

HHHS P&C Association President's 2018 Report

Hunters Hill High School P&C Association volunteers were very active supporting the HHHS community during 2018.

In addition to the P&C operating the school canteen and uniform shop, school parents/carers provided invaluable support by volunteering in both shops every week. The P&C also acknowledges the work of the paid staff in the canteen and uniform shop.

The P&C was notified towards the end of 2018 that the Department of Education would be auditing the canteen against the Healthy School Canteen initiative which is designed to increase the healthy food and drink options to more than 75% by December 2019. Work commenced in the canteen to assess the current menu against these new requirements.

The uniform shop was moved to larger premises to provide more space for change rooms (with particular thanks to the school and to the uniform shop staff for the significant work involved). During 2018, efforts were also made to reduce total stock held in the uniform shop, improve the accuracy of stock records, change the ordering pattern for stock and reverse the loss made in 2017. This culminated in a decision to establish a uniform shop subcommittee (as per NSW P&C Association recommendations) to oversee ongoing reforms during 2019.

P&C volunteers supported a number of working bees in the grounds and a significant number of parent representatives assisted with teacher merit selection panels during the year. P&C volunteers also helped the school to identify a sound technician to significantly improved the sound in the hall and maximise the audience enjoyment of events.

A significant achievement in 2018 was the inaugural HHHS Colour Run. This fun event built a strong sense of connection within the school community and raised \$13K towards air conditioning more classrooms.

P&C volunteers and the Principal were also active in lobbying surrounding schools, council and RMS for improvements in footpath/road crossings in Reiby Street (and nearby areas) to increase the safety of all school students approaching from this direction.

A large number of dedicated P&C volunteers provided a record number of performing arts opportunities for the school's students this year. This included four dance troupes (Jazz A & B, Tap and Hip Hop) and five music ensembles (Concert & Stage Bands, Junior & Senior Percussion Ensembles plus a Strings Ensemble). At the end of 2018, work commenced on plans to add a Choral group and a sound and lighting "Tech Crew" in 2019.

Performances from the groups enriched school events and the groups were also fantastic school ambassadors at the 2018 HHHS Open Day, Moocooboola Festival, Ryde Eisteddfod,

DanceSpec Eisteddfod, Bedlam at the Bay Community Event, Ryde Schools Spectacular, Joey's Battle of the Bands, Boronia Park Carols and a Red Earth Christmas Benefit Concert (with the Lane Cove Youth Orchestra and seven feeder primary schools). The school also contributed with much improved strings and percussion storage areas being constructed in the music block.

Performing arts highlights in 2018 included: the Jazz A Dance Troupe, Senior Percussion Ensemble and Year 7 Cellist (Daniel Connard) being accepted into the Ryde School Spectacular and performing at the Sydney Opera House; a Gold award at NSW Band Festival for the Stage Band; and a second place for a student band in the covers section of the Joey's Battle of the Bands.

P&C funds (around \$50K) supported the following improvements in the school: air conditioning of 3 classrooms; cricket net/pitch upgrade; drones for students to participate in a schools' aeronautical challenge; computers and software for a video editing suite and TAS department purchase of an industrial standard drum sander to support HSC major works. The canteen needed major coolroom repairs and a new stove, both funded by P&C. The P&C was also happy to support the School Representative Council's efforts to improve paper recycling in the school by funding purchase of paper recycling bins for all classrooms and additional wheelie bins for the playground.

At the end of 2018, HHHS and the P&C were successful in a submission for funding under the NSW Government's Cooler Classroom initiative. This will see the NSW Government and the P&C each contributing \$50k (total of \$100k) towards finishing air conditioning of classrooms within the school during 2019/2020.

The P&C meetings during the year provided a great opportunity for constructive dialogue between parents, the school principal and other school staff/students, as well as a social opportunity for HHHS parents/carers to connect.

Lastly, I would like to especially thank all the P&C volunteers across all facets of P&C activities during 2018. Your wonderful efforts have enriched the school community and the experience of students, staff, parents and carers at HHHS during 2018.

Mitch Kirkman
HHHS P&C Association President
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