

Beaumaris Primary School

Community Meeting 29/3/12

Unedited as presented to Sandringham College

Em Hall



Summary of proceedings:

Sandringham College's second primary school meeting was held at Beaumaris Primary School on the 29th March 2012.

The tone of the evening was more questioning than previously experienced, with many community members feeling that they do not have belief in the future of the Beaumaris Campus, unless government monies are invested. This lack of confidence the security of its future is based on a sense of previous broken promises.

Strong support for a standalone campus still remained, with community members offering suggestions as to how to ensure the longevity of the campus. The community acknowledged that strong relationships need to be developed with surrounding schools in order to ensure the success of the Beaumaris Campus.

Fairly equal views held about co-ed or a single sex future for the Beaumaris Campus.

Overall, it was felt that the Beaumaris Primary community felt disconnected from the current structure of Sandringham College.

~ **Howard Kelly**, Independent Consultant.

Notes from the Beaumaris Primary School Meeting.

Group One:

- Vibe in community – concern re: academic of Sandringham College
- BNPS /BPS has good academic/reputation – carry through to a local boys school.
- Prefer high academic school –not a tech school.
- Forms strategic alliances with high performing schools.
- Standalone school is preferred.
- Possible shared facilities with Mentone Girl's Secondary.
- Possible shared learning opportunities with Mentone Secondary.
- Sandringham College has HUGE IMAGE problem need to change this image there MUST be stand alone. //New school image// it would take years to turn around the Sandringham College email, if not stand alone.
- Same families may attend Mentone Girls Secondary for girls, and need to send boys to a standalone boy's school. We feel only local option is private with academic learning environment.
- Community feels we have a great girls school locally – we NEED and want a good academic boys school locally.
- No government boys school locally.
- 7-12 is preferred by this group. Senior students have a huge impact on junior students. As mentors, guides, buddies, etc.
- New school, new reputation, new identity – therefore be 7-12
- Private schools all over years 7-12, this school to be competitive needs to be the same.
- Preference is Single Sex.
- Most important is – Standalone, Academic Excellence, must be 7-12
- But some don't mind if co-ed as long as it doesn't effect/dilute what the school has to offer. E.g subjects offered at year 11/12, specific to boys.

- By making it co-ed it becomes a competitor for girls so does it rule out alliances, with Mentone Girls Sec.
- There has been a HUGE neglect of our boy's education in this area. Just as our girls are entitled to good academic education in senior years. So are our boys.
- In our families there is a pressure/tension – emotional and financial because families are torn because daughters can go public – and boys are being send to private schools/businesses because we want a high academic boys standalone school.
- Parents wants to be involved and are involved in public schools.
- If you have a very good high academic school locally it improves culture of area, vital community outlook – fosters community pride. Keeps boys local, improves overall community feel. People want to stay / move to area. Students will reflect their learning /vision.
- Want to have subjects available e.g maths/science/ IT available through ALL years 7-12. Must be standalone with ONE STRONG LEADER, ONE Principal and ONE Campus.
- Been an assumption by the government that boys will be sent to private with Sandringham as a safety net if they done. REALITY is parents want a high academic public school 7-12.

Group Two

- Undecided about standalone.
- For standalone 5
- To stay with Sandy 2
- Relationships between schools is possible and good. Sharing resources across from all school come to Sandringham.
- 7-12 – 7 people
- community think school has been overlooked. Need academic with full choice for studies.
- Happy with Sandringham and happy with being part of the bigger community.
- Co-ed 6 people
- Boys 2 people
- More choice and chance of bigger numbers with co-ed
- Fear that people will continue to have no confidence in it.
- Some significant changes are needed.
- Girls have choice of Sandringham and Mentone
- Separate classes for boys and girls within the same school – parallel education.
- Join with Mentone for subjects of activities (like camps) but study academic still as boys.
- Separate for English and Maths, together for electives. Not parallel all of the time.
- Boys/ girls co-exist in society therefore kids need to learn how too.
- Change idea that Beau Campus is not for academic kids
- Other local schools, private take kids
- Change many encourage people to go to Beaumaris
- Girls move from Mentone at year 11+12 to Sandringham.
- People need to believe in Beauy.
- It is an asset. It is critical that becomes the best. It needs to be a real alternative to private schools.
- Aesthetically the school needs a lot of attention – as it stands it puts people of going there.
- Virtual Classrooms are needed. – it would broaden education possibilities, Cultural and subject expansion.

