

**Namadgi School Board**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
 Thursday 26 August 2021  
 Namadgi School – Virtual

**Attendees**

Position	Name
Principal	Tiffany Mahon
Parents and citizens representative	Catherine McLachlan (Board Chairperson)
Community representative	
Community representative	Daniela Schlesier
Staff representative	n/a
Staff representative	n/a
Student representative	Oliver Johnson
Student representative	
Other	Heather Saywell (Finance Manager) Janet Flint (Business Manager) Liz Baker-Matterson (Deputy Principal)

**Apologies**

- Margaret Beattie (advised by email)

**Conflict of Interest Disclosure**

- NIL

**Action items**

Item	Details	Action officer	Status
Staff representation on the Board	Tiffany has agreed to encourage staff members to volunteer.	Tiffany Mahon	Completed
Board member appointment	Janet to update the website with Dani's appointment.	Janet Flint	Completed
Board appointed member	Janet to share George Palavestra's nomination	Janet Flint	Completed
2022 Languages program	Oliver will survey students on their opinions.	Oliver Johnson	
2022 Languages program	Request evidence from ABS in relation to the language demographics.	Tiffany Mahon	
2020 Languages program	Tiffany will continue to investigate options and bring them to the board	Tiffany Mahon	
Library fund proposal	Heather will send out details to board.	Heather Saywell	Completed
Library fund expenditure	Tiffany will discuss with the exec and come back to the board with	Tiffany Mahon	

	options for endorsement.		
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
Board membership staff representatives	Legislative requirement to have staff representatives on the Board. Tiffany to identify staff that may be interested	Tiffany Mahon	Completed
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

Item	Topic	Outcomes
1	Minutes of previous meeting	The minutes from the previous meeting 29 July 2021 were accepted. Moved Janet Flint, seconded Oliver. Janet to update Daniela's name which was spelt wrong.
	Business arising from previous minutes	The board discussed the action items noting. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Board endorsed policies have been uploaded to the website</li> <li>The 2020 School board report has been uploaded to the website</li> <li>The 2021 Action items - Indigenous updated to capital "I"</li> <li>We are still looking for staff representatives for the board <b>ACTION:</b> Tiffany has agreed to encourage staff members to volunteer.</li> <li>Indigenous designed uniform project story <b>ACTION:</b> Janet will try and organise with Deon a short form contract noting the licensing requirements.</li> <li>Indigenous designed uniform project licencing. Our Indigenous support officer and executive are working on the story.</li> </ul>
	Correspondence in	Nil
	Correspondence out	Board Survey was responded to 18 August 2021
2	Board Appointments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Catherine welcomed our new board member, Daniela Schlesier. <b>ACTION:</b> Janet to update the website with Dani's appointment.</li> <li>Appointed member – An application has been received from George Palavestra through the School board administration team. The Board accepted his nomination and endorsed his appointment. <b>ACTION:</b> Janet to share George's nomination form.</li> </ul>
9	General business	2022 Languages program. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tiffany has some concerns in relation to the languages program in 2022, updating the board with several staff movements which will leave a</li> </ul>

huge hole for the languages team and while the school will put in every effort into finding qualified and experienced staff it may see the end of the Japanese program.

- Dani noted her concern if we were to lose the program and offered a suggestion of outsourcing to a private Japanese languages' provider remote learning.
- The board discussed a number of options going forward.
- Oliver noted he would prefer fully committing to a language for face-to-face learning which offered a good sense of community in the classroom.

**ACTION:** Oliver will survey students on their opinions.

**Critical Key decision points.**

- Do we continue with Japanese or change languages or do we move to a hybrid approach?
- Or do we use this opportunity to be looking at embedding a different language program to using the strengths of the teachers we can recruit.
- Noting it would be good to see a program that runs through kindergarten through to year 10.

**ACTION:** Request evidence from ABS in relation to the language demographics.

- The board discussed Indigenous language/s noting the School community has a very high Indigenous population and offer a rich skill set in the Community. This could be complimentary to a formal languages program.

**ACTION:** Tiffany will continue to investigate options and bring them to the board.

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Report

All reports were been tabled.

1. Chair's report taken as read.
2. Principal's report as read.

- Tiffany also outlined how the school was going with remote learning. Acknowledging strong remote school attendance at about 80% and above. Lot of work on Chromebooks, dongles, and paper packs.

- Tiffany and Margaret have been looking at the barriers to learning for Indigenous families and have tried to implement.
- There has been a large staff participation both onsite and remotely.
- Catherine provided feedback on how it is going from a family and P&C's perspective.
- Acknowledging teachers and staff for managing their own pressure points as well as the students. Note all the efforts of the school in rolling out a good outcome for most families.
- Dani asked about planning for a return to face-to-face learning and vaccinations.
- Catherine outlined some of the COVID-19 issues affecting the general community and business.

3. Primary School report taken as read.

4. Secondary School report taken as read.

5. Student report not tabled at this meeting.

- Oliver expressed students concerns about having less tasks to work on their own with more supports needed.
- Quality rather than quantity.

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Finance report

As tabled by Heather Saywell taken as read.

- The 2022 Voluntary contributions were discussed, and it was agreed to \$100 for one child, \$160 for more than one child and \$200 for preschool.
- The Board discussed the need to clearly communicate what the voluntary contributions are used for and how voluntary contributions makes a real difference in children's learning.
- Messaging around subject contributions is imperative to running the course.
- Dani happy to assist with consistent communications and messaging.
- Tiffany noted that the school is constrained around what we can and cannot say around contributions.
- Communications need to be around enhanced learning and community.

Library trust money \$4500 to spend.

- Shannon (Librarian) would like to organise a Lamont standing order. Books send out each term.

**ACTION:** Heather will send out details to board.

- Dani asked if the fund can be used to enhance the languages program.

**ACTION:** Tiffany will discuss with the exec and come back to the board with options for endorsement.

- The budget needs to be approved by the board in November. Heather will start looking at school, and exec wish list.

<b>10</b>	Next meeting	21 October 2021
<b>11</b>	Meeting closed	6.10 pm