

## FHS School Council News Semester One, 2016

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Dear Fitzroy High School Community,

The new FHS school council for 2016/17 met in March to elect council positions and subcommittee conveners. We welcomed 3 new parent members and have since held our first subcommittee meetings and first two meetings of the new school council.

As it is almost the end of the financial year I would like to take this opportunity to remind parents/guardians and caregivers that our Building and Library funds have tax deductibility status and that any donations will be gratefully accepted. School Council approve spending of these funds based on recommendations from the Environment and Education subcommittees respectively.

### School Council Matters Approved

At our meetings in May and June we approved:

1. **Camps:** The Year 8 Roses Gap Camp, the Year 9 Bogong Leadership Camp, FHS involvement in The Great Victorian Bike Ride, the Year 9/10 Outdoor Education Excel Ski Camp for 2016 and approved in principal the Year 10 Experience proposed trips to China, South Korea and the Gold Coast. Two year 10 students gave a presentation of the proposed South Korea trip and did a very convincing job. School Councillors were heard making comments about the possibility of being included.
2. Spending on 8 bin enclosures designed and costed and to be built by students. These enclosures will solve the current problem of bins being blown over by the wind. The Environment subcommittee initially investigated the bin enclosures used by City of Yarra but for less than the price of one of these we can build 8 that will house 16 bins. Congratulations to these students and teachers for all their efforts and we look forward to seeing the final product.
3. The Environment subcommittee recommended that we create a “master plan” for the use of school spaces that will inform any future projects impacting on space. We agreed to create a Working Party and Roger Smith (our long standing and much appreciated community school council member) volunteered to chair this group. The group has met and we are keen to hear from any parents or carers interested in being involved in this project or who have any specific skills in this area. Please contact School Councillor Roger Smith [rogersmith@hotkey.net.au](mailto:rogersmith@hotkey.net.au) for further details.
4. The 2015 FHS Annual Report was approved by the DET and endorsed by school council. It is available for viewing on the school website within the School Council section. Our achievements reported are summarised as follows:
  - Fitzroy High School is performing well above the median for all schools and also achieves very favourable academic results compared with schools who have students with similar background characteristics.
  - The 4 year average 2012-2015 for Reading in both Year 7 and Year 9 continues to show that students at this school achieve at a higher level than 60 % of Victoria Government schools.
  - We are very proud that NAPLAN learning gain, which measures growth from year 7 to year 9, is consistently high in all areas
  - Our senior students continue to achieve excellent results in a wide range of certificates and subjects. In 2015, the VCE mean study score was again above the median and higher than many other schools with students of

similar background characteristics. In 2015, 100% of students who attempted the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) satisfactorily completed the certificate. In addition, 94% of Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL) units were completed. 100% of our Year 12 students (VCE and VCAL) applying for tertiary places received an offer in the first round.

- A Program for Students with Disability (PSD) students showed excellent progress in achieving their individual learning goals.
  - The school's strategic goals focus on achieving high quality educational outcomes and personal best for all students. Strategies for improvement include differentiated instruction; formative assessment and feedback of student learning; continuous reporting with a focus on future action to improve learning; additional support for students performing below the expected level; and further enhancement of the learning of high performing students. The school is focused on building the capacity of teachers to make more informed judgments of student outcomes according to the Australian Curriculum/Victorian Essential Learning Standards. The school is also working with both teachers and senior students undertaking VCE, VET and VCAL studies to achieve their expected potential and go on to their chosen pathway
5. The Year 12 Formal Event proposal for August was approved.
  6. School Council congratulates the VCAL students and staff for their accomplishment in being awarded the Yarra Sustainability people's choice award for their front native garden project.
  7. A sausage sizzle with coffee cart fundraising event for Election Day 2/7/16 at FHS. We will be contacting volunteers from our list to assist with this shortly but as always all volunteers are welcome. ***Please contact the school if you wish to be involved.***

## **FHS Strategic Plan**

2016 is a school strategic planning year for FHS where the school executive, team leaders and the school community are involved in reviewing our current strategic plan and developing it further to meet the strategic needs of our school for the next 4 years. School Council has a role in endorsing selected stages of this plan and communicating the outcomes to the school community.

The strategic planning process is lengthy and is expected to take most of the remainder of this school year to complete.

The 2012 to 2016 Strategic plan is available for viewing on the school website within the School Council section.

For a full list of school council members and contact details please go to the School Website/ School Council folder. Please also take this opportunity to view the new school news page on our website, if you haven't already.

Please feel free to direct any comments or queries regarding school council matters to me or the subcommittee convenors.

Kath Boyer

FHS Council President