

SCHOOL COUNCIL REPORT FOR 2007

The School Council had a busy agenda in 2007. The following issues were addressed:

- Annual Operating Plan – the council has reviewed and supports the school's AOP;
- CIASA – after addressing the one remaining issue about fire hydrants the school has been granted International Accreditation. The way is now open to consider an application for the International Baccalaureate;
- Airport Link – the Council, in conjunction with the P&C has been considering the potential effects of this massive project on the school over the next few years during construction and the on-going effects of being so close to a major traffic corridor and exhaust stack. Contact has been made with all three levels of government and discussions are continuing. A provisional allocation of \$3.5 million has been made from the State Government towards mitigating the effects of this project;
- DES – our neighbour, the Department of Emergency Services is undergoing a very large reconstruction project in response to losing 40% of its area to the Airport Link project as well as its own planned expansion. The Council has been in discussion with DES to ensure that this construction work does not adversely affect the school;
- Buildings – to provide quality sports facilities to the students while the Airport Link project is underway, an indoor sports hall is being considered. The grant from the State Government will contribute towards this but other sources of funding are being investigated. The Council is also looking at what other building works need to be done over the next few years to maintain a good working and learning environment for the staff and students.
- Strategic Plan – the ongoing work of the Council is to look ahead at what Kedron will look like in the next five to ten years and what needs to be done to keep it the great school that it is. As part of this work the Council is contributing to the 2008-2011 Strategic Plan.

I would like to thank the members of School Council for the time and effort that they put in to all of this work: Mr Myron McCormick (Principal), Mr Adrian Quinn (P&C President), Mr Jim Wheatley and Ms Robyn Kastrissios (Staff Reps), Ms Anna Zournazi (Parent Rep) and Pippin Blackwell and Carmen Hill who filled in as Student Reps towards the end of the year after the elected Student Rep, Thomas Graydon, left the school.

I would like to thank outgoing members Anna and Robyn for their valuable contributions to the Council. I congratulate Mr Ben Aspinall, incoming Staff Rep and Carmen Hill (Student Rep). I would also like to thank Lenore Richardson who was elected as Parent Rep but unfortunately will be leaving the school.

There is therefore an opening for a Parent Rep. This is an important position which runs for a two year term and is a great opportunity to make a significant contribution to the school for the welfare of your own and other students well into the future. You can see from the list of issues above that there is a lot to do. The School Council has been meeting twice a term on a Wednesday from 4 to 6pm. I would encourage parents to give serious consideration to applying for this position.

Mr Neil Crisp (School Council Chair)

2007 KEDRON SHS P&C PRESIDENT'S REPORT

1,080,000,000 is a big number – one that we can't really comprehend. It is about how many breaths the 2007 student body had at school last year. Just at school. Just to stay alive. 1,000 enquiring minds trying to figure out how the world works, trying to understand what they do and don't like, trying to determine how they should and shouldn't behave, learning about things that weren't thought of when they were born, and preparing for jobs that don't yet exist. To help each student in this daunting quest, the fantastic and dedicated staff at Kedron delivered a learning environment that allows students, if they so choose, to perform to their unbelievable potential. Thankfully, most do so choose.

Northern Busway and Airport Link

The main focus of the P&C over the past year has been to make sure we protect the school environment, and especially to make sure that the massive construction project that is about to take place on our doorstep contributes to a better environment, not the reverse. We want future students to continue breathing healthy air, and we want them to have the facilities so they can perform to their potential. We have not yet secured the funding commitments to make this happen (at best we have a conditional promise of \$3.5m), so we continue to pursue a positive outcome.

A quick summary of activities undertaken by the P&C in this area includes:

- Wrote letters to:
 - 20 April: Coordinator General
 - 15 May: Deputy Premier Anna Bligh, Mr Paul Lucas, Mr Rod Welford
 - 25 June: Deputy Premier Anna Bligh, Mr Rod Welford
 - 26 August: Prime Minister John Howard, Ms Julie Bishop, Mr Malcolm Turnbull
 - 11 September: Lord Mayor Campbell Newman, Mr David McLachlan, Ms Maureen Hayes, Mr Kim Flesser
 - 18 October: Premier Anna Bligh
- Attended various meetings with:
 - City North Infrastructure (CNI)
 - Department of Emergency Services
 - Education Queensland
 - Stirling Hinchliffe (Member for Stafford)
 - Attempted to meet with Deputy Premier Anna Bligh – Mr McCormick did attend this meeting (what happened makes a funny story now, but it wasn't at the time)
- We are a participant of the State School Reference Committee set up by CNI

Tuckshop and Uniform Shop

Our other big challenge has been the introduction of the healthy foods program into the tuckshop. Whilst this has no doubt been very beneficial to the health of the students, it has been very detrimental to the profits of the tuckshop, which is the main source of funding for the P&C. Revenues were down considerably in 2007, and it is a challenge we are continuing to wrestle with.

The Tuckshop and Uniform Shop continued to have been operated well under the guidance of Lenore Richardson and Leigh Anderson respectively. Leigh finished up in the Uniform Shop towards the end of last year after several years of doing a great job for us. We have been very lucky to secure the services of Joyce Fritz to carry on in this very valuable role. Lenore is leaving the Tuckshop at the end of February after helping us through what has been a difficult year. Susan Josey and Gail Clements have both provided excellent support in both the Tuckshop and Uniform Shop – well above what would normally be expected – a very big thank-you to both of you. We wish both Leigh and Lenore all the best for the future and thank them for their great service to the school.

School Programs

With finances being not so healthy in the past year, the P&C has not contributed as strongly to the school as in past years. We have continued to support the Chaplaincy, and we have helped secure a government grant to increase this service to the school. We also helped win a Waterwise Grant which will see several water tanks installed around the school. We are also in the process of attempting to secure a grant for a mini-bus.

P&C Executive and other helpers

Our P&C Executive have done a great job throughout 2007 – Anna Zournazi, Jean Oliver, Lesley McKeown, and Neil Crisp – well done team. I would especially like to recognise the contribution of Jean Oliver, who has performed many volunteer jobs at the school for a number of years now, always putting the best interests of Kedron ahead of personal considerations and will be sorely missed. Thanks, Jean. Special thanks also to Lesley McKeown as she finishes up after having done a sterling job for the P&C over the past few years as Vice-President and Secretary.

Thanks to the KIMS team, particularly to Ron Blackwell for his leadership over the past couple of years, the support of Penny Blackwell, and also the fantastic contribution made by Pia Munt over many years.

There are lots of others who contribute their time and energy freely to help make the school a better place, whether it be volunteering at the Tuckshop, or in the Library, or on a committee, or in some other role. To all of you a big thanks.

Lastly, thanks to Myron McCormick and his excellent support of the P&C throughout the year, to the school administrative staff, and to all the teachers who contribute so much to the lives of our children.

The challenges continue in 2008, and it would be great to see a few new faces contributing to the P&C. We all lead busy lives, but it only takes a little effort by a few people to make a big difference.

Mr Adrian Quinn (President)