



Applecross Senior High School IPS Board

MINUTES

Meeting No.	109
Meeting location	Boardroom
Meeting time and date	5:30pm Thursday, 26 February 2026

Initials	Member	Role	Present	Apology
KS	Karena Shearing	Principal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
TJ	Toni Jones	A/Vice Principal (Executive Officer)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
JJ	Jenna Jarvis	Manager Corporate Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
EM	Ebony Morrison	Staff Rep	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
NE	Nick Evernden	Staff Rep	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
AD	Andrew Dwyer	Community Rep (Chair)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GC	Geoff Cooper	Community Rep (Secretary)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
KK	Katie Kumasaka	Community Rep	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
AxT	Alex Tegg	Community Rep	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
AdT	Adeline The	Parent Rep	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DC	David Chen	Parent Rep	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
KM	Kapz Malhorta	Parent Rep	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BY	Boston Yoong	Coopted member	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ML	Milla Lobik	Student Representative	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
JL	Jett Lee-Anderson	Student Representative	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Item	Subject	Notes
1.0	Opening <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AD opened the meeting at 5:30pm. 	
1.1	Attendance/Apologies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Noted above. 	
1.2	Confirmation of agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Confirmed. 	
1.3	Minutes of previous meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Board endorsed the minutes of the previous meeting of 27 November 2026 as complete and accurate, moved by AdT and seconded by KK. 	
1.4	Actions arising: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An updated draft of the next school business plan to be circulated to the Board. AD to review applications in light of specific skills sought for the board and if necessary to discuss with any prospective candidates. AD to present Board awards at a morning tea. KM to prepare a board summary for the newsletter 	Bring forward. Completed and resulted in appointment of AxT. Completed. Completed.
2.0	Special item	
2.1	Endorsement – new Staff Representative NE was introduced by TJ and welcomed by AD. The appointment was endorsed.	

Item	Subject	Notes
3.0	Standing items	
3.1	<p data-bbox="209 215 448 241">Finance Update by JJ</p> <ul data-bbox="261 277 1267 573" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="261 277 1267 338">• The Board noted the Operational One Line Budget Statement & Cash Report as at 31 January. <li data-bbox="261 344 1267 374">• JJ noted a strong increase in voluntary contributions received this year versus last. <li data-bbox="261 380 1267 441">• There has been a modest reduction in student funding resulting from a minor drop in planned enrolments to 1993 students at the census date. <li data-bbox="261 448 1267 539">• The Board discussed the potential for battery storage to reduce power bills given that the school is currently utilising only 7% of its solar generation capacity. However KS noted that batteries under DoE specifications may require substantial space. <li data-bbox="261 546 1267 573">• The Board endorsed the new Student Attendance Policy and Procedure submitted by JJ. 	
3.2	<p data-bbox="209 613 475 640">Principal’s introduction</p> <ul data-bbox="261 685 1267 943" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="261 685 1267 745">• Ms Karena Shearing (“KS”) commenced as substantive Principal on Monday, 23 February. <li data-bbox="261 752 1267 813">• KS introduced herself and outlined plans to engage widely with the school community, meeting with the Board, P&C, teachers and students. <li data-bbox="261 819 1267 911">• Beyond meeting with school leaders, AT will be focusing on getting across the finances in preparation for an upcoming audit and participating in ongoing discussions about the building program underway at the school. <li data-bbox="261 918 1267 943">• KS also remarked on the positive culture evident during her first week at the school. 	
3.3	<p data-bbox="209 987 528 1014">Vice Principal’s Report by TJ</p> <p data-bbox="209 1055 432 1081">Executive Summary</p> <p data-bbox="209 1088 1267 1211">The commencement of the 2026 academic year has included a period of leadership transition, managed with stability and continuity. Following the relinquishment of the substantive Principal position on 29 January, interim leadership support was provided during the first three weeks of term to ensure operational consistency and a smooth start to the school year.</p> <p data-bbox="209 1218 1267 1310">The transition has been orderly and professional, with strong executive continuity ensuring minimal disruption to students, staff and families. The school has continued to operate with clarity of direction and focus on core strategic priorities.</p> <p data-bbox="209 1317 528 1344">2. Academic and Curriculum</p> <p data-bbox="209 1350 1267 1473">The 2025 Year 12 cohort delivered results that the school community can be proud of. A median ATAR of 90.75 reflects sustained academic rigour and the strength of instructional practice across learning areas. Students were recognised across both ATAR and VET pathways, reinforcing the breadth and quality of our senior secondary programs.</p> <p data-bbox="209 1480 1267 1541">Our Year 7 students have commenced positively and are settling well into the expectations and routines of secondary schooling.</p> <p data-bbox="209 1547 1267 1671">In alignment with strengthening the home–school partnership, Curriculum Leaders have introduced year-level parent information sessions. These sessions commenced in Week 3 with other years to follow. The primary focus has been clarifying learner success criteria, course expectations and positioning parents as informed partners in student achievement.</p> <p data-bbox="209 1677 1267 1769">The Board should also note forthcoming statewide changes to semester reporting requirements for Pre-primary to Year 10, effective from the end of Semester 1, 2026. The Department of Education has introduced a simplified and more consistent reporting framework designed to:</p> <ul data-bbox="261 1776 895 1868" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="261 1776 895 1805">• Ensure consistency across schools <li data-bbox="261 1812 895 1841">• Remove optional reporting components <li data-bbox="261 1848 895 1868">• Reduce written comments within reporting templates <p data-bbox="209 1874 1267 1998">Reporting to Parents templates will be amended accordingly. These changes are intended to reduce teachers' and school leaders' workloads while maintaining clear communication of student achievement to families. Implementation planning is underway to ensure compliance and a smooth transition.</p> <p data-bbox="209 2040 600 2067">3. House System and Pastoral Care</p> <p data-bbox="209 2074 1246 2098">As part of the new Business Plan priorities, four Heads of House have been appointed for 2026,</p>	

