



## MANLY SELECTIVE CAMPUS- PARENTS & CITIZENS ASSOCIATION

### President's Report - Annual General Meeting – 28<sup>th</sup> November 2012

2012 has been another year of significant achievement for the school in so many areas of academic, sporting and community endeavours. As always this is a mark of the special school spirit that distinguishes Manly and a tribute to all the hard working students, parents, friends and staff with a huge level of involvement at so many levels.

Highlights this year have included:

- Continuing the work on the list of projects to enhance the physical spaces, including another successful working bee in September. New seats were installed above the basketball courts, in the bus shelter and between the TAS building and quad. The P&C contributed \$25k to the new shade structures over the quad which have made this a much more comfortable and attractive space. We have also continued our employment of Northside Enterprises who employ young people with disabilities to maintain the native bushland area. This year they have been joined by a group of parent volunteers. Not only are we maintaining one of the last remaining bushland areas in Warringah but also giving back to the community.
- The P&C website has been further enhanced and we plan to make much more use of it to share ideas and seek input from the wider parent community.
- This year we also supported the High Resolves Program. This is a Global Citizen program delivered to all Year 8 students aimed at developing citizenship and leadership skills. The program continues into Year 9 where the focus shifts slightly to include project management skills with students forming small groups and developing a hands on project with findings being delivered at a school level. In Year 10, students have to apply and be selected to continue with the program; approximately 40 students have made application for 2013. The hands on projects now broaden to become community action projects, 2013 will see our first group participate at this level.

The P&C were keen to balance the expenditure on physical improvements in the school with support for some of the values education which supplements the regular curriculum. Feedback from staff and students has been very positive.

- In Term 2 the P&C hosted a student forum on the subject of "What is Uni really like?" 20 past students joined us to talk about their experiences in going to Uni. From Gap years to life after Uni this proved to be a very revealing and highly engaging evening attended by over 200 parents and Yr 11 and 12 students.

In addition, the P&C continued its regular support of many school activities:

- Grants through the P&C Excellence Fund which supports students representing the school at State and National levels in any area
- Maintaining contact with past students through the alumni committee.



- Providing input and support on Library, Technology and Finance Committees
- Running a second hand uniform store which is not only a great resource for all of us with rapidly growing kids but also contributes to P&C funds.
- Our superb Canteen which provides an excellent range of healthy foods which are very popular and great value. This makes such a huge contribution to the life of the school as well as substantial financial support to the P&C funds. This year, in particular, the canteen has contributed substantial funds which allow us to take on many more projects next year. As always we must recognise the great work of both the canteen staff and the parent volunteers who make this happen every day of term.
- Once again the Band Committee has not only run a huge, successful program for so many of our talented students but has also provided much entertainment and represented our school so well.
- Finally we continue to organise and support key student/parent events like the Yr 7 welcome, Yr 12 farewell, Orientation day morning tea and School Open Day. The school does a great job in welcoming and celebrating our students through their school experience, but it is important that we also connect with the parents and bring them into the community.

Over and above all this parents give their time to represent the school on college advisory groups, regional P&C forums staff selection panels and the student entry selection process. On a daily basis, people contribute their time and experience in countless activities around the school. Together with the annual P&C family contributions this substantial support for our students, their teachers and the school is enormously valued and appreciated.

I would also like to acknowledge the contribution of those who have moved on this year. Helen Suradi was P&C Treasurer for 2 years and also looked after the demanding task of payroll. Welcome to Michelle de Vries Robbe who has taken over as Treasurer and Donna Tivey who is looking after the payroll.

This is the last year that Kathy Leviton will coordinated all the parent events such as the Yr 7 welcome and Yr 12 farewell. Her “corporate knowledge” and easy organising style has been much appreciated. Thank you to Linda Nord for taking over the reins.

2013 will be a year of change for Manly as well.

- We have farewelled David Tomlin as our much respected Principal who has had a profound impact on so much and so many in this school over the last 6 years. As we go to press the process continues to appoint a new Principal, and we look forward to working with the successful candidate as they undoubtedly begin to make their mark on our school.
- It would be hard to have missed the significant changes within the national and NSW school system that will have varying, but nonetheless important implications for the way our school works. From the Gonski report, to Local Schools, Local Decisions, from the funding constraints of tight state budgets to major reforms of the regional school support networks and a national curriculum, multiple political and policy initiatives will present opportunities and substantial challenges for our educators.



## Parents and Citizens Association

The parents and community will need to be aware of these changes and play our part in supporting our teaching staff as well as advocating for our school and the college when needed.

Finally, as before it is important to make two further acknowledgments.

First to all the staff in the school who support the P&C activities in many ways and both David Tomlin and latterly Meg Tulk for the time, effort and energy put into informing, guiding and facilitating the work of the P&C. The perennially helpful Judy Boylan is also an invaluable supporter and much appreciated.

Second, the members of the P&C Exec who fulfil vital roles in making sure this all happens without too much mishap and that the responsibilities of the P&C are met. As in many fields of volunteering, the requirements for transparency, compliance and due process are increasing and whether it is looking after our employees, providing the right insurance or keeping adequate records and accounts, these tasks have all been so well covered by the P&C team. Thank you to them all.

I hope 2012 has been as good a year at the school as it has been for our family and I look forward to sharing with you and our new Yr7 families what will prove to be another interesting, challenging, rewarding and fun year at MSC.

All the best,

Bill Hawkins  
P&C President