

Namadgi School Board
Meeting Minutes
 Thursday 21 October 2021
 Namadgi School – Virtual

Position	Name
Principal	Gareth Richards
Parents and citizens representative	Catherine McLachlan (Board Chairperson)
Community representative	Margaret Beattie
Community representative	Daniela Schlesier
Appointed member	George Palavestra
Staff representative	Suzie Foley
Staff representative	Luke Davidson
Student representative	Oliver Johnson
Other	Tiffany Mahon (Deputy Principal) Heather Saywell (Finance Manager) Janet Flint (Business Manager)

Apologies

- nil

Conflict of Interest Disclosure

- nil

Action items

Item	Details	Action officer	Status
Uniform - Mask	Monitor Covid restrictions and discuss need for masks to be included in uniform at next meeting.	Catherine McLachlan	
Library fund expenditure	Tiffany will discuss with the exec and come back to the board with options for endorsement.	Tiffany Mahon	To discuss at our next meeting
Cultural integrity	Set up meeting to discuss how to embed cultural integrity for 2021 with Margaret	Janet Flint	Postponed due to Covid-19 lockdown To be rescheduled
Indigenous designed uniform project – artwork licence and story	The school to approach the Indigenous Liaison Officer to pull together the previous participants to work on developing a story	Indigenous Liaison officer	Ongoing
Indigenous designed uniform project	The school to approach Darkies designs to discuss a licence agreement for the use of the artwork	Janet Flint	Ongoing

Meeting opened 4:50pm

Item	Topic	Outcomes
1	Welcome	Catherine welcomed everyone attending including the new staff representatives Suzi Foley and Luke Davidson as well as our appointment member George Palavestra.
	Acknowledgement of Country	Gareth performed the acknowledgement of country.
	Minutes of previous meeting	The minutes from the previous meeting 26 August 2021 were accepted. Moved Tiffany, seconded Oliver.
	Business arising from previous minutes	<p>The board discussed the action items noting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The 2022 Languages program is continuing as is having been able to secure Japanese language teachers• Library fund. The library has a standing order with Lamont and will be ready for sign off at our next meeting in November• Cultural integrity discussions have been postponed due to covid. Gareth to set up a new time with Margaret when restrictions have lifted.
	Correspondence in	Nil
	Correspondence out	Nil
2	Board Appointments	<p>Catherine welcomed our new board members and invited them to introduce themselves</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Appointed member George Palavestra introduced himself as previous principal and is looking forward to enhancing community involvement• Staff member Suzi outlined her teaching experience and interest in assisting students with extracurricular activities• Staff representative Luke Davidson has 5 years of teaching experience at Namadgi and has worked all across the Primary school setting.
3	General business	<p>COVID-19 safety and return to school plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gareth delivered a PowerPoint presentation to the board outlining the schools covid-19 safety assurance plan for return to face-to-face teaching. The information shared with the Board will be communicated to parents and includes.

- Gareth outlined risk reduction measures such as;
 - Ventilation controls
 - Limiting the movement of adults and students as much as possible
 - No back gates open with only 3 entry points
 - Cohorting – keeping students in cohort groups together to reduce cross contamination. Aim is to protect junior students
 - Canteen – Click and collect online orders
 - Visitor restrictions. Parents/carers, volunteers and hall hirers are not permitted on site at present. We will update the school community as soon as they are.
 - Essential visitors such as approved trades, allied health care professionals and people from approved education programs will be allowed on site. A strict policy restricting their movements on site has been implemented.

Questions

- Margaret asked about masks for students. Gareth noted that masks are required to be worn at all times until the restrictions are eased. He also noted that masks can be removed for PE and if there are difficulties communicating. The school is providing masks for students. There will be bins for the disposal of masks at the entrance and exits of each villa. Masks however will be a litter issue. Tiffany to make up a video on mask wearing and how it works.
- Daniela asked about supports for anxious students returning to school. Suzi mentioned the PBL program to support students on their anxieties and preparing students about what school will look like. Luke added that his team had discussions about what is being planned to support students on return. Gareth noted that in recent training on team teach they have been touching on how we are feeling as teachers to acknowledge anxieties and how that may play out in the classroom

Tiffany also outlined sector meetings and individual conversations. In addition, Tiffany has made some videos to assist with student expectations and mask wearing etc.

- George raised the issues of students losing momentum and lack of engagement. Gareth acknowledged this has been a problem the longer covid goes on. Tiffany notes that we had been averaging 80-90% attendance. Returning to school will be a welcome return to routine and we expect engagement to increase as a result.
- Catherine raised the issue of traffic during pick up and drop off was discussed noting parking is available over the road but currently blocked off by ACT roads.
- Margaret asked if the plans apply to the Boddington site. Gareth assured Margaret that they did.
- Gareth also outlined the added pressure point of a government run vaccination centre being run out of the hall on Monday and Tuesday of the first week back adding additional complications.

Masks in uniform

- Catherine raised the likelihood mask wearing may continue and the board may need to discuss including a mask in the uniform.
ACTION: to be monitored and discussed at next meeting.

Voluntary contributions

- The school has notes in place and will endeavour to send them out to parents at the end of the year and the beginning term 1, 2 and 3 term.

Satisfaction survey

- The survey had gone out and the Board will discuss at the next meeting

P&C meeting has been delayed this week.

5 Report

All reports were tabled and taken as read. Members are encouraged to include the whole board in any out of session questions or discussions

- Chair's report tabled
- Principal's report delivered in COVID-19 update

- Primary School report tabled
- Secondary School report tabled
- Student report tabled.

8	Finance report	As tabled by Heather Saywell taken as read.
10	Next meeting	21 November 2021
11	Meeting closed	6.05 pm