

THE FORT STREET FOUNDATION, INC.

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF DIRECTORS HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 7 DECEMBER 2016 AT 7:30 PM
IN THE FORTIAN ROOM OF
FORT STREET HIGH SCHOOL**

PRESENT

George Jaksic	Fortians Union Director and Vice President Foundation
Ros Moxham	Principal
Don Newby	School Council Director
Mark Lindsay	Staff Director

IN ATTENDANCE

Jules Davies	Executive Officer
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WELCOME & APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Colin Long, Catriona Arcamone and Pauline Leung

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The minutes of the previous meetings held in March and September were confirmed.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

As agenda

CORRESPONDENCE

None

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

The Principal reported on a very busy, sometimes fractured but overall positive term that has enhanced both staff and students.

Multicultural Day was organised and run by students.

A large number of students were involved in Schools Spectacular with Sefa Laga'aia as one of the featured artists.

The debating teams have been very successful with one student being chosen to represent the Sydney Region Team who won the State Championship. The Year 8 Premier's Debating team attended a 3 day debating camp and were narrowly beaten in their final round.

4 students were nominated for Artexpress and 3 will be featured.

There were recognition assemblies last week for students in Years 7 and 8, and for Years 9-11. Teachers can nominate a student with commitment to learning. A student who is nominated by more than one teacher is recognised at the assembly. Full results are in Mercurius.

Entrants from Year 7 in the Australian History Competition came 1st in the state and 3rd overall.

The Science Challenge that took place in conjunction with UTS will take place again in 2017.

Organisation for the first week of term 1 is complete with staff returning on Friday 27 January, new students and peer support on Monday 30 January and all students on Tuesday 31 January.

There has been a lot of focus on the roles and responsibilities on the executive team and how to support new executive members into the school.

The finance committee met yesterday to finalise the budget. The Principal will be asking the Foundation to fund the debating program for one year only.

There is a growing list of work that the school would like to undertake including the two new buildings which will require a large amount of funds. On the list is also new furniture to enhance the learning environment, refurbishing KS2 to become a photographic and digital media room, replacing the school car park gates, a sound system in the gym, upgrading the curtains in the Hall to comply with current fire and safety requirements and refurbishing the toilets under the gym.

The school would also like to put decking under the tree in upper Kilgour which is damaging the pavement, and will be requesting the removal of the two trees in the Fountain quad which are damaging buildings and starting to show signs of dead wood. The school also undertook a technology audit and is looking at moving to the DoE system. The new HT TAS will then take over responsibility for technology with the assistance of a team.

The school day and bell times have changed. Details are in Mercurius.

The end of year for all staff and students is Friday 16 December.

Speech Day will be on Friday 17 February. The guest speaker will be Tom Cooney.

The Principal asked for feedback regarding the co Principal role. A parent representative raised a concern about the loss of senior staff this year. This is a separate issue however as many staff have been looking for promotions or to relocate for a while and have recently been successful. It is a source of pride at FSHS that many teachers are promoted into more senior roles because of opportunities provided by FSHS, including 5 deputy principals who have gone on to become principals. It is important that the School Council understands this and supports the school in allowing teachers to develop and become leaders in the community.

New staff who are joining the school are highly competent teachers.

The Principal expressed her confidence in the staff at this school with the process of communication between the two Principals being very successful. This situation will be ongoing in 2017.

FINANCIAL REPORT

The Executive Officer ran through the financial report.

REQUEST FOR FUNDS

The Principal requested \$6000 from the Education Fund to support the Debating Team for one year only.

The Principal also requested \$165 to purchase 3 rowing zooties for the school and \$330 to subsidise the cost of 12 zooties for the rowing team.

Jules requested \$330 for membership to EducatePlus in 2017.

These requests were approved.

OTHER BUSINESS

None

Next meeting 7.30pm Wednesday 1 March 2017.