- 3C9 on school blog – it is a great interesting program.
- A new school could incorporate the good aspects of schools.
- Change has to happen – limited resources now.
- Language offered are not the same as local primary schools – continuity between local primary schools and year 11/12 Campus.
- Would gain confidence as a standalone, more people would be interested in going.
- Would a standalone get the numbers needed?
- Needs to be specialty school that attracts kids from everywhere
- Needs good reputation
- Specialty like science and environment
- People listen to bad rumors going around and if this is all the exposure they get about this school. Rumors and reputation need to change.
- Uniforms – new look needed. Current uniform indicates things are slack there.
- School caters for individuals
- Uniform from 7-10
- Free dress 11-12
- Strong new image
- Funding allocation
- Culture of excellence.

Group Three

- Unsure whether to be standalone
 - Greater choice of subjects if it is to remain part of Sandringham
 - Standalone school –limited subject choice
 - What primary parents want is more immediate than a 20/20 solution
 - Standalone – needs ‘overhaul’.
 - Reputation remains ‘as is’ from 20 years ago.
 - MGSC takes most of the female population and that has excellent academic program, needs to be a boy’s school.
 - Needs 600-800 to succeed.
 - 2 campuses can work, three can not
 - Needs support from Sandringham Secondary or other i.e slow release – to facilitate success (at least first five years – to assist with subject offerings, shared facilities.)
 - Financially – need more funding to re-build and buildings as currently fits 300-400 students.
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- Standalone 7-10 will not work (from personal experience)
 - Standalone 7-12 boys – academic focus
 - Why so many of these students are from out of the zone?
 - Cross pollination
 - Spend \$\$ on buildings
 - School has been let go
 - Doesn’t look good on the outside
 - Catch ‘22’ – 3-5 million to rebuild
 - Private funding /parental input
 - Develop a sister school at MGSC
 - Perception ‘arty’ school
 - Look, marketing – lack of parental school community involvement
 - Community groups to use facilities
 - Single sex

- Would prefer co-ed
- Philosophically would prefer co-ed by the reality is that girls travel to MGSC
- Too much competition with MGSC
- Would like a 'sporty' school
- Standalone 7-12 boy's school very different to current structure - will take a long time to change.
- Current primary schools population 2500-3000 : Beauy, Beauy Nth, Chelt, Black Rock, and Catholic Schools
- Needs momentum from community to get appropriate funding.

Group Four

- Local sense of community
 - Sustaining enrollments
 - Timeline to get stand alone school up and running
 - Stand alone not viable
 - Maintain current range of subject offered
 - Strong vote for stand alone
 - Sister school relationship with MGSC
 - Parents want more options - private -public
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- Standalone 7-12
 - If 7-10, what is option for 11 and 12
 - Strong links re : subjects to other schools
 - Fewer enrollments in yr12, less choice of subjects
 - Maintain current strong academic record
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- Strong preference for Boys only
 - Not enough girls enrollments to justify
 - Perhaps in future offer co-ed
 - Transition block - perhaps Grade 4.

As requested by the community, these are the people to contact in regards to Beaumaris.

Inga Peulich : inga.peulich@parliament.vic.gov.au

Murray Thompson : murray.thompson@parliament.vic.gov.au

John Lenders : john.lenders@parliament.vic.gov.au

To view the notes from the handwritten submitted sheets, please visit the college blog:

<http://www.sandringhamc.wordpress.com>

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