

## **MEPS P&C Needs you...**

**NOTICE OF MEPS P&C Association AGM and Elections on November 29th  
from 6-7pm - plus the regular monthly meeting from 7-8:30pm**

### **What does the P&C do?**

The P&C is an important part of a well functioning school. Simply put, we meet and cooperate to help make the school a better place for our kids:

- We raise funds to help provide those extras for our school that would otherwise not be in the budget. For example P&C raised funds and member expertise/effort helped make the new school playground a reality faster and better than would otherwise have been possible.
- We provide services to the students and community such as the Mother's Day and Father's Day stalls, pizza nights and Interrelate sessions, election day BBQs and cake stalls
- We provide a liaison between school staff and parents/carers, whether this be on the rare occasion when difficulties arise or, more often, organising a special thank you for staff on behalf of all parents for efforts above and beyond their regular duties.
- We provide an open, public forum for discussions with and questions to the school on its activities and policies, giving immediate feedback to the school
- We provide an open public forum for parents/carers and members of the community to introduce new ideas to the school

This can only continue if parents/carers/community members step up to take on the roles. Official generic information on the P&C's role in schools is on the Federation website [www.pandc.org.au](http://www.pandc.org.au).

### **What is the AGM?**

The MEPS P&C Assn now holds the Annual General Meeting (AGM) at the end of each year, where executive positions are vacated and new role bearers elected. The change was made to enable people to start in their new positions right away in the new year.

### **When and where does it take place?**

The AGM will be held on November 29th, 2016 from 6pm-7pm. After this, the regular monthly meeting will be held from 7-8:30pm (approximate times). We meet in the staffroom, babysitting is provided and all are very welcome. We especially look forward to seeing new parents/carers involved.

### **What positions are available?**

President, Treasurer, Secretary, Vice President (Fundraising), and Vice President (Communications). We need to fill the positions of President and Treasurer at the very least in order to remain a functioning P&C Association. The current President and Treasurer are unable to continue as office bearers. We absolutely need at least two volunteers to replace them.

### **How long do I have to commit?**

There is a maximum tenure of two years in each office, so this can happily be a short term, one or two year commitment.

**What happens if no one volunteers?**

IF THESE POSITIONS ARE NOT FILLED THE P&C WILL EVENTUALLY FOLD AND CEASE TO EXIST. If our P&C folds, any unused raised monies MUST be handed over to a 'kindred association', i.e. another P&C. The donated money will not be able benefit your kids, but will have to go to another school.

Due to insurance issues, no further fundraising can be carried out by parents/carers for the school. The school itself does have a limited capacity to raise funds, but many of the P&C run events such as Mother's and Father's Day stalls, Fun Run, Raffles, Trivia Night, Election Day BBQs and Cake Stalls, Fetes etc will no longer be able to be held. P&C services such as thanking teachers with gifts and holding the end of year staff thank you breakfast could no longer take place.

**Okay, but what if I have never taken on one of these roles?**

There will be a dedicated handover and you will be supported in the role by the previous office bearers and the other P&C members. The NSW P&C Federation has a wealth of information on its website [www.pandc.org.au](http://www.pandc.org.au) and is readily available via the phone to discuss any questions you have.

**I'm not a member yet. Can I even volunteer?**

Anyone can put themselves forward to take on a role. You don't have to be a parent/carer, just an interested community member. You'll need to become a member of the P&C. Membership costs \$1 per year. Only those who are already P&C financial members will be able to vote at the AGM. Those who join on the night will be eligible to vote from the next month onwards for the following year.

**What if I can't make the meeting?**

If you are a current P&C member who is unable to attend the election, you must submit apologies to the Secretary and indicate in writing whether you are happy to accept nomination to a position or wish to nominate to a position.

**What do the positions involve?**

Official position descriptions are available via the PandC NSW website. There are pdfs in the FAQ section of the Publications page: <http://pandc.org.au/index.php/publications>. The current office bearers are also putting together lists based on their own observations on the job. This will be a terrific help to anyone taking on a position. If you'd like to talk to one of the previous office bearers, please do not hesitate to contact us and we'll put you in touch with the right person.

**Do we have to meet each month during term?**

The P&C has found this most useful for timely decision making, especially prior to fundraising events. The minimum requirement is one meeting per term, so it is theoretically possible to reduce the number of meetings, in particular if this makes it more feasible to continue to have a P&C association at MEPS. This would need to be decided at the AGM.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Best Regards Bronwyn Kanitz (Outgoing P&C President)

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