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## School Board Minutes – Thursday 20 February 2020

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**Attendance** Debbie Martens, Nathan Pepper, Jessica Crilly, Danielle Searle, Alison Hosking, Alison Yialeloglou, Sue Farrelly & Rose Rodriguez (Minutes)

Conflict of Interest NIL

**Apologies** Jenny Lonergan

**Minutes of Previous Meeting**

5 December 2019

**Passed** Alison Hosking **Second** Alison Yialeloglou

**Business Arising**

**Open Action** Preschool Grounds

**Discussion** Progress of Preschool grounds

**Action/Office Update** Works commenced on the grounds in January estimated completion mid-March

**Open Action** LSU (Learning Support Unit) Upgrades

**Discussion** Progress on LSU Upgrade

**Action/Office Update** The directorate is organising quotes from trades for works on the LSU project

**Finance**

At the end of January 2020, the school has under spent compared to the YTD budget. The underspend relates to low expenditure for the month of January. The school holds a bank balance of \$373,805.28 of which \$221,430 is accumulated funds. Working capital of \$38,827.53

Outstanding commitments - \$44,230.06 - Classroom furniture , Molonglo Unit project of Carpet & doors

**Budget adjustment reserves**

\$40,000 9912-FUR-00 transfer 4012-MER-20 Purchase of Mereki classroom furniture

\$9,000 9910-STF-21 transfer 3531-MOL-20 Balance of Molonglo Unit carpet and doors

**Local Schools Grant - Student Bike program**

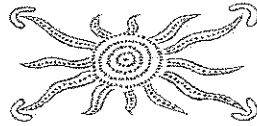
The application was successful for \$20,000 grant for the Bike program, project to be implemented.

**Passed** Danielle Searle **Second** Sue Farrelly

**Communication Plan - Parent Engagement**

New communication initiative to implement 'SEESAW' app for staff and students Preschool to Year 6. Theodore Primary School will pay for the app from School Improvement Plan. Staff will receive training to use the app to its full potential.





## Principal's report to the School Board 20 February 2020

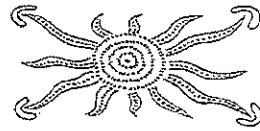
### Welcome Staffing Updates

On behalf of the Theodore PS staff and community, welcome to 2020. It has been a smooth and positive start to the school year. We have 15 classes K-6, 1 Learning Support Unit, a fully integrated Learning Support Centre and 2 preschool classes. We have nine new teachers this year who are all very keen to be at Theodore and their enthusiasm has been felt in the classrooms, in the staff room and in the community.

### Theodore PS Staff 2020

Principal	Debbie Martens
Deputy Principal	Nathan Pepper
Executive teachers	Jess Crilly, Jodie White, Mel Lloyd and Tori Barbaro
Preschool – 2 groups – Koalas and Possums	Susie Tebb and Jayne Joyner Tracey Kennedy (Fri) Executive teacher: Tori Barbaro
Mingari - Learning Support Unit (LSU) – 1 class	Courtney Howell (Mon-Wed) and Renee D'Argeavel (Wed-Fri) Maria Dal Col & Selina Beale Executive teacher: Debbie Martens
Chipala – K/1 & Kindergarten – 3 classes	Cate Whelband, Annette Schubert, Kirsten O'Neill Executive teacher: Tori Barbaro
Yackatoon Year 1/2 - 4 classes	Eliza Birse, Savannah Burge, Mary Pezzella, Susan Hough (Mon-Wed) Mel Lloyd (Thurs-Fri) Executive teacher: Mel Lloyd
Molonglo and Murrumbidgee - Year 3/4 – 4 classes	Anna Connell, Kathy Barry, Ashlea Anderson, Jodie White (Mon- Tue), Jordan Scarr (Wed-Fri) Executive teacher: Jodie White
Mereki – Year 5/6 – 4 classes	Charisse Enriquez, John Muir, Alanah- Rei (A-Rei) Castledine, Jess Crilly (Mon- Thurs) Vicki Hunt (Fri) Executive teacher: Jess Crilly
Learning Support & English as an Additional Language or Dialect EAL/D	Anne Sheehan
Specialist teachers	Tracey Kennedy (PE), Vicki Hunt (Arts), Brita Menzies (Sustainability) Executive teacher: Nathan Pepper
Business Manager	Rose Rodriguez
Front Office staff	Nicole Scandura, Julie Cooper and Selina Beale
School Psychologist (Wed-Fri)	Monica O'Neill
Family and Community Coordinator	Aimee Shires
Building Service Officer (BSO)	Laurie Bell
Youth Support Workers	Charlie Foran and Lachie Everson
Learning Support Assistants (LSAs)	Karen Schaeffer, Stacy Dinsmore, Maria Dal Col, Selina Beale, Janene Joyner, Danny Supple, Claudia Moritz





## Sustainability Focus

This term all classes from P-6 will have a focus on sustainability as part of our Inquiry learning. Sustainability is a cross-curriculum priority in the Australian Curriculum. If you are interested in learning more about this, here is the link. <https://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/f-10-curriculum/cross-curriculum-priorities/sustainability/>

Each team has planned units of work in Science and/or Humanities and Social Science (HASS) at their own year level from the Australian Curriculum, with a focus on sustainability as a big understanding. Where appropriate links will be made to other curriculum areas such as English and Maths.

