

Presidents Report – AGM March 2015

2014 saw the APS P&C continue to strive to build a positive partnership with the school, in order to support the shared goal of providing engaging & quality learning experiences for the children at APS (Preschool to Year 6).

The below overview highlights the core areas of work and effort for P&C in 2014.

Fundraising and Community Events

The Uniform shop continues to be efficiently operated by a team of parent volunteers and provides a small regular flow of funds to P&C.

Friday afternoon cake stalls become a regular yet “gentle” part of the fundraising mix and provides an easy way for all parents to contribute when their class turn comes up. A new approach was trailed for the Mothers and Fathers Day in 2014, to accommodate increase student numbers, and the trivia night held in Term 3, generated lower returns than previous years was still enjoyed by all attendees and a happy community event. The first ASP ‘student’ film festival was held in 2014– a delightful afternoon in the school hall.

Parent & P&C support via Kindy Welcome Morning Tea, Athletics day BBQ and provision of Supper at the The Big Night Out concert continued and provides community feel to these school lead activities.

The recent State Election Day Fete, 28 March was a wonderful example of the strong community good will at APS. Raising over \$16,000, the big winner of the day was the fun had by the community. Supported by the efforts of many volunteers the day saw the community smiling and buoyant!

P&C continues to look for new ideas and keep updating / tweaking these events further in 2015 in an effort to provide a happy event for the growing number of children/families without overloading volunteer time and interrupting school programs

Financial Support to Learning Resources

95% of all formal funding requests tabled to the P&C by the school in 2014 where approved, either in part or full. Some frustration did occur during the P&C approval process because at times it was difficult to see how individual the funding requests aligned with the overall school goals and vision. It is hoped with the completion of the School’s 3 year plan in early 2015 this will not be the case across 2015/16 & 17.

Areas where P&C funding support was provided during 2014:

Technology including additional iPads to ensure allocation per stage, Hall AV upgrade, Computer room AV, Wireless coverage & interactive whiteboards required for 2 newly furnished classrooms required for 2015.

Class Room resources: Home readers and Mathematics resources/ games

Systems: P&C supported the purchase and ongoing licensing of the ESR system to assist teaching staff streamline and track student learning, includes report generations and database management. *Key learning:* This item has raised some important learning's for the P&C executive team in 2014. Post approval details revealed where not 100% in line with "expectations" Recommendation for all funding request to include Final Vendor Choice at time of Funding Request (if applicable).

Other: Learning Kitchen (release of previously allocated by unused funds), Infants playground initiative initial funds to support early set up.

P&C welcomed the DET School Program Review in May 2014.

With a focus on "communications" it was pleasing to see a high level of parent involvement. High level recommendations were shared with the P&C and broader community in July 2015 and the P&C looks forward to seeing implementation of the recommendations in 2015 and across into the 3 year APS Strategic Plan (i.e. covering years 2015 – 2017).

The first Finance Committee was held in Term 3 of 2015.

In line with DET guidelines, representatives from Teaching staff, student and P&C attended. Following AGM P&C looks forward to nominating a suitable representation in 2015.

Further, P&C looks forward to seeing school budget planning details and School's 3 year strategic plan. This will assist the P&C to work in partnership with the school in achieving its long-term goals, especially those with large funding requirements.

Looking towards 2015

During my last 2 years as President I have had the privilege of working with a great P&C executive team. Thank you Susie, Ann, Mel and Peter for your great support, energy and professional outlook.

I wish the new P&C president all the very best their role, as the P&C continues to support the school and community at APS.

See you in the playground.

Rachael Beckett (President)