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A positive Community Meeting at Beaumaris.

A well-attended meeting over of 400 parents, community and staff met at Beaumaris campus hall on the 9^{th} February 2012 to hear and discuss the future of the campus.

The meeting, was chaired by Howard Kelly, heard key points.

The site is staying over for public education in the area.

The site is not being sold in full or in part.

The whole College needs capital investment urgently.

The College Principal Allen McAuliffe, outlined the role he would play and his openness to a full range of inputs from all sections of the community.

He stressed that while discussion and plans developed his key task was to focus on seeking ways of improving outcomes for students.

A range of views was heard from the floor.

The inputs were from parents at the school, community members, formers students, current college students and staff members.

There was a diverse range of views expressed, all received with a sense of respect.

Key Strands.

- 1. There was clearly a strong opinion expressed at the meeting that considering needs to be given for the campus to be a standalone school.
- 2. There was a clear point of view that the 'boys only' option and a link to Mentone Girls' Secondary College ought to be seriously explored.
- 3. There was a view that the best way open for students in a refinement of the current model of College to maximize pathways for students.

4. There was total support for the view that the whole College and the campus at Beaumaris was not up to standard and needed urgent action.

Where to?

It was outlined that the decisions in the end under our education system of local decision making resting with the governing body of the College, its Council.

It was indicated that Council elections would soon take place and people were encouraged to stand. There will be meetings held in the near future at the other campuses of the College. These will be at Sandringham Bluff Road on the 16th February at 7pm and at Holloway Road 21st February at 7pm.

It was pointed out that it is a whole College issue, notwithstanding the deeply felt views in the Beaumaris Community.

It was made clear that a serious of options will be available in mid-term 2, after a lot of work across the three campuses and communities is undertaken.

It was outlined that the Council should decide one recommendation to the Department of Education and Government in mid-term 3.

As indicated at the start of the meeting the issues are twofold.

- 1. What is taught where?
- 2. How is it governed?

It was stressed that all options are on the table for the use of each of the three sites. These options were on use of the sites governance of the sites.

The next meeting was at Beaumaris will be on the 8th of March. It will take the form of an update then a series of workshops will take place around key issues, including issues relating to a single sex offering, governance and relationships between the three sites.

In the meantime community is encouraged to contribute to the blog at www.sandringhamc.wordpress.com or the school website www.sandringhamsc.vic.edu.au

Also the point of contact **Howard Kelly** at hrkelly2@bigpond.com or **0417** 723 947 is available to the community for input. This input is purely confidential.

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