

Term 3 2023 School Board Report

What a great start to Term3! The MPPS Board held its Term 3 meeting on Monday 14th August, with a great attendance of Board Members present. We now have 14 Board members drawn from parents/caregivers, school staff and community members, in addition to our ex-officio Board members Paul Andrijich, Narelle Alver and Marise Fitzmaurice. It has been fantastic to have welcomed Jon Staynor from Yoseikan-Ryu Karate to the board as a community member. Jon's insights are proving very valuable, and he is a great addition to our school community.

It has been a busy start to Term 3 with swimming across most of the school and the complicated logistics associated with that. It has been a great success and a huge thank you is deserved to all the staff involved in this. The term certainly isn't slowing down with the upcoming Faction Carnival on 1st September. The parent/teacher leaderball event should be a great spectacle and I ask that anyone who is keen to be involved to register to a team to help raise funds for school sporting equipment through the P&C.

We received our regular update from Mr Andrijich which is included in the newsletter. After the farewell of Mrs Johnson last term, it is great news to welcome Ms Congdon to the Deputy Principal role. We also discussed the strong indicative numbers of enrolments for the school next year, which will see us most likely continue to grow. Mr Andrijich took us through the plan to install at least 2 more transportable classrooms and an audit on the current toilet numbers. All very exciting news for our school community!

We also had a lengthy conversation while approving the schedule of fees for 2024. Cost of living pressures are widespread in our community and this also impacts the costs to our school. A great job has been done by the MPPS leadership team to limit the impact of this to our families, as will be seen in the limited increases when the 2024 schedule of fees are released. One discussion point that will be ongoing is the format of Year 6 camps in coming years. No decisions have been made but the ever-increasing costs associated with a 5 day/ 4 night camp is becoming a pressure point. Over the coming months, options will be looked at and how the impact to the camps and peoples hip pockets can be best managed.

The Board also had the opportunity to discuss the motion regarding repurposing the Gibbney Reserve pavilion raised by member Elli Petersen-Pik to the City of Bayswater. It is a great proposal to rezone this building/area to allow for Before/After School Care to be accommodated here when the current lease with Football West expires. The Board unanimously supported this, and both Paul and I attend the Council meeting on 15 August to provide verbal deputations in support. We also saw over 319 signatures on the online petition raised by the P&C and submitted to council. We hope to see some positive movement on this in coming months.

As always, please let me know if there is anything you'd like to discuss further, I am always happy to catch up and discuss the ongoings of the Board or any relevant matters with you. You can email me at schoolboard@mpps.wa.edu.au. Or feel free to have a chat with our other four parent and caregiver representatives – Andrew Thompson, Suzy Watson, Marina Males and Elli Petersen-Pik – when you see them around the school grounds.

Clayton Hanrahan

MPPS School Board Chair