

# Lockleys North Primary School

*'LNPS, a community of empowered learners who strive for success'*

## GOVERNING COUNCIL 2021 REPORT



Governing Council members and their involvement in our sub committees for 2021/22 were as follows:

### Governing Council Members Committee

Michele D'Aloia	Chair	Tracey Noblet	Community Engagement
Rhianan Strangways	Vice Chair + Secretary	Pauline Robinson	Sports
Sarah Gibson	Treasurer + Finance		
Russell Eaton	Grounds & Buildings		
Jo Hugman	OSHC		
Annalisa Williams	OSHC		
Lilbel Rivas	OHSC		
John Desyllas	Grounds & Buildings		
Addie Milne	Finance		
Rhianan Strangways	Vice Chair & Community Engagement		
Sarah Gibson	Treasurer + Finance		
	Jo Hugman	OSHC	
Addie Milne	Finance		
	Maddie Hicks	Staff Representative	
Jaymee Lee Martin	Staff Representative	Mirjana Grubor	Deputy Principal
Tyson Grinham	Principal		

### Chairperson's Report Michele D'Aloia

The ongoing impacts of a global pandemic and the present stench in the air of COVID-19 unfortunately flowed on into the 2021 school year. It again touched every decision made and experience. We are proud as a Governing Council to have worked side by side with our teachers and support staff who continued to be on the front-line showing resilience and commitment every day. Our experiences in 2021 had well prepared us for any issues we faced in 2022.

Our students and families are the community that brings us together, demonstrating throughout the year the value and support they are afforded by all staff. They are our essential workers, educating and nurturing our students as well as supporting our families during the ongoing changes, restrictions and general sense of unease that was ever present.

The ongoing restrictions and limiting family's physical access to the school site has been a challenge and continues to create a disconnect with our community. We now have two years of disconnection with new families that we need to continue to make up and connect in other ways. Our families and community did collectively follow guidelines and restrictions that were ever changing and were respectful of the rules being implemented and needing to be followed, despite the frustration it created. Everyone is tired.

The COVID-19 experience has meant constant communication and community outreach. Communication was consistent and ongoing with families to ensure they had the latest information. Whilst we had optimistically hoped at the start of the year to roll out events and in person engagement, this was paused due to the restrictions.

Unlike in 2020 where all fundraising activity was suspended due to COVID-19, we were not going to be defeated by this virus in 2021 and delivered a modified fundraising program. The major fundraiser for the year was the School Fun Colour Run held as part of Sports Day. We are very lucky to have been able to deliver an onsite event of this size, dodging lock downs and restrictions. Funds raised via this event will be going to support the Mellor redevelopment with a total of \$17,699 raised. The School Fun Colour Run has been held three times now and continues to be one of our most successful fundraising events (the first time in 2018 raising \$23k, 2019 delivered \$17k).

A small group of proactive senior students led the charge on several fundraising initiatives (such as the Kyton's Bakery drive) to raise funds to enable more outdoor artwork to be painted on the wall of the Torrens building. They were hands on in all areas of these projects and it was great to see such enthusiasm and commitment to their community. The artwork is brilliant and leaves a great legacy.

It was pleasing to see work finally commence on the Mellor (junior years) building redevelopment, knowing it will take longer than planned as always but comforted that this is the last area of the school to undergo such significant work. Present and future students will reap the benefits for years to come. We thank families for their patience throughout the build process.

OSHC continue to run and provide a service to our families and the wider community like a well-oiled machine, working within the parameters we were faced with, finally being able to press go live on their own website.

The LNPS website was reviewed and updated throughout the year.

Despite the constant need to pivot and adapt to change the work undertaken by the Governing Council and the subsequent Finance, Building and Grounds, Education, Fundraising/Community Engagement, Sport and OSHC committees to meet the challenges of 2021 should be noted. Thank you to all our Governing Council members and volunteers, for all of the work behind the scenes to ensure Lockleys North Primary School creates an environment of inspired learners. Volunteering takes time we do not always have, and your commitment does not go unnoticed.

Words will not be enough to express the gratitude we have for Principal, Tyson Grinham and the Leadership Team for showing strength and commitment at even the toughest and most uncertain of times. Time and time again they not only showed up but stepped up. Collectively as a community we've continued to be challenged and be flexible. For the second year, we have been forced to grow exponentially as a community in ways we had never considered, and this is something we will not take for granted.

