



Stratford High School Board Minutes - People and Policy Sub-Committee Meeting

Tuesday 21 April 2026 at 4.35pm in meeting room, Stratford High School

Present:	Cameron Stone - Chair, Jason Loveridge, Brent Watkins, Jane Tobin, Kate Machen, Greg Topless
Late:	
In Attendance:	Joe Mack
Apologies:	Riejanne Campbell

Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

Cam Stone	N/A
Jason Loveridge	N/A
Brent Watkins	N/A
Jane Tobin	N/A
Kate Machen	N/A
Riejanne Campbell	N/A

MINUTES

Matters Arising from previous meeting

1. Community feedback from Firearms Course – Cameron Stone update.
162 responses from survey. Of the No responses many suggested ok if the course was taken off site. The course will be conducted off site and will only be for a handful of students. Principal will circulate this information in the next newsletter.
2. Overseas Trips – change to policy – Cameron Stone update.
The Principal had emailed the Overseas Committee and highlighted reasons for a change of policy. The Committee was given an opportunity to respond if not happy with the changes – no responses were received back. New policy will be changed and put online.

Confirmation of minutes

Resolution:

That the BOT take as read and confirmed the minutes of the People & Policy Sub-Committee meeting of 17 March 2026, and note the recommendations therein were adopted by the BOT on 24 March 2026.

Moved: Jason Loveridge
Seconded: Cameron Stone
Carried: ALL

HEALTH AND SAFETY

No update – no meetings held in this timeframe.

POLICY

School Docs updates

3. School Swimming Pool - Principal updated the committee regarding the current school pool and the challenges faced with it. The community was previously surveyed and indicated they were reluctant to see it shut, but costs have escalated in recent times and it is potentially not financially viable to maintain. This year it has only been utilised for two events - school triathlon and swimming sports day. The pool is usually too cold for PE classes. Discussion regarding the potential of solar heating and if the utilisation will increase. Water confidence was also discussed.

Assurances were discussed as per the policy. Health and safety assurances need to be checked they are being complied with. Hazard identification is covered.

Next steps – investigate costs to maintain to standard – pool will need to be emptied prior. Principal to discuss with PE department on the options that could be made available if the pool is upgraded.

4. Student Uniform/Student Dress Expectations – the Presiding Chair advised this has come about from the recent complaint from a family regarding expectations of students dress standard. As part of the process a review would be undertaken.

The Principal tabled the coloured Uniform Guide and the expectations. This guide has been in place since 2021 and is in the current enrolment pack and webpage. The Deputy Principal – Pastoral has since created an additional page highlighting the clothing expectations and this has been circulated to the school community recently.

The Committee discussed whether there was a need to make changes to the uniform expectations. It was discussed does a uniform affect learning, but also there is an expectation that a standard uniform gives an overall rule to follow and many workplaces after students leave school will have expectations and rules to follow. A uniform review in the future may be a more opportune time to review this dress expectation.

It was noted that previous minutes from 2021 indicated the student expectations brochure was to be loaded on SchoolDocs but it did not happen. This will be rectified asap.

The Principal showed the committee the LockerRoom website which launched a consistent line of apparel for sports and hats, alleviating having to buy a separate hoodie for each sport. The tops can later be screen-printed or embroidered with student initials and can have their sport on there as well.

Recommendation:

That current uniform expectations flyer and newer uniform pictures be uploaded to School Docs as a resource appendix and those guidelines remain status quo and be reviewed as per normal review cycle.

Moved: Jason Loveridge
Seconded: Greg Topless
Carried: ALL

PEOPLE

5. Overseas Trip Application – Netball – April 2027
6. Overseas Trip Applications – Rugby – July 2027

The Principal advised that end of March was the cut off for applications for 2027. Historically there has been one overseas trip each year.

The Principal tabled his application to take two school teams to Fiji, which will consist of a boys and girls team, from Year 10 upwards. It was initially intended to take a team to Japan, but the timing for travel was not ideal. Indicative costs for Fiji were not provided due the current financial climate and recent weather interruptions. He was also going to approach the same tour company that the hockey team were using this year to travel to Australia. It was noted the culture and comradery of being in Fiji would be very beneficial to the students and school.

Discussion followed on both applications and around the difference in the logistics and pricing. It was noted that costs shouldn't be a barrier to those students that can't afford to go. The burden on also asking the community for fundraising dollars is also very draining. A question was asked can you cap the amount of fundraising per student to achieve and then the balance to be paid from the students, or a percentage of the total cost is covered by fundraising.

It was discussed to be able to allow both applications to proceed would be a great opportunity but the burden on the community to fundraise for these as well as other school fundraising opportunities needs to be considered. The Principal also commented there is potential for a further application for a cricket team to travel in 2028.

Recommendation:

That a fundraising cap of \$2,000 per student be included into the overseas policy.

That based on the revised overseas policy, both applications be asked to come back with revised figures.

Moved: Jason Loveridge

Seconded: Greg Topless

Carried: ALL

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Letter to School Boards – Curriculum Reform - Received

LATE ITEMS

No late items.

GENERAL

No further discussion.

PUBLIC EXCLUDED BUSINESS

Recommendation:

That the public be excluded for agenda items relating to People Agenda Items (noted above) pursuant to section 48 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act. The reason being to discuss matters regarding personnel on the grounds to protect the privacy of individuals.

Moved: Jason Loveridge

Seconded: Brent Watkins

Carried: ALL

Meeting Closed at 5.41pm to go into Public Excluded

Signed:



Date:

19/5/26