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	<p>each with a 0.2 FTE allocation. These roles are designed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen house identity and culture • Increase student connectedness and belonging • Support positive behaviour and engagement • Provide structural support to Heads of Year <p>This refinement strengthens pastoral systems by delineating cultural leadership from year-level case management, ensuring clarity of role and enhanced student support structures.</p> <p>4. Staff Development and Wellbeing In alignment with our Staff Development and Wellbeing priority, 30 staff members currently serving in leadership roles across the school, including 2ICs, TICs, Heads of House, Heads of Year and identified aspirants, will commence a semester-long leadership development program this week.</p> <p>Participants have committed to five full-day sessions across the semester, including Saturday delivery, reflecting a strong professional commitment to leadership growth.</p> <p>Dr Shane Glasson from Liminal Space will facilitate the program as a pilot initiative tailored specifically for our staff cohort. The program is designed to strengthen collective leadership capacity, build role clarity and support succession planning within the school.</p> <p>5. Staffing While all classes are currently staffed, the school is undertaking two recruitment processes to replace Science and HASS teachers who secured alternative employment opportunities in early January and early February.</p> <p>Temporary arrangements are in place to ensure continuity of instruction while permanent and fixed-term appointments are finalised.</p> <p>Following a recruitment process to backfill Ms Angie Thomas' position for a nine-month period in 2026, Toni Jones has been appointed as the successful applicant. Further recruitment processes will now be undertaken to address the resulting vacancy and any subsequent staffing movements arising from this appointment, ensuring continuity of leadership and operational stability.</p> <p>In addition, the school has commenced canvassing staff regarding their 2027 intentions, including leave liability projections and anticipated work fraction preferences. This forward-planning process supports accurate course modelling, staffing profile projections and early timetable construction. Proactive workforce planning strengthens financial forecasting and reduces late-cycle staffing adjustments.</p> <p>6. Community and Partnerships Correspondence has been received from the Director General regarding the operation of the Applecross Senior High School canteen, with the enacting of enacting Regulation 123 of the School Education Regulations 2000, resulting in the closure of the P&C-operated canteen effective 2 April 2026, or earlier by agreement should alternative arrangements be finalised. The decision was based on findings relating to management and operational alignment with Departmental requirements. Transition arrangements are being managed to ensure minimal disruption to students and continuity of service while a suitable replacement model is established.</p> <p>The Department acknowledged the P&C Executive's voluntary contribution in navigating the challenges associated with the canteen. Further updates will be provided to the Board as replacement arrangements progress.</p> <p>As a result of this decision, governance and operational oversight of the canteen now transfers to the school. This requires the school to navigate and initiate a formal procurement and tender process in accordance with Departmental requirements.</p> <p>To ensure continuity of service and minimise disruption to students, the school will commence this process immediately, with the aim of securing an external provider to commence at the beginning of Term 2. Careful attention will be given to compliance, financial accountability and service standards throughout the transition period.</p> <p>Further updates will be provided to the Board as the tender process progresses. The Board also acknowledged the P&C Executive's voluntary contribution and looked forward to the School continuing to meet the needs of students.</p>	

