2020 Governing Council Committee Reports

**Governing Council Report for 2020**

2020 has been a challenging year for everyone.  The COVID-19 pandemic has altered the way we live our lives, how we work, travel and socialise.  It has also challenged the way we learn.  Whilst Australia has weathered this storm better than many, the restrictions we have faced and the changes to our lives have been challenging.  Throughout this, Brighton Primary School has managed to support and educate our children.  Ian and the leadership team have led the school cohort and the response from the school has been exemplary.  Throughout the year Governing Council has been involved in many discussions and decisions about how best to respond to the changing advice surrounding the pandemic; the school has maintained its consultation and communication and has always been willing to listen to the advice provided by Governing Council members.

Amidst all of this, Brighton Primary School has continued to make significant progress both in terms of revitalising the school facilities and in improving the education of our children.

In October 2020 Nicolle Flint, MP for Boothby officially opened our new nature play area located between learning area 1 and 3.  This area looks fabulous and is a great space for students to play and learn.

We have also seen steady progress on the new building located to the East of the courts.  Whilst this was somewhat disrupted through 2020 by the end of the year we saw the builders moving in and the first steps being taken towards this exciting new learning area for the school.

The school continues its journey to best utilise its data to support improved learning outcomes for students and during the year Governing Council received a presentation on school data.  As well as improving learning outcomes, the data is helpful for Governing Council and the school leadership when we make decisions or consider new initiatives.  In this respect the Governing Council continues to work closely with Ian and the school leadership group, providing for a clear, consistent and well considered future for the school and our students.

I’d like to take this opportunity to recognise the wonderful work of my colleagues on Governing Council and the numerous sub-committees.  Everyone gives their time freely and to have such a dedicated cohort of parents, all of whom are working for the betterment of the school, is truly wonderful.

The school is always looking for more volunteers, whether that be on Governing Council or other aspects of school life and I would encourage every parent to get involved.  Even the smallest contribution can make a big difference.

**Finance**

A report of the Financial Position of Brighton Primary School’s three companies has been detailed below. I would like to that Lisa Cram for her hard work over the last year in preparing and handling the accounts for our school.

Consolidated Account

In 2020, we planned for a surplus budget of $364,267.00 and finished the year with a surplus of $349,472.96. The end of year budget vs actual variance was an accurate reflection of budgets being expended in line with their allocated 2020 budget.

The school’s Material and Services payments are required to help contribute to the effective financial management of the school and we ask parents to consider their child’s education and contribute in this small way. The school’s Material and Services Charge for 2020 was at $380.00 with 93.5% of fees being recovered by December 2020.

Final Notices for 2020 M&S Charges were sent to families after Governing Council approved the recovery action in Term 4, 2020. Many families made contact with the school and paid the outstanding amount on their account within the specified 14 days.

The school finance team has spent a significant amount of time assessing the total school fees debt inclusive of school sports, excursions and camps. In 2020 a prior amount of extra-curricular bad debts totalling $3,529.00 from pre 2019 was written off. The final amount sent to DECD Recoveries for the 2020 M&S Charge and inclusive of any outstanding 2019/2020 extra-curricular sport, excursion and/or camps was $21,083.40.

Out of School Hours Care

Out of School Hours School Care (OSHC) recorded a surplus of $114,207.67 in 2020. It should be noted that OSHC received $46,500.00 of Job Keeper payment which has attributed to the 2020 surplus.

A huge thank you must go to Ben and all of the staff of OSHC for their dedication, expertise and hard work. Thank you to the families and the wider community for the support that OSHC received during the year and the team look forward to working with the children, families and school community in 2021.

Canteen

The canteen recorded a surplus of $17,580.42 for 2020. It should be noted that the Canteen received $16,500.00 of Job Keeper payments which has attributed to the 2020 surplus. QKR, our ordering App, continues to ensure that our families are able to order and pay for their orders with ease.

Please continue to support Amanda in our canteen whenever possible and we thank Amanda for all of her hard work and dedication to the Canteen.

Please find attached copies of the Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Statement for all three of Brighton Primary School’s companies for Period 12 and Period 13– the School Consolidated, Out of Hours School Care, Canteen.

**Sports**

After school sports ran in 2020

* Volleyball 130 students over the year. 2 seasons with 65 students each.
* Basketball 290 students over the year in 37 teams. 2 seasons with 145 students in each.
* Tee ball 40 students in 4 teams. 1 summer season
* Cricket 50 students in 5 teams. 1 season.
* Netball 60 students in 8 teams. 1 season.
* Soccer 65 students in 5 teams. 1 season.

