



ACT
Government
Education

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23 September 2020

Dear Jarrod and the P&C Executive,

The way I'd like to approach our current dilemma is to find a peaceful solution to the relationship between the school leadership team and the P&C.

Although we have tried to do this before, I don't believe it has worked out yet. Although we wrote an Essential Agreement after the Terry O'Connell workshop in 2018, that hasn't yet worked. I think we need to persist to find a common path based on respect, cooperation and trust as per the tenets of the Essential Agreement.

If we, the school leadership team, respond to those 15 or so questions from the P&C meeting by the deadline assigned to us, it could be from a place of defensiveness, because some of those questions seem to be an attack, and some of them seem to be from individuals with ongoing issues.

The reason we didn't attend your meeting is that the leadership team feel scrutinised and demoralised after every P&C meeting. The team has revealed that, what is present for them is fear and anxiety because there may be repercussions if they speak authentically. We feel distrusted, attacked, put down, not valued, stressed, nervous, on edge. The team tells of 'second guessing themselves' and experiencing a loss of confidence over time. When leaving almost any meeting with the P&C we feel sick and stressed. That's what we take to bed and into the following day. We won't put ourselves through that anymore.

We care for all of the children in our school. We are highly trained and very competent in leading our staff to deliver high quality education, working holistically with our children and families. However, we don't feel that we are recognised or valued by the P&C for the heart and soul that we put into the school.

We appreciate that you have an excellent service to look after many children in Befores, Afters and Holiday Program. We understand that many parents are supported in their work by FOOSHC and children love the program.

We thank you for your support to the school.

I would welcome us finding a way forward to work together respectfully, with trust and appreciation of each other's positions to care for our children and community.

I'd like to start a conversation along those lines with you, Jarrod.

Best wishes,


Chris Pilgrim


Hayley Munsie


Renee Berry


Nicole Richardson


Candice Kingston


Jemma O'Brien


Kylie Dorsett