

AGENDA

St Columba's School AGM Wednesday 28 November 2018 at 1830 hrs

Welcome: Mr Mar Hube

Toilets & mobiles on silent. In case of an emergency, please listen to the staff instructions and proceed immediately to the oval, near playground

Open the AGM with a prayer: Fr Andrew

Apologies / please sign the Attendance sheet

Format of the meeting Information session - no questions

School Board:

Treasurer's Report	Mr Greg Armstrong
Chairperson's Report	Mr Mar Hube
Principal's Report	Mr Art Lombardi

P&F:

President's Report	Ms Simonne Moretta
Treasurer's Report	Mr Leston DeMello

Handover to Art Lombardi

School Board Nominations:

5 Vacancies 5 Nominations [No election required]

Members 2019:

Jennifer DeBono, Simonne Moretta, Nyssa Bull, Alex Wright, James Inglis

Co-opted Members 2019:

Greg Armstrong (Treasurer) Paul Shanahan (Bursary)

Parents and Friends' Association Nominations:

4 Vacancies 4 Nominations [No election required]

Members of Executive 2019:

Rachel Lange, Rebecca Scott, Pippa Harris, Leston DeMello

Committee Members 2019:

TBA

Two Committees move to different rooms to elect executive roles for 2019

Welcome

I respectfully acknowledge Traditional Owners of this land on which we are meeting, the Wadjuk people, and pay my respects to Elders past and present. It is a privilege to be standing on Noongar country.

We are honoured to be able to use this site with the approval of the traditional owners for the purpose of providing the best education for all children.

Together we acknowledge the contributions of Aboriginal Australians and non-Aboriginal Australians to the education of all children and people in this country; where we all live in and share together.

My name is Mar Hube. I have one boy at this school. I am the father of Roman, 5W (Mr Carbone's class).

<Photo of Roman>

At the end of this Annual General Meeting, there will be a light supper and the opportunity to meet with other parents and teachers. I encourage you to take this opportunity to say hello, mingle and introduce yourselves to other parents, or a teacher that you have not met before.

Acknowledgements

- Dan Bull, parent & Councillor West Ward, Mayor of City of Bayswater
- Chris Cornish, parent & Councillor Central Ward, Deputy Mayor City of Bayswater
- Fr Andrew Albis, Parish Priest
- Art Lombardi, Principal
- Megan Dwyer & Deb Klatt, Assistant Principals
- Fellow Board members
- Members of the Parish Council
- Teachers & staff
- Representatives from the Parents & Friends committee
- Parents

Role of the Board - Constitution

1. Planning for the present and future of the school
2. Dissemination of information about the school and catholic education
3. Liaising in all matters relating to the financial management of the school
4. Managing all the finances associated with the school
5. Advising the Principal with respect to School policy

Membership

The Board comprises:

- a) Principal of the School as an Ex-Officio member;
- b) Parish Priest as an Ex-Officio member
- c) between four and six elected persons
- d) Parish Council representative
- e) Parents and Friends' Association representative

Mercy Values

St Columba's School is founded on five Mercy Values. They are Mercy, Justice, Service, Compassion and Excellence.

This year we celebrated the **Mercy value of Service**.

Next year, 2019 we celebrate the **Mercy value of Compassion**.

The Mercy value of compassion is about loving and caring for your family and friends, and about showing kindness to people who are feeling sad or upset to help them feel better. It is about feeling that you can make a difference.

Compassion is a non-judgmental understanding of another's need, which results in unselfish giving to meet that need.

As the Venerable Mother Catherine McAuley (Founder of the Sisters of Mercy) said, "Let charity be our badge of honour ... so that it may truly be said, there is in us but one heart and one soul in God."

Board report – 28 November 2018

Acknowledge fellow Board Members

1. Art Lombardi, Principal
2. Fr Andrew Albis, Parish Priest
3. Paul Depiazzi, Parish Representative
4. Simonne Moretta, P&F representative on the Board
5. Greg Armstrong, Treasurer
6. Paul Shanahan, Secretary
7. Jennifer Debono
8. Verity Donovan
9. Natalie Campbell

In addition to the constitutional obligations mentioned earlier, as Chair of the School Board, I set a very clear direction for this year 2018 and beyond. The priorities were:

1. To act in the now and plan for the future – standing item
2. Ensure satisfactory completion of stage eight of the Capital Development Plan (administration building, covered area and refurbishment of the old church),
3. Ongoing governance and financial stability
 - a. Canteen
 - b. Uniform shop
 - c. Out of Hours School Care
4. Development and introduction of the St Columba's School Bursary
5. Covered Walkway
6. Community engagement and ongoing enrolments

It reads like a full dance sheet!

Achievements:

1. To review and implement the school annual improvement plan for 2018.

The Board supported the Principal in the implementation of the St Columba's School Strategic Plan 2017-2020 and the Annual School Improvement Plan 2018.

I am sure that Art will discuss this in more detail in his report.

2. Stage Seven- Capital Development Plan.

I am pleased to say that stage seven, the new Dorothy Marsh Administration Building, Fr John Russell (refurbished) Multipurpose Hall (to be known colloquially as the Fr Russell music room), and the covered court; to be known as the "Greg Martin Pavilion", are all complete and fully functional. We are now finally able to provide:

- Better facilities for staff, including a more comfortable staff room (with large TVs), toilets and change room facilities, functional offices and a sick bay – with a bed!

- A new Administration building that has clearer controlled and safer entry point onto the school premises
- A huge covered play area. This will allow for whole of school assemblies, child to play under cover during the cooler and wet months, and hot summer days.

