



Subject	Perth Modern School Board Meeting
Date	12 May 2026
Time	17:10
Location	McCusker Board Room
Chair	Ms Kati Tonkin
Attendees	Voting: Mitchell Mackay (Principal), Kati Tonkin (Chair / Parent Rep), Raymond Loh (Parent Rep), Peter Farr (Perth Modernian Society Rep), Grant Staffe (Staff Rep), Monica Franz (Secretary / Staff Rep), Bin Zhu (Parent Rep), Lora Brown (P&C Rep), Avash Shakya (Student Rep), Mary McCusker (Student Rep), Sandra Song (Parent Rep), Rick McMahon (Staff Rep)
Apologies	Cathryn Trott (Deputy Chair / Parent Rep)

#	Item	Minutes
	STANDING ITEMS	
1	Welcome and acknowledgment of Country; Apologies; conflict of interest	KT opens the meeting. Acknowledgement of Country: Raymond Loh No conflict of interest declared.
2	Minutes of previous meeting	PMS School Board Minutes 31 March 2026.docx Moved: Peter Farr. Seconded: Lora Brown. Accepted as a true record.
3	Correspondence	None. MM has corresponded with Charlie Bond and Jeet Ghosh to thank them for their service on the board. MM to send correspondence to KT for record keeping.

#	Item	Minutes
4	Action Items Register	<p>Item 1 - Community representative nominations – no new nominations have been received.</p> <p>Members discussed possible future needs, including expertise in public relations and government engagement. Potential representatives, including [REDACTED] were discussed. It was noted that the school's evolving infrastructure and government support were priorities which may help clarify future representation needs.</p> <p>KT and MM and any other board members interested to discuss a strategy for approaching Kate Chaney. All board members to continue to consider potential community representatives based on need.</p> <p>Items 2 and 4 to be removed from register.</p> <p>Item 5 & 8: Schedule of agenda items provided, still in draft. KFA4 likely to be presented in term 3 and KFA3 in term 4. MF to confirm and update schedule. KT to add another column with standing items for board discussion and/or decision to schedule.</p> <p>Annual Report presented. It was noted that the board isn't required to endorse but good to do so. PF noted the board's input in the report and confirmed he would endorse it. KT noted the information comes from the new business plan and the board has had these discussions in past meeting. MM noted the report is meant to draw the eye to the key and core business that the school is doing. All members to provide any feedback to MF by 3pm Friday, 15/5/26. If no feedback is received, members will be deemed to have endorsed the Report.</p> <p>MF and KT will update action items in agenda for next meeting.</p>
ITEMS FOR DECISION		
5	Terms of Reference	<p>Board membership requirements under the DOE Model Terms of Reference were discussed, noting limited areas for amendment. Members agreed to update staff representatives to three and retain Board membership at 15, with parent representation changing from 'five or six' to five parents and community representatives remaining at two members.</p> <p>Discussion highlighted the value of increasing community representation and strengthening links with the wider community. Potential future community representatives were suggested.</p> <p>Wording in section 5.1(g) was amended to "15 years and over" for consistency with legislation and internal consistency in document.</p> <p>It was noted that the current P&C representative arrangement may not align fully with guidelines; members agreed the current arrangement was useful and should continue unless advised otherwise by DOE.</p> <p>Requirement to notify the community of ordinary meetings under section 9.3 was noted. MF to organise notification.</p> <p>Members reviewed the inclusion of the Code of Conduct and confirmed existing dispute resolution processes address conduct concerns.</p> <p>All members agreed to the proposed amendments. KT to finalise the document.</p>
ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION / INFORMATION		

#	Item	Minutes
6	School Survey Outcomes	<p>GS presented the 2025 NSOS survey data and longitudinal trends, noting that although the survey platform was unavailable in 2024, the survey questions remained consistent.</p> <p>Student data showed generally stable results over time, with improvement in perceptions that student opinions are taken seriously compared to 2020. Feedback and student voice were identified as ongoing areas for development. Student responses also reflected strong perceptions of safety and high teacher expectations.</p> <p>Staff data showed significant positive improvement since 2020, particularly in perceptions of leadership, support, school improvement and staff voice. Discussion acknowledged that communication, leadership and feedback processes remain important ongoing focus areas.</p> <p>Parent data showed the most significant improvement across the three stakeholder groups, particularly in confidence in school leadership and satisfaction with the standard of education provided. Parent perceptions of student safety and teacher expectations remained very strong.</p> <p>GS noted that feedback practices emerged as a consistent theme across all stakeholder groups and would continue to form part of school review and improvement work. Discussion also highlighted opportunities to further strengthen communication, community connection and visibility of decision-making processes.</p> <p>Preliminary School Culture Survey data was also discussed, with early trends appearing consistent with the NSOS findings. Further analysis is still underway.</p> <p>MM noted that some survey questions are broad and can relate to different layers of leadership, highlighting communication, leadership and messaging as ongoing areas for improvement. MM reinforced that the school takes even small areas of concern seriously and continues striving for improvement despite strong overall results.</p> <p>MaryM reflected that the improvement in culture was consistent with the changing experience of students across the years at the school, particularly through stronger relationships with teachers and increased student involvement in committees. MaryM also noted that clearer communication around decisions, such as timetable changes, could further support student understanding and engagement.</p> <p>PF commented that the data was valuable and compared positively with trends currently seen in the university sector. PF highlighted the importance of student voice and noted that direct student representation to the Board was beneficial. PF also reflected on the challenges of maintaining engagement through lengthy surveys.</p> <p>SS asked whether there were particular areas from the 2022 data that had not improved. MM responded that as improvement occurs in one area, attention often shifts to the next area requiring focus. Discussion specifically highlighted feedback processes as an area that has improved but still requires ongoing work.</p> <p>KT observed that Perth Modern School demonstrates a strong commitment to addressing even small numbers of negative responses within survey data rather than dismissing them.</p> <p>Confidentiality of the survey information was reinforced.</p>
7	Business Plan KFA 2	<p>This agenda item was deferred to next meeting. MF did a short introduction of the student wellbeing framework emphasising its purpose and the journey to get there. Further discussion and comments to be opened at next meeting.</p>

