transport and accommodation, which are significant, in addition to the registration fees which usually amount to several hundreds of dollars. Metropolitan students do not incur the same costs and this inequity is creating a barrier to rural and remote students competing. Something must be done to alleviate the financial burdens which country parents face in endeavouring to support their children's efforts.

The inequity has also been evidenced with performers in Schools Spectacular. Gifted and talented students in the country, who represent in creative arts or state sporting competition, need the necessary support if we are to have true state representation.

Moved: Bryce Wilson Seconded: Terry Timms

FIRST AMENDMENT: That the P&C Federation make representation to the Minister for the Department of Education, requesting that prompt action be taken and policy devised to ease the financial impost placed on rural/country students who gain representation to compete perform or represent at state level.

Moved: Yve Weinmann Seconded : Sharon Bright CARRIED

SECOND AMENDMENT: That the P&C Federation make representation to the Minister for DoE, requesting that prompt action be taken and policy devised to ease the financial impost placed on rural/country students who gain representation to compete perform or represent at state level and National Level.

Moved: Craig Kettle Seconded : Lapsed Due to no seconder

Procedural Motion: That the motion be put.

Moved: Rachael Sowden Seconded : Kath Styant CARRIED

THE FIRST AMENDMENT WAS PUT (REPLACING THE ORIGINAL MOTION): That the P&C Federation make representation to the Minister for the Department of Education, requesting that prompt action be taken and policy devised to ease the financial impost placed on rural/country students who gain representation to compete perform or represent at state level.

Moved: Bryce Wilson Seconded : Terry Timms CARRIED



THE FEDERATION OF PARENTS AND CITIZENS ASSOCIATIONS OF NEW SOUTH WALES
2015 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
22 AUGUST 2015
FORT STREET HIGH SCHOOL

Motion 7

That NSW P&C Federation advocate to the Department of Education to provide open and transparent standards for outdoor recreational facilities in new schools and to genuinely consult with local P&Cs when proposing both temporary (demountable) and permanent accommodation solutions.

Supporting Information

Many schools are suffering from poor planning by the DoE. With more demountable classrooms being installed onto open play areas rather than slightly more challenging school sites (that are usually not as level as the play areas), it is leaving schools with inadequate outdoor play areas.

Standards for outdoor recreational facilities for new schools, including ovals, have been changed without consultation and are not openly available.

Access to quality outdoor facilities, including sporting ovals, that maximise access to outdoor activities, is imperative to the physical development and wellbeing of students in New South Wales public schools.

Moved: Alan Gardiner Seconded : Rob Ingram

Procedural Motion: That the motion be put.

Moved: Kath Styant Seconded : Nicole Mottlee CARRIED
THE ORIGINAL MOTION WAS PUT: That NSW P&C Federation advocate to the DoE to provide open and transparent standards for outdoor recreational facilities in new schools and to genuinely consult with local P&Cs when proposing both temporary (demountable) and permanent accommodation solutions.

Moved: Alan Gardiner Seconded : Rob Ingram CARRIED

Motion 8

That P&C Federation liaises with the DoE to ensure that the DoE fully consult with P&Cs and parents in relation to all changes to schools facilities standards.

Supporting Information

There is concern that school facility standards are being changed without consultation with parents and communities. Any proposed change to the school facility standards must involve consultation with school communities before being adopted.

Moved: Mark Van Kerkwijk Seconded : Craig Kettle

FIRST AMENDMENT: That P&C Federation liaises with the DoE to ensure that the DoE involves the P&Cs and parents in the decision making process in relation to all changes to schools facilities standards.



THE FEDERATION OF PARENTS AND CITIZENS ASSOCIATIONS OF NEW SOUTH WALES
2015 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
22 AUGUST 2015
FORT STREET HIGH SCHOOL

Moved: Yve Weinmann **Accepted by Mark Van Kerkwijk as friendly** **Craig Kettle withdrew his second.**
Bryce Wilson Seconded the motion **CARRIED**

Procedural Motion: That we break for lunch, then move into committee for 15 mins to discuss this further when we return.