COVID

* Stopped games early in term 1.
* No games in term 2
* Winter season term 3 only – reduced by 3-6 weeks from normal (3 netball/soccer, 6 vball and bball)
* Big cost in time and financially to have wipes, sanitiser etc. for all teams + COVID forms returned etc. taken mainly from

Financials

* Money in the bank is higher at the end of the year as I did not spend on balls etc. as I was concerned re costs and season duration. Will be spending early in 2021 to set up the sports again, inc new volleyball nets, balls all sports. We’re finally on the up so we can begin updating. Potentially could also look up putting high fence near staff car park etc. Will run more volleyball clinics etc. this year.
* Bball $2296.22
* Cricket $3531.44
* Football $591.99
* General Sport Account $172.28 (used this often for COVID hygiene products)
* Netball - $1617.30
* Soccer - $1246.23 (amazing since we purchased new tops! – need to buy about $1k more in 2021)
* Tee Ball - $1 774.85 (will start replacing mitts etc.)
* Volleyball - $9 686.31 (credit for T4 reduced season not yet provided)
* I would like to redistribute some of this money towards Sports Coordinator help in 2021 – offsetting school fees for assistance etc. Kathryn Watson volunteers an incredible amount of time, or if we can pay here.

Committee Member Changes

* Our Chairperson, Julie Crouch served her last year
* For 2021 Sports need either an additional overall coordinator to assist JMC or to move the entire role elsewhere.
  + Cricket – Ali and Rhiana
  + Volleyball – no coordinator
  + Basketball – Kathryn and Adrienne (need 1-2 more)
  + Netball – no coordinator
  + Soccer – Naomi hopefully
  + Tee ball - Judy

Sports Carnivals

* Reduced carnivals due to COVID
* Jeff can provide a further update
* Pedal Prix cancelled due to COVID

**Grounds**

In 2020 the Grounds Committee managed to achieve some key milestones despite delays due to COVID and contractors not being allowed on site.

Thanks to the Federal Government and the Local Schools Community Fund, we were able to complete our Junior Nature Play area which has been a huge success. We opened this new space in style with a ribbon cutting ceremony conducted by Nicolle Flint MP. With this money we have also purchased chess tables which are yet to be delivered and installed.

We also completed the conversion of the old compost area into a useable sensory space for the children. This transformation was made possible by the Holdfast Bay Council Recreation and Wellbeing Donation. More work will occur in this space over the coming months.

We hope to put further plans into action in 2021 to revamp the play spaces surrounding Learning Area 3.

Thank you to the dedication and perseverance of the Grounds Committee members.

**Centre of Deaf Education**

We have had a very successful and busy start to the year in the CDE. At the start of the year, we started 7 new CDE students, bringing our CDE numbers to 15 Deaf / Hard of Hearing students. In 2021, we increased to 6 CDE bilingual/bimodal classes with 5 x Teachers of the Deaf working with mainstream teachers. We currently have 8 BSSOs working in all the CDE classes. We welcome Belinda, Teacher of the Deaf and Oksana and Vinnie, BSSOs to our CDE team.

We have started the year with 15 funded CDE students in attendance. We have:

* 5 students in Foundation   
  (plus 1 x Foundation student with unilateral loss (not CDE funded but supported in CDE class)
* 2 student in Year 1
* 1 student in Year 2
* 2 student in Year 3
* 1 student in Year 4
* 1 student in Year 5
* 3 students in Year 6

The complexities of some of our new CDE students is going to be very challenging for us, especially when the CDE students come to us with such diversity. Two of our new CDE students are late diagnosis of their hearing loss and arrive to school with minimal English or home language.

Another one of our new CDE Foundation students is deaf (cochlear & hearing aid) and has cerebral palsy. He uses head switches and a PODD device as his mode of communication. At the end of last year, I put in an application for extra funding and received an additional 40 hours of support for 2021. Due to his cerebral palsy, he is non-verbal and totally mobile dependent on the Teacher of the Deaf, Communication Partner and BSSOs to engage in day to day school life. We have employed two additional BSSOs to be Leo’s full-time Communication Partners. The majority of CDE staff have been trained in Manual Handling, Hoist and Sling lifts, as well as PODD training. Further training is scheduled for the end of February.

Two of our new CDE students arrive /depart school in a taxi. We were fortunate to have the two families living in the same areas, as taxi runs require 2 (or more) students per taxi pick-up.

We are still are waiting to see if our student (whose parents are on study visas) will be able to return to Australia, later this year. His father is hopeful that the family will be permitted to fly in July. He has a severe to moderate hearing loss and will be funded as a CDE student upon his return.

