



ANTONIO CATHOLIC SCHOOL

A Community of Learners

2011 Annual Community Meeting

School Board
Parents and Friends

Thursday March 3rd 2011, 7:00 pm
Antonio Gym



2011 Annual Community Meeting

AGENDA

Welcome – Carolyn Stevens

OHSW – Ray Higgins

Prayer – Lillian Van Brussel

Apologies and Attendance List

Minutes of 2010 ACM

Guest Speaker: Ann Bliss, Executive Director, Federation of Catholic School Parent Communities

Teaching and Learning 2011

Early Years – Year R-2

Primary Years – Year 3-5

Middle Years – Year 6-7

Reports

Chairperson

Finance

Parents and Friends

Principal

Elections

Supper

MINUTES OF THE 2010 ANNUAL COMMUNITY MEETING

Tuesday March 16th 2010, 7:00pm

Introduction - Mark Priadko, Chairperson of School Board welcomed all attendees to the Annual Community Meeting.

OH&S – Ray Higgins advised meeting of:

People movement to oval in the event of an emergency
Antonio is a smoke-free environment
Ensuring personal comfort

Ray also mentioned the official opening of the gym would be on 25th March. This will be the first official opening in the state of any BER projects. A fantastic job to have the gym completed 13 months after the announcement of funds.

Welcoming and Opening Prayer

Led by Lillian Van Brussel, REC

Attendance & Apologies

As per 2010 Attendance and Apologies sheets. All attendees encouraged to sign the sheet.

Confirmation of minutes of previous Annual Community Meeting

Accepted by Stephen Pestrin, Seconded Dave Wilson

Business Arising from Previous Minutes

Last year, we had only just found out about the Government Grants which would be available to allow us to build a gym and make improvements to our school playground and kitchen.

Now 12 months later we have the kitchen replaced, gym completed and the playground has undergone some significant rejuvenation.

Finances

Mark Priadko gave a presentation giving an overview of the ethos of Antonio School, Community of Learners and Choice Theory including students as self-managers and Quality School highlights. Mark explained the financial position of Antonio with simple budget figures displayed and included in booklet with reference to our 5 year plan which was prepared in consultation with the Catholic Education Office.

Other reports

Ray acknowledged and thanked the work of the P&F committee with the report as per the handout.

Principals report

Ray's report is outlined in the handout however highlights for the past year include the building of the school gym, process of the Strategic Plan to guide us forward with common goals, National Partnership funding to improve the literacy standards of all students, Non-Government Schools registration board visit, review of language program and implementation of an Italian program, redevelopment of paved area, returfing of oval, kitchen refurbishment, continued commitment to Choice Theory, on-going staff training and development across many curriculum areas and conscientious effort to improve the strong ties with the Parish.

Nominations for School Board

Continuing Board members – Carolyn Sincock, Rick Whitbread and Nicole Weeden
Board Nominations for 2010 – Mark Priadko, Carolyn Stevens and Peter McGinnis
First Board meeting to be 30/3/10 at 7pm

Nominations for P&F

Nominations have been received by Tamara Howick, Alice Roney and Maria Holmes however everyone was invited to join.

Meeting closed by Mark Priadko at 7:45pm

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT FOR 2010

The 2010 Year at Antonio

- We successfully completed the Gymnasium & upgrade of OSHC facilities
 - The Gym now earns a regular income
 - We have made the school a little “greener”, with underground rainwater tanks supplementing mains water for the oval
- We held a successful Fair, raising nearly \$6000.
 - These funds have been/will be used for curriculum resources with a particular focus on
 - We have also used what we have learned from last year's Fair to make the next one even more successful for the school.
- A challenging year financially
 - Tighter monetary constraints placed upon the school,
 - Continual uncertainty of government funding to be received at the end of the school year,
 - We have had to think smarter to ensure our community of learners receives the best possible opportunities at our school, and we have done that successfully over the year.