After seven years, it is with a heavy heart that I have stepped down from not only the role as Chairperson but also Governing Council. 2021 was quite a transition year with the ongoing pandemic impacts and our family not having a student at LNPS, moving on to start high school.

It is also important to acknowledge our outgoing Governing Council members in Tracy Noblett, Russell Eaton and John Desyllas. We sincerely thank them for their contribution.

It has been a real privilege to be involved with Governing Council over this time and the LNPS community who have been welcoming, inclusive and open to change, even during the tough times.

Whilst we personally leave the LNPS community with lifelong friends and more knowledge than when we came, the one thing that remains behind is the heart and soul that is the centre of everything we do. LNPS is not just a school, that is a building, it is a safe place, a haven for learning and a home to many.

May 2022 be filled with new challenges and amazing outcomes.

## **Grounds and Buildings**

**Russell Eaton**

**Committee Members: Russell Eaton, John Desyllas and Tyson Grinham**

Another year has passed with a number of projects completed in addition to general maintenance of the school including:

- Enclosing of Fisher Quiet Boxes
- Torrens Building – External Mural Artwork
- Commencement of the Early Years Redevelopment (Mellor)

The committee is constantly reviewing the school's facilities to determine budget availability for upcoming projects.

Approved support funding from the Department for Education to undertake the Early Years Redevelopment is a massive undertaking and project that will run into 2022, requiring ongoing project management and funding.

## **Education Committee**

**Tyson Grinham**

**Committee Members: Kiara Cannizzaro, Jo Hugman, Martin Hamlyn, Tyson Grinham and Rosemary Saxon**

The Education Committee's aim is to support the parent community understand the different learning approaches at the school as well provide informative events that help them to navigate supporting their children through their education years.

However, the global pandemic disrupted the normal way of life for us all and much of the Education Committee's work was put on hold again. Whilst it was disappointing, it was out of the control of the committee and the parent education sessions will be rescheduled again for 2022.

Whilst face to face and in person forums were not possible in 2021, the Education Committee and LNPS staff continued to connect with the parent community through the provision of informative articles and links shared with parents through the school newsletter.

The Premier's Reading Challenge continued, as well Book Week was held, and parents and friends could enjoy it live through the LNPS Facebook page.

The Education Committee would like to formally acknowledge the 'grit and resilience' that LNPS staff demonstrated again this year. Bill Hansberry spoke in his forum in 2019 about children needing to be exposed to change and challenge, as this builds their resilience, certainly our LNPS teachers' role-modelled for the students how to manage through just that.

## **Finance Advisory Committee (FAC)** **Sarah Gibson**

**Committee Members: Sarah Gibson, Addie Milne, Tyson Grinham and Micki Cooke**

The FAC supports the Governing Council (GC) through:

- Review of the proposed school budget to ensure that it supports the Site Improvement Plan of LNPS and that it has been developed collaboratively
- Ensuring that the budget is achievable and sustainable
- Checking and monitoring school financial information presented by the Principal and Finance Officer for reporting to the GC, including OSHC finances.

The FAC and GC have an important role in ensuring that the budget addresses the objectives of the Site Improvement Plan of LNPS and the school operates within the available funding from the Department.

As a result of Tyson and Micki's tireless work this year, COVID 19 has had minimal impact on the school's financial position. Minor upgrades have been made in most classroom blocks, with a major redevelopment of the Mellor building to occur in 2021. This will be funded through school funds and a loan from the Department for Education (DfE).

Again, as a result of the tireless work from Tyson and Micki, together with Maria and Kelly at OSCH, the LNPS OSCH service has been exceptionally managed during COVID. A considerable amount of funds has been spent on the kitchen redevelopment. The LNPS OSCH service continues to contribute profitably to enable projects that benefit both the OSHC children and the broader LNPS community.

Although there have been minimal ways for the school to fundraise this year, the FAC, on behalf of the Governing Council, thanks our school families for their ongoing support by way of School Fee payments. These funds are well received and are always spent to provide extra resources to support our children's learning.

## **Out of School Hours Care** **Jo Hugman**

**Committee Members: Jo Hugman, Annalisa Williams, Libel Rivas, Michele D'Aloia, Kelly Stephan and Micki Cooke**

Lockley's North Primary School Out of School Hours Care is child focused and aims to provide a fun, flexible and culturally inclusive program, which allows free choice and is sensitive to the rights of all children.

