

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES 4 November 2025

Subject	Perth Modern School Board Meeting					
Date	November 4, 2025					
Time	17:15 start					
Location	McCusker Board Room					
Chair	Dr Bronwyn Rasmussen					
Attendees	Voting: Robyn Verboon (Principal), Dr Bronwyn Rasmussen (Chair), Grant Staffe, Charlie Bond (vice Chair), Sandra Song, Peter Farr (Perth Modernian Society Rep), Kati Tonkin (Parent Rep), Monica Franz (Staff Rep), Rick McMahon (Staff Rep), Raymond Loh, Cathryn Trott, Mary McCusker, Avash Shakya					
Invited attendees	Philippa Roy (Associate Principal) (until 17:40), Trisha Bebek (Manager Corporate Services)					
Apologies	Jeet Ghosh (P&C Rep)					

#	Item	Minutes				
	STANDING ITEMS					
1	Welcome and acknowledgment of Country; Apologies; Conflict of interest	The Chair welcomed everyone and provided an Acknowledgement of Country. No add conflicts of interest were declared. Agenda changed to accommodate TB and PR welcomed new student representatives and then asked the Board members to int themselves.				
2	Minutes of previous meeting	PF moves that the recorded minutes reflect the meeting. GS seconded. All in favour.				
3	Business Plan – KFA4	PR presented slides for Key Focus Area 4 of the Business Plan (KFA4). Reflected on vision of the KFA – connecting to community - Kadadjiny Dandjoo. To build a connected learning environment, and to support learning. Implementation of this focus area was discussed. Identify areas of strength and areas for growth. Have long-standing relationships for students to have real-world experiences. Co-design, feedback to ensure relevance. Inclusive community – everyone feels valued and engaged. Student engagement and participation important for assessing success. Quality, not quantity of students, was important. Draft operational plans underway. PR displayed a 5-min video showing the journey of the outgoing Year 12 cohort. RV thanked PR for the work toward the Year 12 presentation night, including the video. Question about Gagne's model for gifted and talented learning, including catalysts for learning to transform gifts into talents. Congratulations from PF for the quality and structure of the presentation night. PR left the meeting.				
4	Correspondence	No correspondence.				
5 Action Items Register RV provided an update on plans for the Department to and that PMS is not allowed to pursue their own solution		RV provided an update on plans for the Department to institute an Al platform for schools, and that PMS is not allowed to pursue their own solution. Expecting more in 2026 from the Department. The above does not impact the Board's draft Al Policy.				
	ITEMS FOR INFORMATION					
6	Principal's Report	Recognition of the students who have received Year 12 subject and general awards. Significant number of events run by the school in recent weeks, as well as Professional Development and opportunities. AS suggested that he and MM could potentially shadow some PD so that they can reflect what happens back to the student cohort. RV suggested an opportunity where that could happen in a relevant context.				

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7	P & C Report	 (Provided as written report) There were no motions for expenditure from the school. There is a total of \$178,882.57 of uncommitted accounts, comprising of \$141,141.14 in the P&C general account and \$37,741.43 in the FoM general account. P&C has made a submission to the WA Parliamentary Inquiry into Land Development and Planning about our concerns about the aspects of the proposed development on the former PMH site and the broader Subiaco East Master Plan (SEMP). RV reported that P&C did a school walk around with school leadership to identify opportunities that align with the Masterplan where P&C may be able to assist. 			
8	Modernians Report	 Approximately 30 students applying for Year 7 entry scholarships. Not necessarily all under equity conditions, and so they may not all be used. Will be held over for higher years Sphinx Foundation Board has created a paid Executive Officer position to do all of the administrative work. Position is open. Target audience is parents, Modernians, former staff, and the general public. 			
9	Student report	A lot of students stressed with student load for exams. GS explained that Year 11 exams have to fit around the WACE exams. Looking at trying to alleviate for S1 2026. Presentation night was excellent but the venue was not great. Understand that the Perth Concert Hall is under upgrade. Graduation caps were suggested, but the night is a presentation and not a graduation.			
10	Finance Report	TB presented the YTD financial statements and answered questions on different components. Comment that it would be helpful to have a budget forecast to help Board identify any issues/areas of concern. Financial statements showed that the school is tracking well against the current budget. School compliance review was undertaken in August through the Department of Education. Two auditors were on site and requested documentation and had meetings with senior staff. Satisfactory audit rating. Purchasing and Payments, and Asset Management identified as areas for attention. New system for Asset Management to be started in 2026, using an external service to update the Asset Register and providing an ongoing system. Significant compliance loads are being placed on schools without a resourcing provision.			
	ITEMS FOR DECISION				
11	Charges and contibutions 2026	Finance Committee has reviewed the Charges and Contributions. TB spoke to the subject-based changes and the justifications for those. Questions concerning difference between charges for subjects and additional costs for excursions. GAT set fee is for subscriptions (e.g., Mathspace), additional coaches, Rising Scholars, and other external enrichment services. AS asked how the School production is funded (part of overall School budget). TB presented the Additional Cost items for Years 7-9 and Years 10-12. Request from students about clarity around the Eol process. PF reminded the Board that the Sphinx Foundation stands ready to assist students facing financial difficulties for extra-curricular.			
		Resolution to accept proposed Charges and Contributions for 2026. Proposed by CB, supported by KT, with all in favour.			
	ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION				
12	NAPLAN results	Biggest indicator of future performance is reading results from NAPLAN. Discussion around the longitudinal data. Writing has improved from Year 9 to Year 7 in terms of results, and will be interesting to see whether that trend continues when the Year 7s move to Year 9. Quality and depth of the data allow the school to really interrogate the performances, and identify and assist students who need help. School survey results to be discussed at the next meeting.			

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	ANY OTHER BUSINESS				
13	Any other business	Comment on late delivery of Board papers. Papers need to be provided prior the day to allow for the Board to have pre-read all of the papers. Good governance to provide that in a timely fashion.			
	NEXT MEETING. Dec	cember 2, 2025 (open meeting)			

Action Items Remaining Open Prior to this Meeting and subject to updates, plus new Action Items:

Action #	Meeting Date	Classification	Min	Action	Description	Due Date	Status	Comments	Actionee(s)
	12/08/25					9 Sept. 2025	discussion in November Board meeting. RV/MM to find out if there is a Department policy.	PF reminded the Board about the potential for AI training. CB suggested we add that to an agenda. RM also supported the idea, because it impacts all aspects of our program. MM discussed use of AI in the teaching. PF to work with CB on finding a suitable person for the discussion. PF Tabled first draft versions of (1) Cover Note: Draft Board Policy on AI Use; (2) Draft Policy Statement: Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) for Board Purposes, and (3) Draft Framework: Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) for Perth Modern School Board Purposes. Discussion, then Board members were asked to review and send any edits back to PF prior to the Nov. mtg. RV updated that the Department will provide an AI Platform for schools, and the School is not allowed to pursue a solution for the Board. The above does not impact the Board's draft AI Policy.	

Signed and dated as approved:	Signed and dated as approved:			
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Dr Bronwyn Rasmussen	Robyn Verboon			
Chair of Perth Modern Board	Principal of Perth Modern Schoo			
Date:	Date:			