Antonio in 2011:

- Through careful financial management, we are in a sound financial position
- Further develop home/school partnerships
- Review and develop marketing strategies to ensure stable enrolments
- To further develop and maintain the relationship between school parish and the wider community
- No major building works planned for the year. However:
 - Explore applying for Block Grant to upgrade JP area
 - Explore playground equipment upgrade
 - Will continue to upgrade our existing facilities where needed
- Continue to maintain a strong focus on providing the best learning environment for our students
- The Antonio School Board members are all very approachable
- If you wish to raise anything at a Board level, please come and chat with one of us
- Administrative & educational matters should be raised through the front office or by contact with teachers in the classroom

Carolyn Stevens, Chairperson, School Board

PARENTS AND FRIENDS REPORT FOR 2010

The Antonio School Community in 2010 has enjoyed many community events, some to raise money and some to build community. Each of which would not have happened without the support of those who volunteer their time in a Family/School partnership, a concept which continues to, as research shows, enhance our students learning.

Some of the one off and continuing community events at Antonio for 2010 have included;

- Subway lunch orders
- B.B.Q weekly lunch order
- Easter raffle
- Hot cross bun day
- Hot cross bun drive
- Class assemblies
- Café connections
- Community breakfasts
- Community picnic/family fun day
- Mary MacKillop Days
- Italian night
- Quiz night
- Grandparents day
- Bakers delight day
- School disco
- Antonio School Fair
- 6/7 school play
- Junior primary nativity
- Christmas raffle
- Christmas carols night

The new gym has been a highlight where amongst a myriad of activities for the students, many parents and friends have enjoyed Friday morning assemblies where students from each year level have celebrated their learning. This has been followed by coffee and chat at Café Connections where many a new idea was born.

A huge thank you goes to all those in our school community who were integral to the fundraising for 2010. It was very exciting to see many new faces join our team of volunteers in so many areas of life at Antonio. We thank those volunteers who have continued their help in 2011, whilst creating a welcoming environment for the many new volunteers who have joined the team.

With a major goal in our strategic plan 'to involve parents, families and the wider community in the life of the school' we have definitely successfully moved in the right direction including 'holding regular assemblies' and 'working towards a designated space for parents/friends to gather and meet'.

In 2010 Antonio was a recipient of the Tom Ffrench Family/School Partnership Award in the area of 'Governance and Policy Development' in recognition of 'Working Towards a Connected Community'. The money awarded to the school will now be used towards helping the 'designated space for parents/friends to meet' a place to continue to grow our connected community.

The total of funds raised for 2010: **\$15 560**

Lillian Van Brussel, on behalf of Parents and Friends Group

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT FOR 2010

The school continues to manage a fine balance between providing a diverse and rich learning experience for our children while living within our financial resources.

The school finished 2010 with a surplus after initially budgeting to make a loss. Increases in grants from the Commonwealth Government were the main reason for this result.

The proposed 2011 budget estimates that the school will breakeven in 2011, earning enough income to cover the cost of running the school, repaying loans and to undertake modest capital works and maintenance.

The 2011 finances reflect a return to a more normal financial situation following the impact in 2010 and 2009 of grants for the school gymnasium and upgrades to the OSHC area and play areas.

The finances show that we rely heavily on grants from the Commonwealth and Federal Governments. These grants are based on the number of students enrolled in the school which in turn dictates the number of staff required. The needs of our students have required us to staff above the quota we are funded for. To stabilise finances in 2009 and 2010 the school made some reductions to our staffing level.

The nature of our finances means we rely on fees and fund raising to cover costs associated with maintaining the school and with further improving the quality of the learning experience for children.

The board will continue to monitor finances and to monitor enrolment levels, the key driver of the level of grant funding we receive.

2010 Summary and 2011 Budget

	2010 Budget	2010 Actual	2011 Budget
Income			
Fees	\$531,444	\$508,202	\$539,500
Government Grants (inc BER)	\$2,220,991	\$2,376,400	\$2,286,333
BER, NSP & Solar	\$960,756	\$1,416,254	\$20,000
Other	\$110,973	\$239,364	\$133,750
TOTAL INCOME	\$3,824,164	\$4,540,220	\$2,979,583
Expenditure			
Staff Salaries	-\$2,022,440	-\$2,231,564	-\$2,077,175
Teaching resource and Levies	-\$291,325	-\$285,047	-\$307,500
Facilities and Utilities	-\$260,245	-\$265,704	-\$296,450
Interest	-\$85,176	-\$82,171	-\$79,899
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	-\$2,659,186	-\$2,864,486	-\$2,761,024
OPERATING RESULT	\$1,164,978	\$1,675,734	\$218,559
Capital works and equipment	-\$200,500	-\$147,544	-\$46,000
BER & Solar	-\$870,756	-\$1,285,722	-\$20,000
Loan repayments	-\$147,948	-\$156,415	-\$154,142
NET OVERALL POSITION	-\$54,226	\$86,053	-\$1,583

