



St Francis Catholic College
FRIENDS OF FRANCIS
 Monday 24th February 2025 at 6:00 pm
(Meet outside College Office)
SFCC Staff Common Room

Chairperson: Kate Acosta St Francis Representatives: Matthew McMahon (MCMM), Rita Agostino (AGOR)	Meeting Notes: Rita Agostino (AGOR)
Present: Kate Acosta, Rinnai Sillato, Monika Prasad, Sarah Heard, Natasa Zulamoski, Anita Scherer, Jesica Arundell, Kiri Frew, Maria Dao, Raymond Tabot, Antonija Bariscic, Belinda Mangos, Magdalena Cogiel-Gandera, Neven Sher, Renee Sermetovski	Apologies: Maria Spiros, Liz Henson

Previous Meeting Actions to be followed up		
AGENDA ITEM:	MEETING NOTES:	ACTION:
Group Operating Norms	1. Be present & active listeners 2. Stay on topic & be solutions-focused 3. Value the contributions of all present 4. Remember that issues/complaints are to be referred to/through appropriate College channels”	Ongoing - to be shared at all meetings
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitator update 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mrs Kate Acosta (Friends of Francis Facilitator) Ms Antonija Barisic (Friends of Francis Fundraising Facilitator) Mrs Maria Spiros (Friends of Francis Social / Community Facilitator) 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Latest FoF Constitution 	Latest FoF Constitution Community Project Levy Guidelines	

New Meeting Items & Discussion Notes		
AGENDA ITEM:	MEETING NOTES:	ACTION:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acknowledgement of Country 	MCMM	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prayer 	<p>AGOR</p> <p>As we gather here for the first time this year, we thank You for the gift of our school, our children, and the opportunity to serve together.</p> <p>Bless our time this evening —may our conversations be guided by wisdom, our decisions made with humility, and our hearts open to serving others with love and compassion.</p> <p>Grant us the patience to listen, the understanding to collaborate, and the strength to work for the good of our students, staff, and families.</p> <p>May our efforts help create a welcoming and nurturing environment, where every child grows in knowledge, character, and faith.</p> <p>Inspired by the example of St. Francis of Assisi, may we serve with humility and joy, always seeking to bring peace and kindness to our school community.</p> <p>We ask this in Jesus' name.</p> <p>Amen</p> <p><i>St Francis... Pray for us.</i> <i>Blessed Edmund.... Pray for Us</i> <i>Live Jesus in our Hearts Forever</i></p>	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Housekeeping 	AGOR Reminded attendees of the group operating norms.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Open Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Apologies ○ Introductions - around the room ○ 	Apologies via Kate: Joelene, Anita, Raymond, Sita, Natasa, Liz, Maria Joelene is stepping down from the committee. Currently involved in other aspects of the college.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Minutes of Previous Meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● On Website under Parents Tab/ Parent School Partnership 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Principal's report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 2025 students based on the Feb Census - 1567 ● Staffing update ● Swimming Carnival (3 & 4 Competitors; 5-12) ● Information Nights (K-4); 5 & 6; 7, 8, 9, 10 & 11 - completed ● Year 7 Camp / Year 12 Retreat ● Traffic Management - update ● Cyclic Inquiry 2025 ● College Goal - 2025 "By the end of 2025, student growth and achievement will be enhanced by building the capacity of staff to integrate the College's approach to learning (New Pedagogies for Deep Learning)" ● Building & facilities update (ECC & Stage 8) ● Upcoming College events 2025 (& 2026) ● JY equipment ideas ● HSC results <p>2025 - student population 1567. Will increase to 1650 at capacity. There were almost 1000 applications last year. SFCC is the school of choice in the area.</p> <p>Staffing update - A TAS teacher is required.</p> <p>Swimming carnival - Not the desired venue this year but attendance was quite good. Overall a successful day.</p> <p>Information nights - JY, Stage 3 and Years 7-11 were held over the past fortnight. Year 12 was conducted late last year. Overall very well attended.</p>	