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	<p>7. School Business Plan Implementation Operational Plans aligned to the 2026–2028 Business Plan priorities have now been completed. The next phase involves finalising Learning Area Operational Plans. These are positioned as working documents, with leaders encouraged to demonstrate flexibility, transparency and responsiveness to data. The intent is to ensure that operational planning remains dynamic and evidence-informed rather than compliance-driven, strengthening alignment between whole-school priorities and classroom practice.</p> <p>8. Financial Overview The school remains operationally stable financially. Student enrolments at census were 1995, slightly below projected estimates. While the variance is modest, it will require ongoing monitoring and potential review in relation to budget modelling and workforce planning for 2026. Financial oversight remains focused on responsible resource management aligned to strategic priorities.</p> <p>9. Risks and Considerations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing recruitment processes in priority learning areas • Infrastructure planning timelines in relation to enrolment pressures • Monitoring enrolment trends against projections • Sustaining staff workload balance during leadership transition and strategic implementation 	<p>TJ to circulate correspondence from DoE to the Board regarding the operation of the school canteen.</p> <p>TJ to present on Priority 3 – Staff Development and Wellbeing – from the Operational Plan</p>
3.3	<p>Student Council Report</p> <p>Year 12 The Year 12's enjoyed a very successful and jubilant ball commencing the beginning of year 12. The year 12 Council secured Culture Day for the World's Greatest Shave (Wednesday, Week 7) where students will wear their cultural attire to school to complement Harmony Week. Other activities are being discussed and organised for Harmony Week. The Year 12 Executive Council have been toying with ideas to build a greater house spirit at Applecross, including the renaming of houses and designing house mascots. This has involved a meeting with the Heads of Houses, and soon a vote by students to determine house names.</p> <p>Year 11 The Year 11's have had their dinner dance this week.</p> <p>Year 10 The year 10s are hoping to secure funding for two water fountains near the new ST demountables, so they are in closer proximity to their classes. The Year 12 Executive Council will soon be working with the Year 10 AE HaSS class for the Anzac Day Ceremony. Their project to introduce new house shirts has been passed and is now in action.</p> <p>Year 9 The year 9's are planning a movie night.</p> <p>Year 8 They have their River Cruise in Week 5.</p> <p>Year 7 Year 7s enjoyed Big Days In, and are adjusting well to high school. Older Applecross Students have been friendly in directing lost year sevens around the school.</p>	

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	<p>They are yet to vote for their Student Council and SRC Representatives. SRC members predicted to join meetings by week 6/8 of Term 1.</p> <p>SRC Initiatives The SRC is progressing several key projects, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harmony week in week 7 • NAIDOC week in early term 3 • RUOK week in early term 4 • ANZAC assembly • New house mascots and names 	
4.0	General Business	
4.1	<p>2025 Academic Results</p> <p>TJ presented a thorough overview of ATAR and VET outcomes for the graduating class of 2025. Pleasingly it seems the vast majority of students achieved their desired enrolments at the end of the year.</p> <p>There has been a substantial uplift in average ATAR marks over the last 5 years, however it was noted that every cohort is different and that the ATAR marks are only one of a range of measures of success at the school.</p>	
4.2	<p>Growth and Infrastructure – meetings and update</p> <p>The WA Government announced \$7.9 million capital allocation for a two-storey modular classroom facility comprising eight classrooms for completion in 2027. It is to be built offsite and assembled onsite, with the only concrete component being the staircases. The building will be capable of being removed at some future point in time.</p> <p>The Board noted the need for a longer term strategic plan for future building works to accommodate expected enrolment growth under forecasts modelled by the Department of Education.</p> <p>The Board noted that the small reduction in 2026 forecast enrolments is likely related to the implementation of measures to reduce out of area enrolments (including sibling enrolments) implemented in late 2025.</p>	
5.0	Wrap-up	
5.1	<p>Other Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TJ advised that the 2026 board awards were appreciated and valued by recipients. • The annual report is being developed for completion by the end of the semester. 	
5.2	<p>Actions Arising: Other Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school business plan to be circulated to the Board. • TJ to present on Priority 3 – Staff Development and Wellbeing • JJ to circulate a suite of policies for amendment at the next meeting. • TJ to circulate correspondence from DoE to the Board regarding the operation of the school canteen. • GC to prepare a board summary for the newsletter. 	
	Close	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The meeting was closed by AD at 7:15pm. 	
	Next Meeting	
	Thursday 26 March 2026, 5:30pm	

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Item	Subject	Notes

Signed (Chair)

Date:

BOARD REPORT NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS SCHEDULE 2026

Term	Meeting #	Date	Proposed meeting summariser
1	109	26 th February 2026	Geoff Cooper
	110	26 th March 2026	Boston Yoong
2	111	28 th May 2026	Alex Tegg
	112	25 th June 2026	David Chen
3	113	20 st August 2026	Kapz Malhorta
	114	17 th September 2026	Adeline Teh
4	115	22 rd October 2026 (open)	Andrew Dwyer
	116	26 th November 2026	Katie Kumasaka
		3 rd December 2026	