



**OONOONBA STATE SCHOOL
PARENTS & CITIZENS ASSOCIATION
GENERAL MEETING – 12 February 2026**



Minutes

DATE: Thursday 12 February 2026

TIME: 6:30pm

VENUE: Oonoonba State School (staff common room)

CHAIRPERSON: Emina Shailer

1. ATTENDANCE

- Emina Shailer, Sarah Comino, Trevor Milton, Katie Commons, Jac Newman, Dani Kerr, Suzanne van der Westhuizen, ...
- Apologies: Casey Jones

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

- Thursday 27 November 2025 – acceptance deferred due to the minutes not being available.

3. ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

- Deferred to next meeting due to minutes not being available.

4. RATIFICATION OF FLYING MINUTES

- Flying minute to approve upcoming incursions and excursions – APPROVED

5. CORRESPONDENCE

Mother's Day stock for Term 2 – there was a request for someone to be responsible for ordering.

6. REPORTS

- Principal's Report (to be attached)
 - Ms Comino gave updates on the school class numbers and sizes.
 - The attendance goal is 95% or more and Oonoonba is sitting at 94.9%. The start of the school year is known to affect attendance.
 - 5H will get an update on their new teacher in Week 7.
 - Automatic gate is being installed in the admin carpark and the wonky tree outside the school gate is being cut.
 - The School Review outcomes will be discussed at the next meeting – highlights and recommended next steps.
 - NAPLAN week 7 and 8 – named on Queensland's education department strategic plan as a key measure of success.
 - Term 1 variations to school routine include a Year 3 incursion for science, Year 5 excursion to Billabong Sanctuary and instrumental music beginners boot camp. Year 2 water safety and education is also coming up.
 - PCYC coordinator and regional supervisor meeting early next week. Ms Comino said they will discuss concerns and communications around the level of support they provide to the school and how to work well together.
 - Budget reports were provided.

- The vision screening test is booked in for May and can be done for every student across Years 1-6, with parents receiving an update later. Communications and consent forms will be distributed over the next few weeks.
- Chappy's Report
 - Not available
- President's Report (to be attached)
 - Book packs delivered, most issues resolved. A few remaining items for distribution. Thanks to Katie Commons for coordinating and organising the book packs.
 - \$3,660.12 was raised at the Christmas carols event in December, which was a nice way to end the year. Thank you to Mr Milton for helping to organise the Christmas carols. Thanks to Townsville State High for the portable staging.
 - Meet the Principal session was successful and would be good to host these more often for community building.
 - Fundraising goal for playground redevelopment project.
 - AGM 19 March – encouraged the attendees to consider being a part of the team.
 - Emina announced she would be stepping down as President at the AGM.
- Treasurer's Report
 - \$112,195.42. Money from Christmas raffle came in.
 - Audit is being done by Darrigan Accounting. Haven't had book pack money appear in account yet.
 - School Locker rebates - \$483.52 – seeking clarification on when this is ending.

7. FUNDRAISING REPORT – STATUS & PLANNING

- Update on current fundraising events
 - Picture plates – discount to do this before May. Papers ordered. Opened to prep students first, then to others if there is demand.
 - Motion: Katie Seconded: Jac

8. GENERAL BUSINESS

Homework policy

- Ms Comino said the draft homework policy will go to staff as well for feedback. There are mixed ideas about homework. The school is basing next steps on what has been told to them before, including in a survey of parents last year around whether they wanted to do homework and how they felt about it. This was completed before Mrs Day left end term 2. The general consensus was that if there was homework there shouldn't be too much. Some parents stated they would not do it regardless of the amount. Other parents gave feedback about preparedness for high school for older years' students and not wanting students going to high school without being able to manage their time. Ms Comino said the policy is focused on trying to get balance. Part of what teachers do daily is feedback to students on their learning. When a small group completes homework, is it a purposeful way to provide feedback or is in-class sufficient?
- Reading is an expectation. Checking for available home readers for all classes. No expectation to record in a book. Literacy and numeracy need to be balanced. There were some comments about doing research in class. Not all families have access to libraries, computers, internet etc, so research has to be something everyone can do regardless of their circumstances.
- EQ says schools need a homework policy. The group sought clarification on the expectation for teachers to set homework – weekly, termly or other frequency. Ms Comino said teachers feel differently about homework too. She was firm that any decision about homework for a particular year group is a cohort decision.

Library borrowing

- Ms Comino said that she had not met with the Librarian yet but wants to enable wider access to borrowing again. There may be a longer-term, semester 2 opportunity to open the library before school so parents can do borrowing.

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- The explanation for some classes and students not having library access was that some individual students had damaged or not returned books so were not allowed to borrow.
- Mr Milton said beginning of each term the library has to unpack because the space is used by PCYC. Teacher aides doing PD in Resource Centre start unpacking first day of school. End of each term and last week the library gets packed up again and borrowing is not possible.

P&C conference date – 5-6 June 2026

- Number of participants would be limited due to no subsidy available.

NAPLAN

- Suggestion to do a NAPLAN snack/breakfast event. The group agreed to do this at the end of NAPLAN and do a bbq or fruit platters. NAPLAN runs from 11-23 March.

Breakfast Club

- No students are allowed in the tuckshop and the food has to be prepared inside. Table set up outside for students with an adult preparing the toast and passing to them to put toppings on. Organise by end of next week to restart next year.

Blue cards

- Resolved that only the Executive Committee had this as a mandatory requirement.

School leaver activities

- Activities proposed included Easter egg guessing in Term 1 Week 9, Angel Paws in Term 2, disco (theme TBA) in Term 2 Week 7, pyjama day Term 3 to raise funds for Pyjama Foundation or Jeans for Genes Day, Term 4 Christmas disco.
- The group approved the following activities:
 - PJ Day
 - Disco Week 7 Term 2 – 4 June
 - Week 9 Easter egg guessing
 - Disco to be moved from Term 4 Christmas to another time, eg. Halloween – staff to look at timing for this (to be coordinated by Mr Milton and Ms Comino).

Shade outside PCYC

- The shade outside PCYC needs to be reported to QBuild and a timeline to replace it could stretch to 12 months.

Swimming lessons

- Year 2 and Year 4 are eligible for swimming lessons this year, and Prep classes will be eligible every year. Mr Milton reiterated the cost of the buses and pressure within the school to organise all year groups at once were limiting factors in providing lessons for all year groups.

Miscellaneous

- Flag for interschool carnivals – the group thought this had been discussed previously and would follow up with the office to check.
- Ms Comino to follow up about the demountables having a barrier to stop balls going underneath.
- Damage on Year 1 playground that needs to be fixed – metal is bent – to be reviewed by the school.
- Mother's Day spend pre-approval is for \$1,500.

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- Emina, Dani, Jac and Katie volunteered to join the playground consultative committee.

9. NEXT MEETING

- AGM – Thursday 19 March, 6.30pm

10. MEETING CLOSURE – 7.55pm