

Waikato Mathematics Association

Committee Meeting Minutes

Venue: Hillcrest High School
Date: Tuesday 9th May 2006, 4:30pm

Present: Bethan Demalmanche, Cherry Hill, George Cowan, Colleen Nolan, Marcel Kuijpers, Ann Leach, Mary Talbot, Debra Leong, Ingrid Rinsma, Lyn Brassington.

Special welcome to new comers: George Cowan - HOD Ngaruawahia, Cherry Hill - St Peters

Apologies: Matej Benes, Velma Murphy, Jamie Litchwhite, Kathy Paterson

Inwards Correspondence:

1. Graphical Times, from Sandy Christophersen, schools should be sent copies directly.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting:

Motion: True and correct as read: Moved Chair/Carried

Matters Arising:

1. Waikato Mathematics Certificate – report from Ann Leach:
Closed Waikato Mathematics Certificate bank account and transferred funds remaining to WMA accounts. Future transactions for Waikato Mathematics Certificate to be kept in a separate column in WMA accounts.
2. School Support Services running PD “Math HOD Day – Making Leaders” on 30th August, facilitator Jim Hogan. Costs \$75 + GST. It was questioned whether this can be financed by NZAMT. The NZAMT funded Associations, which were running their own HOD days, rather than outside providers as this course is.
3. Level 4 Scholarship days for Calculus and Statistics - This is still in progress. Ann Leach and Ingrid Rinsma hope to organise 1-2 sessions this term, but not whole days out. Ideas for topics were: Statistics - Time series and probability, and Calculus - algebra.
4. Moderation of Internal assessments for smaller schools – no replies received, therefore no action to be taken.

Treasurer’s Report - attached

Motion: The minutes be accepted.
Moved: Mary/ seconded Colleen - carried.

Waimaths Report – Marcel Kuijpers

1. Organisation for this years WAIMATHS competition is well under way. Booklets are about to be printed, and posters and booklets sent to schools. Jim Hogan (Maths Advisor) coming. Questions done, proofreading to go.
2. Presented the proposed budget for 2006. (Attached) Spending will be up on last year. WMA committee discussed prizes and that the prizes were updated to make them more desirable. Graphics Calculators for Year 7, 8 and colour GC for Secondary plus increase in vouchers in some levels. Small increases also for key helpers.

3. Perry Foundation Request for funding:
Motion: That the Waikato Mathematics Association apply to the Perry Foundation for \$1500 for the Waimaths Competition. These monies to be spent on: hireage of the venue- Hamilton Gardens Pavillion, hireage of equipment, relief of teachers involved in setting up the venue, photocopying.
Moved: Marcel/seconded Lyn, carried
4. Request for \$600 from NZAMT to be actioned when NZ Education Gazette requests are asked for, end of term.
5. Assistant for Marcel: Cherry nominated> Thanks Cherry!

Professional Development: Bethan

PD for Week 6, Thursday, 8th May, 4:40pm at Diocesan School for Girls:
Focus: The New Curriculum, Vince Wright and Jim Hogan.
Vince to speak on the new curriculum, Jim to follow on with something around it.

Looking ahead to term 3 and 4, possibly: Something on education and/or personal professional development, for term 3. The Numeracy Project for term 4.

Other Business

1. Year 9 and 10 Enrichment Camps
 - This is still on the table. Ann and Ingrid and possibly Velma to work together. Busy people!
2. PD- Graphics calculators with Derek for students and teachers.
 - Fee is \$250 + GST per day, plus flights and accommodation (if required)
 - Interest to be gauged from students. Charge students, possibly \$20 for day, morning focus year 12 and below and Year 13 in afternoon. Teachers attend free. Focus on students needs not teachers.
 - Teachers need to indicate most suitable Saturdays
 - Debra to contact Derek about dates.
 - Debra to liase.
3. Response to Scholarship Calculus:
 - Concern expressed by all present about the level of Scholarship Calculus paper 2006.
 - Concern that the response in the media and from the maths advisor that although there was acknowledgment it was a difficult paper that it was "OK" as 3% gained Scholarship and it is an examination for the very bright and talented.
 - Feeling was that with 20-25% scoring nearly 0% the level of questions was ridiculously hard, surely there should be some lead in. A student who is a strong in calculus and chooses to sit should be able to get 30% in the examination.
 - Perception of the Subject is suffering, in both the students' eyes and in the teachers.
 - Calculus students' self-esteem about their ability in Mathematics is suffering, and may be affecting whether they go on to further math education.
 - How do we as Maths teachers go about teaching to this level? How do we gain the expertise? Then fit it into already full programs? Or give students the same opportunity to gain schol as other subjects?
 - President to draft a letter expressing the WMA concerns.

Meeting closed at 6.02pm.