



MANLY VALE PUBLIC SCHOOL
MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING
TUESDAY 30 NOVEMBER 2021

PRESENT

President	James Fewtrell
Treasurer	Tony Sherlock
Secretary	Karen Murgatroyd
Principal	Tina Lee

Kate Williams	Wendie McDougall	Sarah Aspros
John Gillings	Kristen Te Pania	Caroline Sylvester-Smith
Chris Nichols	Kaisa Nieminen	Jane Ellis
Helen McDonagh	Holly Fellowes	Lee Meredith
Sharon Fewtrell	Naomi Kiarie	Hamish Bell
Jordan - OOSH		

APOLOGIES:

Kerry Smallman Cathy Adelbert

Minutes of the last General Meeting held on 26/10/2021

Approval of Minutes **Motioned:** James Fewtrell **Seconded:** Tina Lee

Matters arising from previous minutes:

- Advertise Exec positions for next year – Nominations received for all positions
- Amend Uniform policy – amended policy distributed at the meeting
- Recruit part time employee for the canteen next year – interview next week

Communication In/Out

None

OOSH:

Jane Ellis gave an update on OOSH –

- Term 4 going reasonably well – not getting the numbers we were getting in Term 2.
- Vacation Care is very popular, lots of bookings coming through for December/January.
- In the process of recruiting new staff.
- Maintaining our sustainable charity work – collecting second hand books and sending out to Africa has been a huge success.
- Extra-Curricula activities organised for next term by external providers include art/yoga/karate

James and the P&C expressed their gratitude to Jane and Jordan for an outstanding year, even with all the difficulties they have faced. The feedback from parents has been extremely positive. A great first year at Manly Vale!

Canteen:

We are happy to be back in the canteen, it has been lovely seeing the kids and staff again.

- Our menu is much reduced this term to avoid wastage due to any future Covid lockdowns and because we cannot have any volunteers in to help with prep. We are also trying to keep our hours to a minimum to keep costs down.
- Kerry will be leaving at the end of this year; Becky has agreed to step up into Kerry's role and we are currently deciding who we would like to bring on board as a canteen assistant in 2022.

Uniform Shop:

It has been a big month with all the Kindy 22 orders to be fulfilled.

- The back packs that were replacing the ones that got lost in the Typhoon of course have been delayed. They are now not expected to arrive until just after Christmas. I currently have 35 on backorder. I will come and organise that when they arrive over the Christmas holidays so they are waiting for the Kindy parents the first days of school, before the Kindy Best start interviews so it shouldn't be a problem for anyone.
- We are currently out of size 12, 10 and 8 polo shirts as well as size 6 jackets but they are not far away. Shipping is not working in our favor and these items were ordered at the beginning of the year.
- The new online shop site is working well and making it doable compared to our last bigcartel shop site. For instance, I can tell you that we have taken \$26,394, had 967 store sessions, have an average order value of \$106.10 and our profit is \$5,341.70 from the beginning of October to the time of writing this. A lot of school Uniform shops solely sell online as it is easiest so I am thinking it might be great to open the shop the first Friday of each month next year. I personally feel being online has worked well this year. That would mean less volunteers, which we all know are an issue now. Any incoming students I am happy for Tina to phone me and I will come up at a time that is arranged. That is also what I have done this year with any parent having difficulties. The first few weeks of Term 1, I will open each week.
- I have received a few email complaints about the polo shirts shrinking in length. There appears to be a Whatsapp group discussion in year 1 I think. I am in discussion with Profile about that now to try and rectify.

Band:

Good News! The NSW Department of Education is allowing Band Rehearsals on school sites as long as the rehearsals are outside. There must also be clear segregation of year groups so the band committee have come up with the following schedule for week 9, the last week of band:

- Monday Nov 29 Senior Band – Yr 4 only - Rehearsal – 7.30am
- Tuesday Nov 30 Junior Band Rehearsal – 7.30am
- Wednesday Dec 1 Senior Band – Yr 5 & 6 – Rehearsal – 7.30am (Final for 2021)
- Thursday Dec 2 Junior Band – Rehearsal – 7.30am (Final for 2021)

Instrument Purchases

- The remaining approximate \$2,000 donated by P&C for school band instruments is planned to be spent by the end of November.

Junior Band Recruitment

- This has been conducted remotely using zoom information sessions and notes home to parents
- Thanks to Hannah Taylor and Monika Johnston for their extra help in recruitment this year with band conductors not being allowed on site until this week.

Band Performances

- Tina is working with the Band Conductors to identify any opportunities for the Bands to play at school before the end of the year.