Moved: Alan Gardiner **Seconded : Sharon Bright** **CARRIED**

BREAK FOR LUNCH

RESUME AFTER LUNCH: Straight into Committee to discuss Motion 8

Procedural Motion: That we move out of committee

Moved: Kath Styant **Seconded : Samantha Rudd** **CARRIED**

SECOND AMENDMENT: That the P&C Federation lobby the DoE to ensure that the P&C Federation be fully involved in the decision making process in relation to all changes to schools facilities standards.

Moved: Kath Styant **Accepted by Mark Van Kerkwijk** **CARRIED**
THE SECOND AMENDMENT IS PUT REPLACING THE ORIGINAL MOTION: That the P&C Federation lobby the DoE to ensure that the P&C Federation be fully involved in the decision making process in relation to all changes to schools facilities standards.

Moved: Mark Van Kerkwijk **Seconded : Bryce Wilson** **CARRIED**

Motion 9

That P&C Federation advocates against any government action to convert NSW Public Schools into independent schools.

Moved: Mark Van Kerkwijk **Seconded : Ray Mosley**

FIRST AMENDMENT: That P&C Federation advocates against any government action to convert NSW Public Schools into Independent Public Schools.

Moved: Rachael Sowden **Accepted as friendly**

Motion: That we move into committee for 10 mins.

Moved: Alan Gardiner **Seconded: Rachael Sowden** **CARRIED**
Following Discussions - MOTION: That we move out of committee

Moved: Kath Styant **Seconded : Kym Bush** **CARRIED**



THE FEDERATION OF PARENTS AND CITIZENS ASSOCIATIONS OF NEW SOUTH WALES
2015 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
22 AUGUST 2015
FORT STREET HIGH SCHOOL

SECOND AMENDMENT: That P&C Federation advocates against any government action to convert NSW Public Schools into Independent Public Schools as advocated by the Federal Government.

Moved: Terry Timms Accepted as friendly CARRIED

THE SECOND AMENDMENT WAS PUT REPLACING THE ORIGINAL MOTION: That P&C Federation advocates against any government action to convert NSW Public Schools into Independent Public Schools as advocated by the Federal Government.

Moved: Mark Van Kerkwijk Seconded : Ray Mosley CARRIED

President Jason Vials vacated the Chair to move a motion and Kath Styant assumed the Chair.

Motion 10

That the Federation recognises and supports the role of small schools in NSW, and further recognises the need for an independent Principal for every school.

Supporting information

Small schools are vital to their students and their communities. The small school community feels under threat.

One of the big issues has been recent departmental changes that attack the status of the independent Principal at our small schools. The concept of an “associate principal” has been introduced. Under this model, part of the control of the school would be outsourced to another school, sometimes at a significant distance from the community the school serves.

This could impact significantly on the way the school works, and put at risk the special community feel that small schools represent.

Principals from other schools could divert part of school budgets or impose difficult staff on their ‘satellite’ schools. How can an off-site principal effectively control discipline, deal with staff and parents, and manage day to day issues. In a small community, the local Principal is a leader of that community. More than normal, a Principal is the school.

By downgrading the Principal role to that of an ‘associate principal’ we will reduce the quality of applicants for these jobs, as they will have a lower status. Rather than committing long term, these roles will be seen as stepping stones to a proper Principal role. Our small schools and their students deserve better

We support the right for schools to be managed locally, as part of their community, and to ensure they remain the vibrant self-contained centres for learning they have always been.

Moved: Jason Vials Seconded : Terry Timms

Procedural Motion: That the motion be put

Moved: Ray Mosley Seconded : Veryan McAllister CARRIED

THE ORIGINAL MOTION WAS PUT: That the Federation recognises and supports the role of small schools in NSW, and further recognises the need for an independent Principal for every school:



THE FEDERATION OF PARENTS AND CITIZENS ASSOCIATIONS OF NEW SOUTH WALES
2015 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
22 AUGUST 2015
FORT STREET HIGH SCHOOL

Moved: Jason Vials

Seconded : Terry Timms

CARRIED

Kath Styant vacated the Chair and President Jason Vials assumed the Chair.

President Jason Vials thanked the Councillors, Delegates, Staff and Volunteers for their assistance and attendance, then declared the meeting closed at 3.42 pm