

**PEAKHURST PUBLIC SCHOOL PARENTS
AND CITIZENS ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF MEETING
DATE: Monday 23 February 2026**

MEETING OPENED: 7:44pm

ATTENDEES: Hayaat C, Moussa C, Rosie L, Siobhan B, Kylie C, Emma Z, Nicole L, Emma T, Gayanthi K, Brielle B, Karlia Wilson, Sarah M, Ashwin L, Pravina K

APOLOGIES: NIL

PREVIOUS MINUTES: Accepted by the meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE: Nil

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:

Karla Wilson presented the following report prepared by Kristy Bentley.

Good evening everyone, and welcome to the first P&C meeting of the year. Apologies for being absent for this first meeting, family commitments had to be a priority. Mrs Wilson will be sharing the Principal's Report on my behalf, and she will make note of any questions or considerations you may have.

It's wonderful to have you all here, and I warmly welcome both returning and new families to our school community. Your involvement and support are vital in making our school a great place for students to learn and grow.

This year, we have experienced a slight decline in student enrolments compared to previous years. As a result, the number of classes and teaching staff has been adjusted accordingly to reflect this change. While this means we have fewer classes, we remain committed to maintaining high-quality education and ensuring every student receives the support they need to succeed. In 2026 the school should be running 14 mainstream classes, which would have included two cross-stage classes. School funds have been used to employ an additional teacher to remove the 4/5 composite class, creating three Stage 2 and five Stage 3 classes.

I would also like to take a moment to highlight that the school will continue to provide all

necessary resources for core learning free of charge. We want to remove any barriers to students' access to essential materials. For extra-curricular activities and homework resources beyond the core curriculum, parents may be asked to contribute payment to cover costs. We appreciate your understanding and support in helping us offer these valuable opportunities.

In 2025 the school did not ask for voluntary school contributions as per the advice provided at the time, however in 2026 the advice is to consult with P&C. The payment of school contributions is voluntary and is a decision made in consultation between the principal and parents and carers, with no disadvantage to any student with a non-payment. The payment is capped and should not exceed \$51 per student in a primary setting, and the school must communicate what the funds will be used for. If this is an option approved by P&C, the school will be using the funds to resource musical instruments to support the delivery of the new Creative Arts curriculum. [Open discussion]

On a positive note, the Department of Education has supported our school with some much-needed upgrades over the holiday and start of year period. New carpet has been installed in A Block, which has freshened up the learning environment for both staff and students. Additionally, new hedging has been planted along the Bonds Road fence line, improving the aesthetics and privacy of our school grounds.

As we move into our new school planning cycle, Peakhurst PS has two deep and narrow Strategic Directions with the first focus to strengthen and embed high-impact explicit teaching and assessment practices across our school to enhance student learning outcomes and the second to enhance student engagement and learning outcomes by strengthening effective classroom management practices, fostering a cohesive whole school approach, and improving student attendance.

The Georges River Network has been targeted by the Department of Education to engage with a specialised Public Schools Engagement Officer, Enrolment Trends and Transitions to support the schools within our network to promote the work we do within public schools. To ensure the Engagement Officer has a clear understanding of our community, a survey was sent home via Sentral Parent Portal and will be open within a two week period. Please take the time to complete the 10 question survey.

Finally, I would like to thank the school community for the valuable feedback received last year. Early in the year, parents highlighted areas for improvement in class organisation and communication with new families. Later in the year, there was helpful input regarding the clarity of our school processes around behaviour management. I'm pleased to share that, in response to this feedback, we implemented several positive changes at the start of 2026.

We introduced temporary classes to replace the previous flexible and fluid arrangements, providing greater stability for students and families. Communications

were enhanced through both paper and digital formats until all families received their login credentials, ensuring everyone stayed well-informed.

Additionally, we shared updates in our first newsletter and during the Meet the Staff afternoon regarding the revised PBL Flowchart. This clearly outlines the steps we take in supporting our students to make positive choices for learning, fostering a communal understanding of our behaviour support approach.

We appreciate your ongoing engagement and look forward to continuing to work together to support the best possible outcomes for our students.

Thank you again for being here and for your ongoing partnership. Together, we look forward to an engaging and successful year ahead, and an example of this partnership will now be shared by one of our Year 5 students, Harper who has a proposal the school executive would like to support if the P&C are in agreement.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

NIL

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Discussion regarding Voluntary School Contribution

- As raised in the Principal's Report, the school discussed with P&C the voluntary contributions. The maximum contribution the school can request is \$51 per student. The school asked for P&C input about how much should be requested.
- Attendees discussed various amounts. Wanting to balance affordability for families with the importance of the funds for the school to provide offerings for the students.
- Confirmed that the payment is voluntary.
- Discussed whether there's scope to allow parents to change the amount they contribute – e.g. putting a recommended \$50 contribution with the option to pay more or less. Mrs Wilson explained that's not possible, it needs to be a set amount.
- Attendees checked their records for previous payments and confirmed the voluntary contribution has been \$75 in past years.
- It was agreed that the voluntary contribution amount requested should be \$50 per family.

Class Structure and first week

- Emma Z asked how classes were determined and what factors are considered in student placement. Mrs Wilson explained that the staff had spent many hours considering class placements. It is a combination of factors including student

numbers, balancing range of ability, relationship dynamics, boys and girls balance, more independent children in composite classes.

- Nicole L raised that the uncertainty around classes in the first week was still difficult for some children.

Pacman World Record

- Harper from year 5 presented on her idea for Peakhurst Public School's first Guinness World Record attempt. The plan is to have the most people stand in the shape of pacman. Students and families would be involved. They would wear yellow ponchos/raincoats and stand in the shape. With students, staff and some parents we should be able to beat the record.
- Harper asked if the P&C would help provide funds for the ponchos/raincoats.
- P&C is open to assisting. Harper will provide quotes at the next meeting so these can be considered.

Mother's Day Stall

- A budget of \$3,000 is approved for purchasing gifts.
- A sub committee will be formed to purchase the gifts.
- Will check what stock and bags we have in the storeroom.

Easter raffle

- Budget is approved for \$1,000.
- Hayaat and Moussa will try to get donations as in past years.
- Intention is to hold the raffle on 2 April.
- Agreed that booklet of tickets will cost \$10. One booklet will be sent home per student.

Disco

- Sarah M confirmed the disco has been booked with Footsteps for 27 November 2026. If the date needs to be changed, contact Footsteps early as dates fill quickly.

School hall air conditioning/cooling

- Pravina asked whether there has been any further consideration given to better cooling in the school hall. Mrs Wilson said the enquiry will be passed to Mrs Bentley.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

The next P&C meeting will be on Monday 23rd March 2026

MEETING CLOSED: 8:53pm