General Meeting Closes at 7.30pm

AGM Opened at 7.30pm

Elections

Tina Lee acted as Returning Officer and declare all positions vacant.

Nominations:

President nominee:	Karl Treacher	Vote was unanimous
Vice President nominee:	John Gillings	Vote was unanimous
Vice President nominee:	Chris Nicholls	Vote was unanimous
Treasurer nominee:	Peter Wetherstone	Vote was unanimous
Secretary nominee:	Karen Murgatroyd	Vote was unanimous

Kristen TePania has agreed to return as the Co-ordinator of the Class Co-ordinators.

New Committee for 2022 elected and thanked Tina as Returning Officer

Principal's Report:

What a year it has been! We started the year ready to make up for the lockdowns of 2020 and Christmas. Year 6 went off to Great Aussie Bush camp, swimming carnival went ahead (without parent helpers, with me on the canteen all day, as I made the decision to let the students have money for the canteen for the first time ever! What a mistake. I spent the day sorting our children and money! Canteen loved us!

We had our K-2 dance kick off with Ms Vanessa and even got our first dance concert in! Inflatable day to end Term 2 and then our world went crashing down again. What I thought was to be a 2-week lockdown over the school holidays led to a 13-week lockdown worse than 2020. Minimum staff only allowed 5 in total on site. Barry our GA was only allowed in on Mondays, so my principal role went to another level of opening and shutting gates, fixing toilet doors, manning drop off and pick up times, and meeting and greeting a different set of staff every day. I've never worked the hours or dealt with more serious issues than I did in term 3 in my 30 years working for the DoE.

Parents not coping with remote learning trying to juggle teaching, working, looking for jobs, accommodation, dealing with the stresses of the unknown and inability to juggle all that was asked of them.

Teachers working from home trying to convert everything they do to an online format, zoom lesson instruction, teaching their own children and providing hard copy packs that would supplement the online format. Emails were relentless, phone calls for help never ending. I worked from 7am – 7pm at school with little connection with teachers, students, and parents. I missed everyone and soon realised that this is not what I do.

Professional learning for teachers was all on positive psychology trying to reconnect them with why they became teachers. Looking at the school vision and focussing on school culture and connection. I have the P & C to thank for the lovely messages and the gifts of wine as a gesture of thanks.

We were lucky to at least have 2 terms of normality. Photo day went ahead, the K-2 dance concert, Kindy excursion to Glen Street, Anzac Day assembly, interrelate family evening, Mother's Day stall, Band rehearsals and NSW performances, Bushlink workshops, Spelling Bee and drama auditions, Swimming and cross-country carnivals and teachers enjoying their classes and collaborative teaching spaces.

I think we have learnt a lot from the trials and tribulations of this year. The COVID guidelines and procedures have been necessary to keep the school open and safe and I must commend our community on the respect and patience they have shown during this time. I want to acknowledge how wonderful our parent community has been through this time. The workshops with Class Coordinators were extremely helpful and a way to connect and reassure the parents that we are doing all we can to provide quality learning during this time.

I know some parents were very stressed and upset with the way we were dealing with the remote environment. Some wanting more zooms and some wanting less but at least everyone had the opportunity to be heard and could express their suggestions over these zoom meetings. Kristen Te Pania has been amazing at leading the Class Coordinators over the past 2 years and I don't know how I would have got through this time without her constant support and encouragement. Between her and Karen they had been the voice for the parents, canteen and uniform shop and need to be acknowledged for all they have done to support the teachers, students, and parents of Manly Vale.

I also invite you all to have a look at the vision of the school. We recreated it during the lockdown period. The meeting room is decorated with the visions and strengths of all the teachers. The students also have been consulted and have also had the opportunity to explore their personality strengths which will add to the teachers' contributions. We as a staff did a full analysis of all our personality strengths and had to do an artwork representing them. I invite you all to do the same.

[VIA Character Strengths Survey & Character Reports | VIA Institute](#)

WE are certainly not through all this uncertainty yet, but we all feel we are able to operate the school with safety under the current guidelines. IT is wonderful to start up our Band program again this week. The online rehearsals have been very difficult for the students, and it has been difficult to maintain their interest. Thanks to the Band committee for all their efforts in maintaining the program even though we have not been able to do any face to face for 2 terms.

Our end of year celebrations will be a little different with only the Year 6 Graduation assembly allowed to have parent attendance. Celebration of Learning will be filmed, and parents will be able to view it if they wish. The thing that won't be missing is the fun for the students as the teachers are very prepared to give the picnic days and end of year celebrations their best.