Staff have brainstormed the big ideas and questions we will be exploring. You may wish to talk to your child/ren about these at home or you could come up with your own questions as a family.

***What is sustainability?***

***Why is it important for all of us?***

***What can we do locally to make a difference globally?***

***What is our personal impact?***

All teams will send out Curriculum Outlines tomorrow to let families know about the areas of the curriculum being studied this term and any important dates or events.

## Community BBQ and 3- way interviews

Our community BBQ was well attended on Tuesday night despite the prediction of a severe thunderstorm, which fortunately bypassed Canberra. In week 7, on 17 April we will be holding our parent interviews. These will be held in the Hall and there will be an online booking service for families to book in a 15 minute appointment with their child/ren's teacher to plan learning goals for the year and to share relevant information.

## School Events

This term we will have a number of whole school events, including Ride and Walk to School on Friday 13 March including a breakfast at school, Bullying No Way Day on Thurs 19 March and the swimming carnival on Fri 20 March.

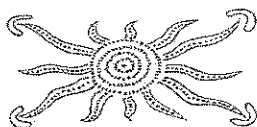
## School Upgrade Updates

The preschool upgrade is under way. Most of the heavy machinery digging was completed during the holidays and gradually the walls and landscaping is beginning to appear. We look forward to this being finished by the end of term.

Our LSU upgrade is due to begin in term 2. The plans are being finalised after approval from the school. The plans include an accessible bathroom, two breakout spaces which can be used for specialist/health professional spaces and quiet areas. The design includes a corridor between these spaces leading outside to an outdoor play space. It is all very exciting and we look forward to this when it happens.

Over the school holidays the Molonglo building was painted and the outside doors replaced. It looks a lot better. The new furniture for the Year 5/6 classes is due to arrive shortly. This means that all of Year 3-6 will have new flexible furniture. We have budgeted to continue to replace the furniture in all year levels over the next few years.





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## **Strategic Priority 1: Provide a positive learning environment for all stake holders**

Our PBL strategic team continue to meet regularly. There is a focus on inducting new teachers to PBL as well as introducing a consistent whole school positive reward system which can be monitored electronically through the school SAS system. Our PBL mascot has been chosen from designs submitted by students last year. The team are working together with graphic artists to digitalise the mascot and it will then be included on all our PBL signage. Once this step is completed, we will purchase more permanent signage for the school areas.

PBL lessons continue to be taught across the school targeting specific areas such as the playground or verandahs. Jodie White lead the school through a PBL Assembly to outline the expectations for all students. Our assemblies will be held at the new time slot of 2pm on fortnightly Friday afternoons. We are also introducing a new style of award. Each teacher will give out 2 Outstanding Achievement Awards at each assembly. They will be for learning achievements or improvements and also for students demonstrating school values or PBL expectations. The students who receive awards will be able to choose a book prize each at the end of the assembly.

Our PE specialist, Tracey Kennedy has started the sensory program for students in the junior school this year. Students have been identified by their teachers for this program which uses movement to assist in sensory processing.

Our Family and Community Coordinator is working closely with our two Youth Support Workers, Charlie and Lachie to create a consistent check-in system for the Blue Room and also provide some social skills lunch time groups for students who would benefit from this. We were successful in our bike program grant and the money for this should be received by us soon. We are keen to get the bike storage completed and buy the bikes so we can begin this program at the school.

In the newsletter this week, Nathan Pepper explained our Classroom Behaviour Decision Making Process. The posters are in all classes so that students are aware of this consistent process across the school. This process is followed by all teachers, including release/specialist and relief teachers.

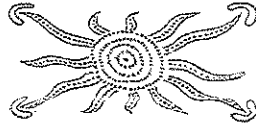
## **Strategic Priority 2: Improve student learning outcomes in reading and writing**

Our Reading Café intervention program has started for the year. Students from Years 3 and 5 have been identified if they need a boost with reading, reading comprehension in term 1. The Reading Café runs 5 days a week from 9.00-9.30am in the library with available teachers and LSA staff timetabled each day to provide reading support in small groups.

This morning a team of four of our staff attended a Writing Inquiry workshop with the ACT Education Directorate. This was to provide us with Professional Learning to conduct research into improving our writing outcomes for students across the school in 2020. Writing is an area that we have identified as needing improvement. We will be using a 'Spiral of Inquiry' as our research approach. The first part of this inquiry involves the collection and analysis of data, professional conversations about where our specific needs are, and what we will focus on as a school.

**Debbie Martens**  
**Principal**





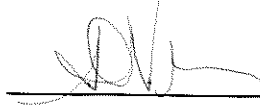
## General Business

- Impact Report part of the school review and strategic 5 year plan
- The newly formatted term calendar is to be sent to families via email
- School Board positions: two parent positions will become vacant in 2020
- School Assembly change of time to 2pm every second Friday, even weeks of term

Passed Jess Crilly Second Alison Hosking

Next scheduled School Board Meeting Thursday 19 March 2020 at 3.30pm

Meeting closed 4.30pm



Principal

Debbie Martens



School Board Chair

Alison Yialeglou

2 / 7 / 2020

1 / 7 / 2020



