

College
June

**AGENDA AND PRINCIPAL'S REPORT
FOR COLLEGE BOARD MEETING
7.00 P.M., TUES 11 JUNE 2002**

CC: Steve Brew, Sherrie Cogger, Ken Cook, Ken Greenwood (Principal), Raffaele Marcucci, Richard Nielsen (Business Manager), Ps. John Spinella (Chairman)

1. **MEMBERS PRESENT.**
2. **APOLOGIES.**
3. **OPENING** John Spinella
4. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**
5. **BUSINESS ARISING**
6. **FINANCIAL REPORT** Richard Nielsen
7. **PRINCIPAL'S REPORT (information)**

General Comments:

Term two has been a very busy time at the College with mid-year assessment and reporting about to take place.

The staff/parent prayer evening on 23 April was positive but poorly attended. Parent involvement in the College has been positive, and especially apparent in the Parents & Friends fundraising and Prep. parents social events.

In May I attended a valuable A.E.C.S. Conference in Canberra focusing on legal issues and contact with politicians. Duty of Care Issues were discussed and valuable contacts made with other Christian school leaders.

Staff Issues:

We have experienced a large number of staff absences due to illness or family circumstances. Many of our staff have taken extra duties to cover those who have been absent.

Last Friday night we held a social event (trivia night with gourmet coffee and dessert) to thank the staff for the extra load they have been carrying.

Claudine Bryant, our part-time Music teacher is experiencing a long-term illness and has requested leave without pay for the remainder of this year. I recommend this leave be granted and that we advertise for a replacement Music teacher immediately. A casual teacher is in place for the remainder of this term. *back 5/11/02*

Carmen Cassar has requested maternity leave for twelve months from the beginning of term three. A replacement teacher will be required for Carmen's classes from term 3.

Grounds and facilities.

A shade structure is currently being erected next to the new primary playground. This will allow the sand-pit to be relocated to this area so that the old sand-pit area can be

converted to an attractive courtyard for secondary students. A new committee, with representatives from "Parents and Friends" and Staff representatives, called *the College Development Committee* has been formed to oversee the planning of improvement projects such as this.

Duty of Care.

Most of you will be aware that a former teacher of our College, Mr. Ken Sandilands, is in prison after pleading guilty to several charges of sexual abuse many years ago.

On 29 May Richard Nielsen and I attended a legal mediation meeting in which a former student lodged a complaint of sexual abuse. The alleged abuse took place in 1983. The teacher concerned left this College before the abuse was formally reported by the girl's parents. She is seeking compensation and an apology. Negotiations are currently underway with our insurance company.

I have given a verbal apology on behalf of the school and will follow this with a written apology. I have also agreed to send her a copy of our school's Duty of Care policy showing how children's safety is now protected in the College. A sample policy is presented to this meeting for comment. Our lawyer has advised us to offer a \$500 payment for counselling assistance to honour an offer made by the College soon after the incident was reported.

9. POLICY GOVERNANCE

- Duty of Care Policy.

*****PLEASE CONSIDER ATTACHED SAMPLE POLICY PRIOR TO MEETING *****

10 CORRESPONDENCE**11. NEXT MEETING.**

College Board and Coordinators' Planning Day.

Sat. 27 July. 9a.m. – 3 p.m.

Venue: Lower Plenty.

12. CLOSE.