WE are trying to plan 15-minute slots for parents and Class Coordinators to meet with the class teachers and class to say farewell and merry xmas. We will do this outside the canteen during the last 2 weeks of school after picnic days and end of year graduations.

Year 6 Clap out

We will have the Year 6 clapped out of the school on Thursday 16 December at 2.45pm. The students will remain in their cohorts and line the stairs and pathways where the Year 6 parents will gather around the school oval to clap out our year 6 students on their last day. At 3pm the students will gather on the

basketball court for the last primary school bell at Manly Vale Public school. Usually, the parents and students head down to the dam for farewell celebrations.

Teacher's Strike Action- Tuesday 7 December

These days, teachers do more than ever. Teachers now work 55 hours a week or more to keep up with higher student needs and constant curriculum changes. But teachers' salaries haven't kept pace. In fact, they've fallen way behind other professions. 1 in 8 teachers now leave the profession within 6 years because of the pay and workload pressures. There are more than 1,000 full-time teaching positions unfilled in NSW, and it's harder than ever to recruit talented people to become teachers. That's why the NSW Teachers Federation is asking for a much-needed pay rise. Karen Lucey and Tegan Robertson did address the P & C with the reasons for this industrial action last meeting. The school will remain open but will only have minimal staff.

Expenditure for 2022

- Playground equipment- \$77000
- Security cameras- \$15 000
- Hospitality- \$500- tea and coffee and milk
- Christmas Party-\$1000

Reports- 2021

Will be sent home on Wednesday 15 December. They are a modified report that reflect some of the remote learning outcomes. Of course, it was difficult to truly assess students' performance from home as some students engaged and others didn't. Some students had a lot of parent assistance, but others had little. Most of the assessment so what we saw on the return to school.

Mental health and Anxiety

Local principals of the NBLA expressed concerns regarding students returning with anxiety. Social media, mobile phones, online bullying, lack of connection with school and the parenting disconnect and connect in families. It is a huge concern and one that is taking all our time now. Psychologists are booked out until midway through next year. Schools only have a minimal school counsellor allocation 1 ½ days a week which doesn't provide enough support for the issues we are having. Parent workshops and additional mindfulness and gratitude training will be a focus for us next year. Children need structure and routines, and it is important that we maintain these in our lives.

Farewell Tony and James

I would like to thank and acknowledge Tony and James for their commitment to the P & C over the past 3 years. It has been a journey. Through adjusting to the new build and classrooms, dealing with COVID lockdowns, and trying to keep a community connected and happy has been a massive job. Thank you both for your never-ending support and commitment to the school and me as the principal. I was hoping for a quiet few years but that hasn't happened. You have both been extraordinary in your support thank you. Merry Christmas

Thank you to everyone here tonight. I welcome Karl Treacher as the new president of the P & C and look forward to working with you Karl. Thank you to John Gillings and Chris Nicholls who will be our Vice Presidents for 2022 and Peter Weatherston who takes on the role as Treasurer. It is exciting to have new parents fill these very necessary positions and we look forward to more positive meetings and directions for 2022.

Thanks everyone and have a very Merry Xmas. Bring on 2022!

President's report:

I have spent the last four years supporting the MVPS P&C and when I stand out the front of the school and see all the smiling kids skipping through the school gates, I couldn't be happier. Three years ago as we finished our wonderful school building project, no one could ever have imagined that the world would soon be crippled by a global pandemic.

COVID-19 ensured that 2021 was another very challenging year for everyone. We'd all hoped for some normality this year... but it never came! In fact, for a large part of Terms 3 and 4 we were all in lockdown and our children were (once again) being schooled from home. It wasn't easy for anyone; not the children, not the teachers, and definitely not the parents.

The prolonged lockdowns and the ongoing uncertainty did nothing to pacify peoples' frustrations. And as so often happens with adversities, people somehow rose to the challenge. Our children and our teachers were amazing. They adapted quickly and very soon acted like Microsoft Teams was the norm. I couldn't be prouder of how quickly people adjusted to meet the new challenges. As the president of the P&C, I would like to congratulate Mrs Lee and her amazing team of teachers. You have all been truly wonderful during these very trying times. Your patience and care for our children is inspiring. Well done Mrs Lee, and please pass on my thanks to all of your wonderful teaching colleagues!

I would also like to extend a massive thanks all the wonderful people who helped the school by volunteering, whether it be in the classroom, the uniform shop, Café Owl or the canteen. This year has been tough and yet there is always a core group of volunteers who offer to help wherever they can. Your efforts are very much appreciated and are an integral part of the success of this school.