#	Item	Minutes
8	Principal's Report	<p>Principals Report May 2026.pdf</p> <p>As read.</p>
9	Student Report	<p>MaryM noted that senior year students are focused on the upcoming exams are coming. Community Day charity was a good pick. Improvement to be had on stalls, students felt they ran out of things to do. Lack of savoury food. Suggestion of bringing back a bigger talent show. Engagement with the charity was an important part of the day. MM noted that teacher participation was really strong.</p> <p>MM noted that Mary and Avash were fantastic at the meeting with Basil Zempilas.</p> <p>PF reminder that community services, leadership and participation in these activities are important for scholarship applications and references.</p>
10	P&C Report	<p>LB advised that the P&C had approved funding for several projects, including an additional \$50,000 for basketball court shading, shade provision outside Andrews, and support for the special school bus service on Fridays at 2:35pm.</p> <p>LB also updated the Board on the proposed relocation of the Roberts Road crossing closer to the school entrance, expected to occur in the second half of 2026. Discussion noted some community debate regarding alternative locations, however council boundary issues were identified as limiting other options. A warden crossing is also planned for the area. Concerns regarding Thomas Street traffic and crossings were also noted.</p> <p>PF acknowledged the significant contribution and support provided by the P&C to the school community.</p> <p>SS asked whether fundraising was occurring for updated entrance signage. MM advised that updated signage and wayfinding works are already underway, funded by the school, with design work commenced.</p>
11	Modernians Report	<p>PF reported that the Annual General Meeting was held on 4 May, noting strong attendance and positive engagement from the Modernian community. Mitch, Lora and Peter addressed the meeting and provided updates on behalf of the school, P&C and Board.</p> <p>Three Modernians were honoured with Robyn White being made a Modernian Fellow and two others recognised as Modernian Scholars.</p> <p>PF advised that discussions had been held with the family of former student Zander Philogene (2017–2022) who sadly passed away from Meningococcal, regarding the establishment of a scholarship in perpetuity. A related travel fund will also be established, with students able to apply for travel grants through the Sphinx Foundation.</p> <p>PF also updated the Board on the DGR Fund meeting held the previous week. Members noted the fund was established prior to the school centenary and had previously contributed to the architectural masterplan. Long-term intentions to grow the fund in support of future infrastructure projects, including the new Stokes Building, were discussed.</p>
	ANY OTHER BUSINESS	
12	Any other business	No other business

#	Item	Minutes
	NEXT MEETING: 9 June 2026	
	MEETING CLOSE: 19:05	

Action Items Remaining Open Prior to this Meeting and subject to updates (red = completed), plus new Action Items:

Action #	Meeting Date	Action Description	Due Date	Status	Comments	Actionee(s)
1	2/12/2025	Board to consider potential community members for the Board and provide names to the Chair	Ongoing		Suggestions to be conveyed to MM, ongoing. KT, MM & MaryM to consider approach to Kate Chaney	All
2	2/12/2025	Chair and PF to discuss format and timing of Board Effectiveness Survey	Term 1, M2 of Board	Completed	Survey was launched on 28 Feb. 100% response rate. Outcomes of survey to be discussed at Meeting 2.	PF/KT
3	2/12/2025	Grant Staffe to present the outcomes of the School Survey	Term 1, M2 of Board	Completed	Will be presented Meeting 3.	GS
4	2/12/2025	Dr Kym Tan to be invited to the second Board meeting of 2026 to discuss the feedback to parents as part of the Business Plan implementation		Completed		MF/KT
5	2/12/2025	A Business Plan update to be added to the agenda for one meeting per Term	Ongoing			MF/Sabrina
6	3/3/2026	2025 Annual Report to be produced.		Completed	Draft forwarded to Thalia. Final endorsement at 12 May 2026 meeting.	KT/CT/PF
7	31/3/2026	Terms of Reference to be reviewed and updated.			Agreed changes to be updated by KT	KT
8	31/3/2026	Schedule of agenda items for remaining meetings to be developed				MF/Sabrina
9	31/3/2026	Letter to Charlie Bond thanking him for service as parent rep	Term 2, Meeting 3 of board	Completed		MM
10	12/5/2026	Advertisement normal board meetings to community			As required in terms of reference, notification of dates of board meeting to go to school community	MF/Sabrina
11	12/5/2026	School Board report for open meeting on 9/6/2026	4/6/2026		As required in ToR	KT

Signed and dated as approved:

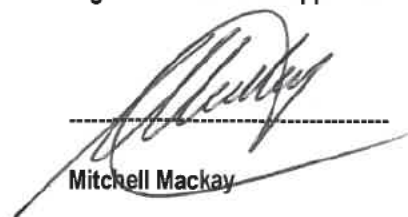


Associate Professor Kati Tonkin

Chair of Perth Modern School Board

Date: 9/6/2026

Signed and dated as approved:



Mitchell Mackay

Principal of Perth Modern School

Date: 9/6/2026