The covered play area was first tested at last year's community Christmas concert. The acoustics were great; the two screens were impressive and very functional. I remember standing and looking at the structure and feeling very proud of the great foresight of the previous School Boards. My only concern were the court markings – all too similar to North Melbourne colours! – a minor issue.

At our recent School Board Meeting, a motion was tabled to name the undercover area in Greg Martin's honour. The School Board's intention is to publicly recognise and honour his leadership and your contribution to the development of St Columba's School Bayswater. The motion was unanimously passed by all Board Members.

We honour that vision by naming the undercover area the "Greg Martin Pavilion". On behalf of the St Columba's school community, we express our gratitude to commemorate his service by erecting a plaque in his honour.

3. Ongoing governance

A mandate of the Board is to manage all the finances associated with the school, including all trading accounts

i. Canteen

For the past three years, Chisholm Catholic College has been providing a lunch facility to our school. I must stress that this is a commercial decision made by Chisholm College and if we do want to keep this arrangement ongoing, then we must support it. Again, I would like to take this opportunity to publically thank John Bormolini, Principal at Chisholm Catholic College in continuing to provide our school with a canteen service. This has been very successful thus far.

ii. Uniform Shop

With thanks to Bec Pileggi, the Board has a better understanding of what stock we have and require in the uniform shop. Using her project management skills, she has assisted the school to further reduce uniform stock levels, ongoing monitoring of sales of respective items and to better plan for future requirements. It must be stressed that keeping stock is a cost to the school and therefore, as a trading account, the Board has an obligation to ensure financial prudence. Thank you to the volunteers, Ameika and Sari, that help consolidate and distribute the uniform orders.

iii. Out of Hours School Care

As indicated by the Treasurer, this program continues to be supported by the school community. It is held in very high regard and it is seen as a high standard of care within Catholic education and care services. It is a credit to Jess and her team that the St Columba's OHSC is seen as the benchmark for such programs.

4. Bursary

This year, the School Board launched the St Columba's School Bursary which presents an opportunity for the School, the Parish and the wider local community to work together closely to influence and enrich the spiritual, social and economic fabric of the school and wider community.

Following an advertising campaign, sadly, there were no applicants this year. However, this will give the Board the opportunity to fine-tune the articles, raise further funds and better promote the Bursary. The new school website will be helpful in this task.

I thank Paul Shanahan for his continued passion, determination and Christian leadership in ensuring that we are providing a service to the community and meeting on of the ambitions of the School Annual Improvement plan.

5. Covered walkway

The School Board has approved the in-principle funding and building of a covered walkway along the buildings adjacent to the school oval. This will provide shade and reduce the afternoon sun, protect school bags from rain and intense sunlight and look aesthetically pleasing, blending in with the existing structures.

Funding for the project will be school funds. It is expected that the build will commence sometime in 2019 or 2020.

6. Community engagement

We had an excellent community engagement workshop facilitated by Jennifer Chaplyn where 20 St Columba's Catholic Community members attended. Suggestions and ideas were developed on how the school could better engage and communicate more effectively with the community, on who are the community and the school's role in the Bayswater community. We did ask how we engage our community to see St Columba's School as a place where they would see the value in their children for their primary school education. This is an ongoing process and again aligns with the School Annual Improvement plan.

Thank you

- Both Natalie Campbell and Verity Donovan have advised me that they are stepping down from the School Board. Thank you both for a sterling job. Your input, rationale approach to Board discussions and insights into deliberations have been astute and most welcome.
- Thank you to Simonne Moretta, President of the St Columba's School Parents and Friends Committee, who steps down. Thank you for your passion, leadership and amazing energy as P&F President; also, for your contribution on the School Board as the parents voice. I would like to acknowledge the P&F and all the parents that have attended the meetings and have helped in so many things around the school, the fund raising, uniform shop, class helpers, Bunnings Sausage Sizzle and the overwhelmingly successful Twilight Fair. Your dedication and enthusiasm makes this school a wonderful place. Thank you.
- A big thanks and acknowledgement to Mr Art Lombardi, Principal, the two Assistant Principals, Megan Dwyer and Deb Klatt, as well as Chelsea Deluca who acted in Deb's absence. To the teachers and staff – I cannot be more proud that I already am to have such wonderful, cheery and committed people. My thanks is but a drop in the ocean compared to all the smiles you bring on the faces of our children and community.

- I would like to acknowledge and thank my colleagues on the School Board for their passionate contribution, child focussed and balanced views. Thank you.

This brings to a close my last Board Chair report.

The Constitution states that no member can serve more than six consecutive years, and my seven years are up. I have enjoyed every moment on the Board. However, I still have one more year at the school as a parent.

Being on the St Columba's School Board has provided me with the chance to serve the community, make new friends, and learn more about the Catholic Education in WA. During my tenure, the building programmes were probably a highlight. There have also been some difficult decisions made by the Board, and I am sure that the school and we are stronger for it.

I would like to acknowledge and thank those parents of the year sixes who will not be returning next year. I hope that in part, this St Columba's community, our community, has assisted you in raising and educating your child by developing solid foundations for their graduation to high school; but more importantly, strengthening them as a young person to meet the challenges, joys and awes of life. I truly hope that high school and the new phase of education is a fulfilling and fruitful as it has been here at St Columba's.

Finally, on behalf of the School Board, I would like to wish everyone happy and safe holidays, a holy and festive Christmas, and a prosperous New Year 2019.