And finally, I'd like to say a very sincere "thank you" to every member of the P&C committee... and to every person who has attended a P&C meeting, either online or in person, over the past 12 months. Your passion to help continuously improve our wonderful school is unquestioned... and it is very much appreciated. Although there are dozens of people who continuously help with P&C projects, I would like to make a special mention, thanking Mrs Lee, Karen Murgatroyd, Tony Sherlock, and Kristen Te Pania. You all amaze me with your tireless energy and commitment to ensuring that our P&C objectives are being met.

The P&C try to focus on three key objectives each year and although the 2021 MVPS social events were cancelled due to COVID-19, the committee still worked incredibly hard to:

- a. Build and enhance the Manly Vale Public School culture by providing opportunities (where possible) for the school community to meet, socialise and raise funds.
- b. Work closely with Mrs Lee to provide clarity on the allocation of funds to ensure we are providing a deeper educational outcome for our children, and
- c. Improve the operational effectiveness of the key areas of the P&C, with a special focus on the uniform shop, events and the canteen (with a healthy options menu).

We have our fingers crossed that we'll be able to reinstate all our social / fundraising events again in 2022 (Mother's Day, Father's Day, Café Owl and the Trivia Night) and I'd welcome the involvement of any parents wanting to lend a hand. The financial spreadsheet below shows the strength of our current P&C position and outlines our key 2021 P&C operations, coupled with a summary of the funds received from so many kind and generous members of our school community.

It has been really rewarding for me to work with this P&C over the past four years. I feel lucky to have been associated with such a passionate group of people. Thanks for your efforts, and for your friendships... and best wishes for a happy and healthy 2022.

Treasurer's Report:

The end of year sees the P&C bank account in a healthy position. I will begin the transition of bank accounts and documents to new the new Treasurer. Would suggest the following positions are set up as signatories on the bank account: President, Vice Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer – approved

Action: Tony to set up the new executive team as signatories with access to the bank accounts

Also suggest Wendie becomes a signatory for the Uniform Shop - approved

Action: Tony to set up Wendie as signatory with access to the uniform shop bank account

There was discussion about donating to the Year 6 graduation dinner – as per last year. They have been unable to fundraise due to Covid restrictions – approved

Action: Tony to liase with Tina/Nic Blackband regarding the donation

Auditor – as per last year.

MANLY VALE PUBLIC SCHOOL P&C Inc.
TREASURER'S REPORT
26-Nov-21

	26-Nov-21	22-Oct-21	19-Jul-21
Transaction/Fund Raising A/c	39,300	40,604	29,454
Cash reserve bonus A/c	90,014	90,013	90,008
Cash available for disbursement	129,315	130,617	119,462
Operational Bank Accounts (cash float)			
Canteen A/c	24,156	22,790	27,072
Canteen debit card A/c	546	734	405
Uniform shop A/c	27,216	23,029	22,802
Cash float in operational accounts	51,918	46,552	50,279
Cash for disbursements + cash float	181,233	177,169	169,741
Band A/c	26,933	33,567	37,562
Total cash across all MVPS bank accounts	208,166	210,736	207,303
Other P&C assets			
Australian Tax Office Credit	nil	nil	nil
Uniform shop stock- estimated (unaudited)	25,000	25,000	25,000
	25,000	25,000	25,000
Receivables & Payables			
Uniform stock payable	0	0	0
P&C Insurances	-1,300	-1,500	-1,500
Playground upgrade	-71,000	-71,000	-71,000
Teachers fund	-500	-500	-500
Chicken Coop	-3,000	-3,000	-3,000
Vege Garden est. (sleepers + soil)	-2,000	-2,000	-2,000
Uniform shop storage est	-3,000	-3,000	-3,000
Oval Maintenance	-3,000	-3,000	-3,000
Library shelving	-8,600	-8,600	-8,600
Pending for band equipment	-2,323	-2,323	-5,000
	-94,723	-94,923	-97,600
P&C Fund Raising			
Mothers Day (7/5/2021)	11,229	11,229	
	11,229	11,229	0
P&C Disbursements			
Band Equipment/Music Stands (21/10/21)	2,677	2,677	
Teachers Wine Gift (9/9/2021)	840	840	
Charging station for iPads (31/5/21)	3,824	3,824	3,824
Teacher Umbrellas (25/01/21)	1,048	1,048	1,048
	8,389	8,389	4,872

Meeting Close at 8.30pm

Next Meeting – Tuesday 8th February at 7pm