Highlights for this year include the launch of the website and online booking system which took a lot of effort from current and former Committee members, well done Team! The four-square outside of OSHC and some new sensory toys add to the fun this year.

Demand for the service has rebounded after reduced levels in 2020. Vacation Care Programs have consistently seen strong enrolments with excursion days booking out early. The OSHC Team have done an excellent job engaging the kids and parents to help generate ideas for activities.

The success of the service allows the school to contribute extra funds to improvement projects like the Mellor redevelopment.

## **Sports** **Pauline Robinson**

**Committee Members: Pauline Robinson, Russell Eaton, Lauren Robertson, Vanessa Rushe and Tyson Grinham**

Once again, this year has been reasonably quiet, due to Covid restrictions affecting sporting fixtures.

While we had cricket and basketball in Term 1, other sports including Football/Soccer were interrupted due to Covid lockdowns. Basketball has continued at times when restrictions have allowed.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Russell Eaton for always helping out with school sport over the years. He often wears the coach's hat and will be missed as the Eaton family graduates to high school at the end of 2021.

This is my last year with Sports Committee as it is time to hand over the baton as I try my hand on other committees.

Thank you to the committee and to all the parents that have helped out in a volunteer capacity at the various sporting activities.

## Community Engagement Tracey Noblett

**Committee Members: Rhianan Strangways, Tracey Noblett, Isla Woidt and Lara Reid and Tyson Grinham**

The Lockleys North Primary School (LNPS) community engagement committee's aim is to focus on parents' connection with the school and fellow parents of the community whilst maintaining the traditional fundraising activities.

Unfortunately, in 2021 due to the ongoing impacts of the pandemic and restrictions in regard to limited access to having parents and community members onsite at school, activities in regard to connecting with the community were limited.

Unlike in 2020 where all fundraising activity was suspended due to COVID-19, we were not going to be defeated by this virus in 2021 and delivered a modified fundraising program.

The previously postponed Greek Cooking Masterclass delivered by Kalymnos Pastries from late 2020 was delivered in March 2021, fortunately scraping in, between restrictions, not only delivering a few thousand dollars in funds (a sell-out) but a really good time. We are most grateful for such strong LNPS community partners who are so willing to contribute.

The major fundraiser for the year was the School Fun Colour Run held as part of Sports Day. We are very lucky to have been able to deliver an onsite event of this size, dodging lock downs and restrictions. Funds raised via this event will be going to support the Mellor redevelopment with a total of \$17,699 raised.

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## LNPS PARENT OPINION DfE SURVEY QUESTIONS 2021 By Tyson Grinham

**In 2020, LNPS utilised the official Department for Education online survey in Term 3.**

179 responses were received to the survey. This represents 24% of the parent community and is an decrease from 29% in 2020. 75% of parents who responded to the survey indicated that they Strongly Agree or Agree with the statements. 11% of respondents were neutral and 14% disagreed in one or more of the questions in the survey. Overall data collected was very positive.

### **Areas identified for improvement**

- Respect - 17% were neutral, 64% agreed and 13% strongly agreed leaving 6% of people who disagreed. This is about 10 families. We will consider this given Respect is one of our Values. Also, we look at the purpose and impact of programs like You Can Do It, our approach to Growth Mindset and Getting Off to a Good Start.
- Communication - 71% we're neutral or agreed, leaving 29% disagreeing. Some of the feedback comments revolved around wanting more information via an app, for example Seesaw but others talked about more parent interviews and more time in parent-teacher meetings to discuss goal setting.

On the surface it appears we need to be more vigilant in connecting with parents in providing specific information about progress. It was pleasing to read that some teachers do this really well.

We do understand that Covid-19 has caused some problems with face-to-face meetings and those casual catchups when parents are picking up their child from school. However, we will investigate this further in 2022

### **Areas of strength identified**

- Teachers and students treat each other with respect - 86% agreed, 11% were neutral and 3% disagreed.
- People respect each other - 83% agreed, 11% were neutral and 6% disagreed.
- I feel like my child is important to the school - 74% agreed, 17% were neutral and 9% disagreed.

In 2022, the school will be seeking input from the Governing Council and our parent community regarding areas identified for improvement.