

MINUTES OF BOARD OF MANAGEMENT : CATHOLIC SPECIAL SCHOOLS INC
HELD AT ST. PATRICK'S SPECIAL SCHOOL ON 16TH SEPTEMBER, 1991

Present: P. Morrissy, Sr. Loreto O'Connor, D. Prince, C. Hamam, R. Cavuoto, G. Samuel, G. Neagle, M Aartsen, T. Bates, S. Grant and R. Stuart.

Apology: D. O'Neill.

Chairperson Paul Morrissy opened the meeting with the usual prayers at 5.50 p.m.

Minutes: With only one spelling error and omission of one member from those present at the meeting held on 19th August, 1991, the duly amended minutes were promptly confirmed on the motion of Tony Bates and seconding of David Prince.

Business Arising: Visit by Ms Trish Winter - General consensus of members was that the status quo remains and that the Special Ed. Consultative Committee & State Government views must be accepted as fairly inflexible guidelines for funding, curriculum and policy, now and in the future.

Debutante Ball - Both Claude and Glenda agreed that the function had been a great success in all facets.

Lecture by Bruce Uditsky - Both Martin and Rino had attended this lecture and as expected, found it difficult to put the special education case forward. Those people promoting this case for complete integration in schools appear very determined and there is the worry that perhaps in the future there could be bitter legal wrangles, with all students being the losers.

Correspondence: To Ms Winter thanking her for attendance at last meeting.

Treasurer's Report: David Prince advised that because of the increased wages not covered by income, it now appeared certain that in May next year there would be a deficit of \$30,000. Steps will certainly have to be taken before then to cover this situation and it was agreed that the Principals meet with David to draw up contingency plans should Government funding not be increased or assistance from C.E.O. not be forthcoming.

Another point observed was that the recent Award re-structuring with regard to higher pay for certain skills among other things could perhaps worsen our financial position.

School Reports - St. Ann's School

1. Appointment of Barbara Pickering as replacement teacher for Martin's group while Martin Acting Principal for Term 4 1991.
2. Special Education Conference at Regency Park on Monday 2nd September - all teachers attended. Workshops presented included Behaviour Management, SACE and Special Schools, Music, Transition Education etc.
3. School Assistants Professional Development Day also Monday, 2nd September. Meeting at Stella Maris School (a.m.) followed after lunch by visit to St. Mary's Unit, Cabra.
4. Sponsorship from Variety Club of \$7,000 towards replacement of our 3rd school bus. Need for further sponsorship to cover overall cost (approx. \$6,000). Parent and Friends Association could provide some financial support.

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5. Camp preparations underway - next week is camp week. Juniors at Douglas Scrub, McLaren Flat (Tuesday - Thursday. Senior at Toc H, Victor Harbor (Monday - Thursday).
6. Inclusive Schooling Conference - Martin attended.
7. Debutante Ball on Saturday, 14th September - fantastic evening and very polished performance by Senior Students involved. Great credit to Glenda Samuel and Allan Lemmey for their efforts.

St. Patrick's School

1. Total raised from Badge Day was \$7,063.
2. Staffing - the change in arrangements for teacher assistants which was introduced this year is working extremely well and staff are happy for this to continue.
3. Loreto commended her staff on their expertise and commitment to implementing behaviour management programmes.
4. Transition class had a four-day holiday at Mount Gambier last week and disco will be held at school for the Senior Students on 20th September.
5. Parent/teacher interviews will be held next week and so staff are extremely busy preparing reports.

General Business - Constitution - Roger Stuart tabled the completed Constitution which had been amended in terms of the wishes of the Board Members.

Secretary instructed to forward a copy with covering letter noting the Board of Management's acceptance of the Constitution to His Grace, John McDonald and Dale West, the other three members of the Governing Body, seeking their approval to allow the Constitution to be formally adopted and submitted to Corporate Affairs Department in due course.

Equal Opportunity Act - David Prince noted the legal implication of the Act in relation to so many day to day functions of the schools. Principals are aware and refer to one another and CEO if ever in doubt. The limitation of services to students because of age is one issue that is even now complicated because of different attitudes between State and Commonwealth Bodies. It is acknowledged that we will have to be ever alert to any points that may effect the Special Schools.

Meeting closed at 7.10 p.m.