



Darebin Education Committee

Minutes of meeting held on Monday 17 March 2014

4.00pm-5.45pm
Darebin City Council Conference Room
350 High Street Preston VIC 3072

Chairs: Cr Vince Fontana
Minute Taker: Dalal Smiley

Present: Cr Vince Fontana, Cr Angela Villella, Cr Gaetano Greco (Mayor), Dalal Smiley, Nicholas Abbey, Catherine Hall, Andrew Horgan, Wendy Dinning

Apologies: Cheryl Hermence, Sally Jones

1. Welcome

Cr Vince Fontana welcomed everyone and asked attendees to introduce themselves.

2. Terms of Reference of the Darebin Education Committee **2.1 Membership**

The draft Terms of Reference for the new committee were discussed and suggested changes made regarding the membership of the Committee to extend invitations to school council presidents. The Committee also discussed representation by students and it was deemed to be better to invite students from different schools to present to the committee at various meetings rather than have one student representative participate in all meetings.

3. Report on Education Inquiry and Launch

Dalal tabled the draft report of the Education Inquiry which consists of 104 pages. Dalal summarised the findings and recommendations. The Committee discussed best options to present the report to various audiences such as: politicians, school principals, education researchers, media etc.

In its current format the report is too dense and therefore the Committee suggested the compilation of a summary document with key information included to be put together and which will go to Council for final adoption. The 104 pages report can be made available as an electronic copy accessible via Council's website.

4. Meetings for 2014

The Committee discussed whether holding meetings during the day might be an option that would better suit representatives from the local schools. Also the frequency of the meetings was discussed and in general members preferred to keep meetings for this year on bi-monthly basis.

In relation to timing, Dalal will consult with schools as to best times to have the meetings in order to secure attendance.

5. Other business

Catherine Hall updated the meeting on Coburg High School. Northcote Secondary College is no longer accepting students enrolments from Preston or Reservoir. These students are now referred to Coburg High.

Nic Abbey proposed the idea of co-creating a great schools network and suggested whether Darebin City Council could market the city as a Learning Community. A matter that can be further followed in the future as part of the implementation of the Education Inquiry Report and the partnership agreements with schools.

Wendy Dinning mentioned that Council has brokered placements for 8 VCAL students from Parade Secondary College for 1 day per week engaged in IT projects.

Andrew Horgan flagged an initiative by INLLEN and Darebin Youth Commitment to establish a Youth Employment Taskforce.

6. Next meeting

- Monday 19 May 2014, 4pm-5:45pm Darebin City Council Conference Room, 350 High Street Preston.

Meeting closed at 5.30pm