

# Curriculum Review Committee Meeting Minutes Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> August 2014

**Present:** Michelle Mahoney, Chris Deslandes, Amanda Hall, Julie Crettenden, Suzie Millard, Mick Broad, Tara Millard, Kirrily Dingwall, Val Slater, Cathy Sandland, James Travis, Petrea Glover, Lisa Richardson, Chris Speed

**Apologies:** Teleah Wilson

**Welcome** – Chris welcomed everyone to the meeting. Previous minutes were accepted

**Correspondence** – (via Governing Council) – From Nicole Buddle, re Senior Curriculum needs to consider PE offering particularly for Diabetic children, as helps with controlling sugar levels.

## General Business

### Cathy Sandland

- Process from subject selection to final timetables for Year 11/12 explained. Uses program “timetabler”, which will also link well to the electronic diary we are trialling on Ipads.
- Sit with individual students and parents, discussing careers and therefore subject choices.
- Use a sheet showing Year 11/12 subjects. Work backwards from after school to Year 11. Those undecided, leave their options open.
- Year 12 encourage to do 4 subjects and Research Project (compulsory). Can do 3 but this is mainly for ASBA students.
- This is then fed into “timetable”, which prints out a summary of who is doing what. Need to also consider the “essential” subjects that certain students need.
- This process will also show the clashes. Use this to find the “best fit”, to then give subject offerings.
- Must also consider the essential 8-19 subjects to be covered and what has to be in certain semesters.
- Cathy then showed the group how this then goes onto a Semester 1 and Semester 2 timetable for Year 11

There was some discussion as to what affects which subjects will run or not- and why certain numbers for some subjects have dropped.

Chris Deslande – There are ATAR changes in the future which may mean some schools will offer 5 rather than 4 subjects, so some schools are starting to plan changes.

### Cathy Sandland

- Usually starts with Year 11, as this is the most difficult to full. Finishes approximately Week 8 Term 4. Flexibility comes from the first step only.
- Discussed the issues with using 5 or 6 line tables rather than our current 7 line timetable.

Lisa Richardson – From her recent VET conference (about our Trade Training Centre), handed Pamphlets (see attached) around to the group of Courses we could offer students that are not currently offered to them. These would involve Day or Week blocks to do these courses. Lisa is looking into these as an option.

Amanda Hall – Asked about full year maths for Year 11's, whether it is required. Cathy explained that it is not absolutely necessary, but it works for our students. Students often change their minds about subjects, or haven't passed it (compulsory subject for Stage 1), so this gives them a second chance. Could be an option to do only one semester for certain individuals.

Review of surveys conducted:

Before started viewing data gathered and collated since last meeting, Chris explained that we should view the data using three questions

1. Summary of what we SEE in the data
2. Why are we seeing this?
3. What, if anything can be done about it

Teacher Capabilities (see attached collation sheets, green and blue)

Kirily Dingwall surveyed staff, asking separately, yr 8-10, and yr 11/12, what they have and would be willing to teach.

1. Summary of some of the things we can see from the data (yr 11/12 green sheet)

Limited staff to teach

1 Specialist Maths  
1 Chemistry  
1 Biology  
1 PE  
1 Ag  
1 Accounting  
1 Business  
1 ICT

Large n° staff to teach

Maths Applications  
English  
Physics  
Research Project

Other comments

-Have lot of breadth with our staff  
-Arts offerings limited  
-No languages available

2. Why are we seeing this?
  - Various Experiences
  - Many part-time staff members
  - Pressure of Yr 12 teaching
  - Targetting recruiting
  - Already competent/experience incumbent
3. - Need to make sure for Year 12 submeects we have a "back-up" teacher for all subjects.
  - Getting replacement teachers who have skills to become our "back-up" teachers if possible
  - Explore reasons for part-time

As a group, we are starting to see that we actually have a huge range of subjects that could be taught at our school, that we aren't as limited as we thought. These staff capabilities should be publicised somehow.

Student Preferences (see attached collation sheets)

Julie Crettenden surveyed current Yr 10, 11 and 12. They were asked what subjects do they want to be doing for Stage 1 and Stage 2. They were asked to choose 6 subjects for year 12, and 8 for year 11 (not including the compulsory English/Maths or the languages as we have no staff to cover this). Students were also asked whether they plan to go to TAFE, University, into employment or do an Apprenticeship. No subject descriptors were given, but they were given the option to go to SACE website to find them if required.

Mick Broad commented that he would be curious to see how the data would have looked if we had split the responses of the boys and girls.

The group was to take this survey away with them and read over the results before the next meeting. Needed to keep in mind the three questions, as described above and the SACE data sheet given by Cathy Sandland (see attached).

Next Meeting 16<sup>th</sup> September (week 9) 5.30pm

Meeting Closed 7.20pm

Minutes Recorded