



## BOARD MEETING 18 May 2023 Minutes

**Attendees:** Kevin Brady, Charlotte Casey, Andrea Vis, Judith Allen, Trevor Pugh, Frank Johnson (via video link) Asheena Ramgoolam (via video link)

**Apologies:** Stephen Fidge

1.Meeting declared open at 3:20 p.m. by Principal Kevin Brady

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2.Kevin Brady opened the meeting with an Acknowledgment of Country recognising the Yued-Noongar People, traditional custodians of the land.

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### 3.Election of Board Chair 2023

Charlotte Casey nominated to fill the position of Chair of the Gingin DHS School Board for the remainder of this calendar year. Doing so in honour of Dr Carolyn Johnson who has had to step down as Chair the board due to illness. Charlotte's nomination was accepted She hopes to maintain the positive tone and continue in the progressive direction Dr Johnson developed.

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### 4.Board Membership and Tenure

New Community representative:

The Board received a nomination for Community representative from Mr Trevor Pugh.

The Board warmly accepted Mr Pugh's nomination for Community representative, with the tenure being the remainder of the 2023 year, and 2024 and 2025 school years.

Mr. Pugh addressed the Board, providing information about his experience. Mr Pugh brings vast corporate, sporting, community and personal experience to this position. He outlined his commitment to "getting things done" in his aim to further improve the educational, physical and emotional well-being of all members of the School community, drawing on his skills set as a leader in Enterprise and his experience on corporate boards to achieve his goals

Mr Brady arranged a meeting between himself, Mr Pugh and Ms Casey to further discuss their respective roles and the requirement of the School Board. The date/time of this meeting is yet to be finalised



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5. Declaration of conflicts of interest

Mr Pugh noted that his role as school bus driver needs to be remembered in any discussion regarding buses and transportation of students.

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6. Confirmation of minutes

Document: 5-A-23 Board Minutes

To be carried over to the next meeting. Mr Brady is still looking to recruit a new executive secretary to fill the role of minute taker at Board meetings.

7. Business arising from minutes N/A

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8. Correspondence In

Nil

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9. Correspondence out

Nil

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10. Principal's Report

Document: 5-B-23 Principal's Report May. This document was attached with the Agenda for the Board to peruse.

The key points of discussion were as follows

- A) Trial change to time table. Initial observations are that it is a positive change . The morning muster is being particularly successful. Mrs Allen relayed her very positive experiences as Faction tutor and the mindfulness activities from which students and teachers are benefitting.

Some younger students have been struggling to adapt to the change in lunch and recess times. This is going to be further monitored

Mr. Pugh sought clarification on how the success of the Trial was being measured.

Ms Vis outlined the various methods of data collection employed.



- B) Staff changes. Most discussion surrounded the 2 day per week appointment of an additional Deputy Mr. Sawers. His role is to assist the substantive Deputies with their unwieldy workload as a consequence of an influx of enrolled students who have experienced trauma. This position is intended to secure the best welfare outcomes for students and teachers alike. Mr Brady outlined the apparent success of this appointment and discussion followed regarding the potential longevity of this appointment.

2 key Financial Matters were discussed in greater detail

- A) The Proposal by the P&C to raise funds for the refurbishment and technical upgrade of the School's Performing Arts Centre. The aim would be to create a more professional performing space. Initial costings sit at approximately \$30,000 with the School provisionally agreeing to match P&C contributions in order to meet the costs. The Board gave in principle support to the idea with it potentially being a draw card for future enrolments. Ms Casey sought assurance that such investment would lead to increased use of this space both academically and socially. Mr. Johnson has professional experience in the field of Performing Arts and proffered a motion that he investigate the needs, requirements and costs through his personal connections with organizations such as WAPA. The motion was carried and Mr Johnson will report back at our next meeting. Andrea Vis proposed to investigate other potential sources of funding.
- C) Rebuild of classrooms damaged by Lightning strike. The President of the P&C has written a letter to the Ministry of Education querying the delay in ratifying the insurance payout and determination of rebuild based on needs. Mr Brady will forward a copy of this letter to the Board members. He further explained the limitations of the insurance policy and subsequent potential payout which allows for the rebuilding of only one classroom despite two having been destroyed. This is a consequence of depreciation. Currently the school is most likely looking at having to choose between a new Kindergarten teaching space and a replacement single classroom. Neither the P&C nor the Board feel as if this is a satisfactory outcome. The Board will consider what if any further action can be taken when they reconvene at their next meeting.
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#### 11. Sub-Committee Representation

##### **Finance Committee Stephen Fidge (apology)**

**P&C Liaison:** Mrs Judith Allen reported back on her first meeting with the P&C. It was a very long meeting with a very positive tone where everyone was encouraged to share ideas and opinion. Mrs Allen noted that the Committee was very pleased to have a School Board and Staff member join them. The primary points of discussion were fundraising opportunities and the trial change to the school timetable.



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12. Budgeting and financial matters

Funding Agreement for Schools was Attached with the agenda for the Board members to peruse. Mr Brady reiterated that this document is information only and that the role of the Board is only to note its provision. The Board has no role in accepting or changing the financial plan and budget. Some lively discussion ensued about the Education Department's methods and motives in their allocation of funds to schools.

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13. Agenda items for next meeting

- Proposed refurbishment and upgrade to the School's Performing Arts Centre.
- Updates on Insurance payout to classrooms damaged by lightning strike.
- Updates on feedback back re trial change of school timetable.
- Strategies to further promote the school in order to improve its perceived status in the local and wider community

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14 Date of next meeting  
Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> June

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15. Meeting closed at 4.30pm