It has been a very challenging, balancing staff with 10 additional duties (morning, recess, lunch, changes, and taxi) each day, but our CDE staff remain positive and focused on our student’s learning.

Feedback

At the end of last year, Ian Filer hosted a few meetings with CDE staff and Auslan specialist teacher giving them opportunities to discuss their perspectives on Brighton’s CDE, the school and staff attitude and how we are perceived by respected voices in the community. He listened to their comments, suggestions thoughts and ideas and has provided written feedback for all CDE staff to view. This week we are holding a CDE meeting to further discuss things to be considered as we move forward in our growing CDE. The CDE Feedback will be shared with Governing Council later in the term.

Professional Development

We continue to use Fingerspelling our way to Reading, the literacy intervention program specifically designed for Deaf and Hard of Hearing students. This is an evidence-based intervention program to strengthen and improve Deaf/Hard of Hearing students literacy skills. We now have all Teachers of the Deaf and 1 x BSSO trained to deliver this program.

In the April school holidays all Teachers of the Deaf and 2 BSSOs, will attend a workshop called the Auslan Assessment Tool. This will help us with the assessments for our full Auslan users CDE students.

Signing Choir

Kylee Haar (Auslan specialist teacher) has decided to take a break from teaching and organising our Signing Choir at Brighton PS. It is an onerous task each year and we thank her for all of her hard work over the past many years. Interesting fact, out of the 30 + students involved in Signing Choir, we only had one CDE student participate in the Signing Choir. With our current situation of such complex CDE students, we did not have a volunteer to step into this role. Kylee may do a few spotlight sessions with the Signing Choir for a variety of performances. The CDE staff are looking at to develop some Auslan storytelling that is inclusive for both Deaf/Hard of Hearing and Hearing students. Auslan storytelling is a wonderful opportunity for all students to share and develop the art of visual storytelling.

Enrolments for 2022

Once the term settles, I will contact Warradale Kindy to touch base about the possibility of a new Foundation student for 2022. This student is currently enrolled in the Inclusive Preschool Program (IPP) and the parents are considering primary school options for next year.

Auslan classes

We have a variety of options for families, staff and the wider community to learn and improve their Auslan skills. We have an Auslan classes for parents and the community every fortnight where basic/starter Auslan skills are taught. These run on even Weeks in Rm 2.1 with one of our highly skilled BSSO. Staff at BPS also have the opportunity to learn and practice their Auslan during recess time. Sign Language Australia comes to Brighton PS each Wednesday evening and runs 5 week courses with 4 different levels of Auslan.

Farewell at the end of the year

At the end of last year, we farewelled Keira Cranley who is off to Seaview High School. She is excited for the next part of her learning journey.

Congratulations to Chante and Jasmine who were our recipients of the Auslan and Cultural Awards for 2020.

**Canteen**

We commenced the year with a return to a more traditional canteen menu with Friday ‘Bakery Day’ a regular feature. These days proved popular and continue to be the busiest day of the week.

Canteen did have to shut down for six weeks due to COVID and our plan for ‘Special Menu’ days was squashed with limited numbers and being unable to have volunteers to assist Mandy.

Sports Day which is usually a good source of income for the canteen, was restricted to students only. ‘Lunch Packs’ were created for students and proved to be successful and will be repeated in 2021.

We had to purchase a new freezer during the year. A new fridge and bain-marie will need to be purchased for 2021. These items will be transferred to the new canteen in the newly constructed building which is due to be completed in the first half of 2021.

There were several regular volunteers who were assisting at the beginning of the year and in the last term who we wish to thank – Sam, Leonie, Melissa, Chris and Kay - also not forgetting others who helped when they could. All assistance is greatly appreciated.

We had a successful year despite the challenges and plan for a bright and productive 2021.

We meet on the 2nd and 8th week of term on Thursday mornings at 8.15am and we would love to have more people join the Canteen Committee

**Out of School Hours Care**

Over the 2020 OSHC was effected by COVID 19 however still made a profit. It was supported by job keeper.

We have 11 staff of which 9 are permanent and we are seeking to employ more casual staff for the vacation period and to help when staff go on teaching placement throughout the year. At the moment we are at 80- 90% capacity. Morning attendance was averaged out during the term at 26 students and the afternoon was 66 students. We are licensed for 90 students. Since being back at school in 2021 the average in the morning is 38 and afternoon is 80. Thursdays need 7 staff to meet ratio.

Training for staff included planning, programming and documentation training, First aid and CPR

Assessment was completed over the phone due to COVID. The assessor was very impressed with the OSHC service and the improvement that had been made since the last assessment 2 years ago. She congratulated Ben and his staff.  Brighton OSHC are looking to become more community involved in the local area.

