



Belltrees Public School

School Direction Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: 17th October, 2022

Attendance: Shane Roberts, Laura Bellamy, Ian Judd and Elizabeth Batterham

Apologies:

The school direction committee is a forum to discuss school related activities in regards to compliance, planning and engagement practices.

Points for discussions:

1. School Activities and Recovery Update
 - a. 100% recovered from the vandalism incident.
 - b. Finalist in Banksia Awards.
 - c. NSW Sustainable School Winner
 - d. ECO Schools green flag to be presented on 6th December
 - e. Students travelled to Canberra in week 6 for a combined excursion with Martindale and Murrurundi.
 - f. One student attended Stewart House in week 5
 - g. Presentation Night 9th December – community have been invited bring a plate to share for dinner.
2. Wellbeing Program and Framework
 - a. School wellbeing program is “You Can Do IT”, with our pillars of confidence, resilience, getting along, persistence and organisation.
 - b. Students participate in the six star wellbeing survey.
 - c. Students participate in meditation with Miss Lloyd-Jones.

What we do well

- Students score quite high in their survey
- Small school context enables us to keep closer tabs on student wellbeing.
- No negative behavior in our school. Tracking of negative behaviour will happen in Sentral.
- School counsellor checks in with all students
- Possible occupational therapy program in the future.
- Working with Miss LJ to develop strategies for resilience.
- Imbed wellbeing (You can do it)

3. Agriculture Program
 - a. Do we want to continue down the regenerative agriculture path?
 - b. No need to disband our program. With the changes to staff next year we will need to reduce sheep numbers. Carrying capacity should be approx. 10.
 - c. The Department of Education (DoE) has a big focus on sustainability next year.
 - d. Science will continue to have an environmental education focus.
 - e. Program to be reviewed in Term 1 or 2.

4. Homework Policy
 - a. Currently homework has been encouraging students to read and develop a passion to read,
 - b. Change in policy would require family support.
 - c. Data does not show negatives from lack of spelling or maths homework. Overall trend is upwards.
 - d. Suggested we reintroduce a reading log to make students accountable for reading.
 - e. Positive reinforcement of completed homework.
 - f. Laura to look at homework policy

5. School Excursion Policy
 - a. School excursions encourage and create opportunities to mix with their peers in other schools.
 - b. Cost v benefit – expenses, travel cost, transport of students within budget constraints.
 - c. Seek advice from parents prior to committing to an excursion.

6. Student Performance Measures
 - a. NAPLAN
 - b. NSW Check in Assessments
 - c. Progressive Achievement Tests (PAT)
 - d. Internal testing
 - e. ICAS Tests
 - f. Newcastle Permanent Maths Competition

Students are maintaining above state average.
School Goal: To get all students above state average.

The next meeting will be Monday 6th February. Agenda will be distributed prior to the end of term..

Meeting closed 3.56pm