Mark Priadko, on behalf of Finance Committee

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT FOR 2010

For the Antonio Catholic School community, the 2010 school year was another filled with challenges, a number of significant developments, and many highlights worth celebrating. Antonio continues to fulfil its mission as a Catholic School and be true to its motto: 'A Community of Learners'. As I witness the positive interactions which occur between students, staff, parents and friends on a daily basis, I am constantly reminded of the presence of the Holy Spirit in our community.

We thank Fr Roman for his continued guidance and support as the School and Parish maintain and strengthen their links. During the year we worked more closely with our other Parish school, Emmaus, to increase our sense of Parish belonging and students enjoyed connecting days to celebrate the canonization of St Mary MacKillop. Our classes have also experienced many masses and liturgies where the presence of God in our lives has been celebrated. There have been numerous occasions when the deep spirituality of our students is evident through prayer, liturgy and in their relationships with each other.

At Antonio we are fortunate to have a highly dedicated, talented and professional staff, both teaching and non-teaching. A number of new faces joined our team during 2010 and each has brought a variety of skills and refreshing new ideas to complement teaching and learning at Antonio. The staff continues to show extraordinary compassion for the children, a genuine commitment to their own learning, and a generous willingness to help and support each other.

Teaching and learning in the 21st century is different, complex and exciting. The traditional 3 R's remain essential in a quality education. With national testing, there has never been more focused energy on the traditional 3 R's. Whilst we can *demand* academic excellence, it won't make a significant difference if students are disengaged and de-motivated. To inspire the highest quality academic achievement, Choice Theory tells us there are three additional 'R's' which are equally important: Relevance, Relationships, and Realistic expectations. Hence our on-going commitment to Choice Theory and contemporary pedagogies will continue in 2011 to best meet the needs of our students.

There have been many tangible developments at Antonio in 2010, all of which were a result of considerable planning by many people. These included, though were by no means limited to:

- The completion and opening of our BER project. Having the 'gym' has had an incredibly positive impact on student learning and community building and will do so for years to come.
- Upgrading the OSHC kitchen and adjacent rooms. The provision of OSHC and Vacation Care services are highly valued by our community and we acknowledge the commitment of Di Marshall and the OSHC staff in providing quality care for our students.
- The National Partnerships program. Funding from the Federal government has allowed us to work specifically on Literacy programs in our school so that learning outcomes are enhanced. This program continues in 2011 and I am confident that data collected will demonstrate significant improvement for our students.
- The implementation of developmental play programs for our Junior Primary students. The extension of these programs will be very evident in 2011 with the implementation of the Walker Learning Approach to enhance the curriculum across our R-2 classes.
- The success of our students in the many sports programs offered and in particular our Aerobics girls at the National Aeroskools Championships in Melbourne in October.

As education will always be an evolving process, there is no room for complacency. We will continue to strive to provide the best possible environment in which children learn successfully. During 2011 our plans include:

- Continuing to deepen community members' (students staff and families) understanding of our Catholic faith and tradition.
- Continued commitment to Choice Theory/Reality Therapy including significant training for staff.

- Building profile and membership of Parents and Friends Group and providing an ideal space for parents to meet and plan.
- Continuing the implementation of the Walker Learning Approach to genuinely engage JP students in their learning.
- Reviewing and developing marketing strategies to ensure stable enrolments
- Continuing to develop the playground and grounds with emphasis on playground equipment.
- Utilising the National Partnerships program to enhance literacy outcome for students.

I wish to offer my personal thanks to all students, families and staff for your support, friendship and assistance during 2010. We have had a great start to 2011, which promises to be another exciting year for this unique and vibrant community.

Ray Higgins, Principal, March 2011

