## Tapping Primary School
### Independent Public School

**DATE** Tuesday 04 March 2014  
**CHAIR PERSON** Bill Boylan  
**TIME** 7:00 PM (opened 7:00 )  
**MINUTE SECRETARY** Susan Mallett  

### ATTENDEES
- **Board:** Bill Boylan, Susan Mallett, Julie McCaskill, Wilson McCaskill, Coretta Robson, Janette Crisp, Will Turner  
- **Visitor:** Valerie Ogilvie  
- **APOLOGIES:** Colleen Linsley, Caroline Keenan, Amanda Ferguson, Maria Szep, Krista-Lee Swart  

### ABSENT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REF</th>
<th>ITEM</th>
<th>LED BY</th>
<th>DISCUSSION/PROGRESS REPORT</th>
<th>ACTION TIMELINE</th>
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| 1   | Welcome / Introductions | Bill | - Welcome and apologies.  
- Board to retain the same composition for the year with no new members  
- 2014 started smoothly with few changes to staff or environment compared to previous years, apart from the conversion of two classrooms into a pre primary classroom. With no big influx of students, school numbers have remained at around 880 as predicted. Classes are slightly larger than in previous years due to education cuts. | |
| 2   | Previous Meeting Minutes | Bill | - No discussion required. | |
| 3   | BESM | Bill | - In the media there has been discussion about schools such as Ellendale PS which have adopted the Fleming model of “explicit instruction” and this is being touted as “best practice” in many states and by our employer. However, there seems to be confusion over the terms “explicit instruction” and “explicit teaching”.  
- “Explicit instruction”, otherwise called “direct instruction” is a teaching strategy originally designed for some groups of special needs students and has an approach of (I do, We do, You do). According to the principal of Ellendale PS, he removes all impediments to learning from the classroom, be they students or parents, and takes them to his office.  
- “Explicit teaching” incorporates a wide range of strategies, one minor approach being “direct instruction”.  
- “Explicit instruction” excludes aspects of “best practice” highly valued by Tapping PS such as differentiation, problem solving, cooperative learning, creativity and personal achievement with social and emotional growth etc.  
- “Explicit instruction” therefore conflicts with the philosophy of Tapping PS. | |
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<tr>
<th>Uniform Policy</th>
<th>Bill and Wilson</th>
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| • Wilson referred to an article he had written which referenced Martin E. P. Seligman’s “The Optimistic Child” in which it proposed that the larger an entity to which children can attach themselves and feel a sense of belonging, the greater meaning and self worth they feel. If a uniform stands for a philosophy or represents a value system then we should support this fully. **Belonging is crucial.** Uniforms are levelling and take away competition.  
• Uniforms bring us together while fashion sets us apart, individualises and separates. |

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<tr>
<th>School Development Plan</th>
<th>Bill</th>
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<td>• An overview given of each of the components of the School Development Plan and how the document is used with staff.</td>
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<th>Australian Curriculum</th>
<th>Susan</th>
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| • A summary of where the school is up to in regards to implementation of the Australian was given with reference to the ACARA website [http://www.acara.edu.au/default.asp](http://www.acara.edu.au/default.asp) and the Australian Curriculum website [http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/](http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/) .  
• Tapping PS is moving towards full implementation in line with DoE expectations in 2015. We already report against Australian Curriculum standards in English, Mathematics, Science and History and are waiting to consider Geography in Semester 2. We are in the process of phasing out Society and Environment which we currently report against Western Australian standards. |

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<th>General Business</th>
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| • Discussion only of a future change for the ‘leavers year’ shirts - use of the design of the current year 6 shirts.  
• Unauthorised Facebook entries discounted. |

**Documents used at this meeting:**

- School Development Plan – including Business Plan, Strategic Plans for priority areas, Data Collection Cycle, Reporting to Parents Schedule, Code of Conduct  
- Reference to School Report at Schools Online  
- ACARA documents – “Progress of the Australian Curriculum”  
- TPS Uniform Policy  
- Graphics of un/acceptable examples of school uniform garments