Vacation care met capacity most days with a waiting list. To address this we will be running split excursions through the holidays to fit more children in as in the past on excursion days the service could only accommodate 60 students. The service has been providing 3-4 excursions per week but had issues with COVID, weather and finding staff.

Major purchases for 2020 included a 900cm Induction cook top fan forced oven, New 55 inch Smart TV ,new staff uniforms and an Electronic sign in system.

Directions 2021

* Increasing  our attendance
* More community engagement
* Monthly newsletter through the Bulletin
* Join local OSHC regional hub group
* Space is a concern due to numbers increasing
* Auslan training for staff
* NDIS access through Gowrie centre to get support for students with special needs.
* Introduction of Direct debit
* Introduction of Electronic booking systems.

**Facilities**

Sub-committee discussions concentrated on the Building Better Schools (BBS) programme this year. This, along with other matters arising are detailed below.

Building Better Schools Programme

The Education Department appointed Sensum as Programme and Project Managers for BBS schools builds across South Australia. Sensum have appointed DAS Studio as the Architects for the BPS build.

DAS Studio, after consultation with Brighton Primary School (BPS) stakeholders and site investigation created the building design.

The tender process began and was won by Gove Group.

The effects of COVID-19 led to delays in the start of the project. Gove decided against setting up in South Australia and the contract was taken over by Sarah Constructions.

A decision to remove the demolition of Learning Area 5 from the scope of the project was taken. This can now be used as an area for Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) and other school activities.

Any contingency monies included and not spent as part of the work will be returned to BPS

The project has started. There are bi-weekly progress meetings between BPS, Sarah Constructions and the Project Managers Sensum. Updates on the project are being posted to the BPS Blog.

A working group consisting of the Facilities Sub-Committee and Grounds Sub-Committee has been set up to discuss plans for the area to be vacated when Learning Area 4 is demolished.

Boom Gate to Staff Car Park

A boom gate was installed to the entry of the staff car park along with marking of entry / no entry signage.

Lift and Sliding Doors

Disability Access Provision funding was applied for to include:

* A lift to Learning Area 2
* A sliding door to the front office
* A ramp to a class

**Innovation and Technology**

COVID – 19 and the move to online learning was a significant focus are for the IT&C committee. The increase in technology to accommodate remote learning included further development of video and screaming capabilities as well as 1:1 iPads in the upper primary.

Communication

The website was restructured and continues to be updated. The Blog was used as the primary communication platform for the community and was used extensively to keep parents updated as the school dealt with the changes due to COVID. SeeSaw was extended to include Activities which formed the basis for online learning in the younger years and O365 Teams was adopted in the upper primary years.

Apple leasing

BPS entered into a 3 year lease agreement with Apple thorough CompNow to acquire 180 Ipads to enable all year 6 and 7 students to be issued individual devices. A 3 year plan was drawn up to map the increase of devices including HP Laptops to ultimately be 1:1 from years 3-7 and 1:2 F-2 in 2023 dependant on budgeting constraints.

BPS are a pilot school for the leasing program and are strongly supported by Apple Education and the Department for Education who are in constant contact to ensure a smooth working relationship with Apple. They have offered staff training which was taken up in 2020 and will again in 2021.

Secure charging cabinets and additional trolleys were acquired to accommodate the additional devices

The IT&C committee heard initial informal feedback from students and teachers citing the improved access to programs and internet as well as a more dynamic teaching and learning program. They particularly referenced online communication capabilities and security of 1:1 devices.

Management System

All student devices were enrolled in Meraki management system with the Jamf dashboard to be soon decommissioned.

Video and streaming initiatives

BPS slightly increased live streaming equipment to share events with families through COVID restrictions. Whilst the additional equipment purchased was minimal as live streaming increased in demand both operator and equipment improved to meet the needs for the viewer. This was a significant learning curve and the IT&C committee supported the initiative suggesting future improvements for 2021.

The new build presented an opportunity to capture time-lapse video which continues to be shared through the blog.

**Parents and Friends**

Unfortunately we were hindered by COVID in 2020, but we still managed to raise some money.

We gave an end of summer ice block to each student. Our annual Easter Raffle was again well supported and we were able to give 30 prizes. Thank you to all who bought tickets and gave donations. We gave “thankyou cookies” to every staff member. Our casual day on the last day of term 2 raised $99 plus 7 pairs of new pyjamas for Backpacks4sakids. Thank you to all the parents who supported the Bunnings BBQ. It was the first time we did this and we raised $1000.