	<p>Year 7 camp - Great Aussie Bush Camp at Kincumber. Rain on the second day.</p> <p>Year 12 Retreat - The Benedict Centre at Groswold.</p> <p>We have applied for pedestrian assistants. We have to prove our numbers are worthy of having someone assigned to these crossings. Council currently collating numbers. Additional signs have been made up. Some dangerous drop offs are still occurring. We have notified families through newsletters, Compass etc. There is some concern about the message getting out to parents. Currently, newsletter readership is at 50-60%.</p> <p>Cyclic Inquiry - This year the College will be participating in a Cyclic Inquiry. This has replaced the former School Review process. We provide information/data to an external panel. Members of FoF will be asked to be part of this process and provide feedback.</p> <p>NP4DL - Approach to learning which encourages critical thinking, collaboration, creativity, citizenship, etc. These are skills students will need well into the future. We will see student growth through this learning framework.</p> <p>Building update - Stage 8 - 2027. This includes the Early Childhood Centre and the Senior Years building.</p> <p>We have a specialist setting which is not currently being used.</p> <p>OOSH - The cleanliness of OOSH was questioned. There are a lot of unknowns about the OOSH space. The College will determine if OOSH was to continue in the future. If OOSH was to continue, potentially it could move to the EEC in the future.</p> <p>SFCC was initially meant to be a P-12 school (Prep - the year before Kinder)</p> <p>EEC - Could be 2-4 years.</p>	
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	<p>Upcoming college events -</p> <p>2026 Marks the 10th Year of the College. A community event will need to be organised.</p> <p>JY equipment - MCMM showed various images of play equipment The buddy bench - Is a good initiative Other equipment to encourage gross motor skill development would be good.</p> <p>HSC results - MCMM went through some highlights 14% of students received a band 6 result. 13th best Catholic Systemic school. SFCC is beating selective schools in the local area.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FoF Financial Report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family College Partnerships (FCP) Care Committee Account Current Balance: \$2.456.27 CR 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social/Community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next event? <p>Suggestions included</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activities to engage the community. • Christmas carols - Would require lots of planning. SFCC has had carols in the past and this was a great event. • We will be alternating between the concert and carols. • Trivia • High Tea - We could utilise senior students to assist. We could also turn this into a fundraiser. • Mothers Day High Tea • Movie Night - For parents and students <p>Needed clarity as to whether the event would be for our Parents/Carers (eg a day at the races) or whether the event would be attached to the school (involving children).</p>	

	<p>Year 12 currently has a trivia night.</p> <p>There was discussion surrounding the number of events and there was agreement there should be 2 (Semester 1 and Semester 2).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should we lock in carols at the end of the year? Friday night would be ideal. • A colour run on a Sunday? Will this go towards a charity or the school. • A night on the Green can be a potential social event <p>Mother's Day and Father's Day events will be similar to 2024. A games afternoon worked well previously.</p>	<p>Action: MCMC to liaise with TANN about organising a 'Day on the Green' for the end of Term 2.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fundraising 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plans? <p>Maria Dao presented her Breakfast Club initiative. She explained that research indicated that having breakfast improves behaviour.</p> <p>The program will cost approx \$5000 - \$10000 per year.</p> <p>Maria was asking if anyone present had any contacts who could assist with donations or fundraisers.</p> <p>We already have the support of Bakers Delight - they are prepared to assist with fundraising.</p> <p>Chocolates could be an alternative fundraiser.</p> <p>This initiative will be open for Years 9-12 initially as trial SRC and hospitality students as well as parents could serve the breakfast for a 20-30 minute timeframe.</p> <p>Contact Maria Dao - daom01@dow.catholic.edu.au for further information or to assist with donations or fundraising ideas.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advisory Council Update 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hands Off Policy - To be sent to volunteers - Feedback sought before the end of Term One, 2025. 	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educative Component 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cyclic Inquiry • School Improvement Tool • Possible topics for next 3 meetings? <p>What is it that parents would like to hear?</p> <p>Suggestion: Information about self care and wellbeing Nutrition guidelines. (Do these guidelines differ from K-12?)</p>	Nutrition guidelines to be shared
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Business item 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can we increase education surrounding food allergies and student first aid? • Parents to be informed of extracurricular activities when this is available. 	

Meeting Close: 7:30 pm

Next Meeting: College Staff Common Room

Date:

Monday 26th May 2025

Time:

6:00 pm