Community Infrastructure Survey Report

The feedback from our recent community survey has formed the basis of the Strategic Infrastructure Group's discussions as it plans the future directions and developments of the school. Overall, the data has provided us with a balanced view of community (staff, student & parents) opinion.

The following excerpt from the report made to the group on July 14th by Convenor Glenn Dunstone provides a summary of the following findings:

1. Community Survey

The online survey had 161 respondents. Within each of the three questions the respondents entered between 1 and 10 items. The analysis of the results did not weigh a single response with more importance than multiple responses.

What things do you like about the existing buildings and School Grounds?

The 161 respondents entered 556 responses to the question. The responses have been broadly grouped into the following topics:

- Play spaces 46%
- Classrooms/Buildings 31%
- Grounds 23%

The key themes mentioned in the responses can be summed up in the following sample responses: "The amount of open space and in particular 'grassed' surfaces to run around and enjoy. This was a key decision point of us in choosing Bell."

"The original school building is an attractive link with the school's (and the area's) past."

"I like how there are two separate playgrounds so that some of the younger children can feel safe to play without the bigger kids getting in the way."

What things don't you like about the existing buildings and school grounds?

The 161 respondents entered 483 responses to the question. The responses have been broadly grouped into the following topics:

- Portables 23%
- Access/pathways 9%
- Existing buildings 25%
- Play space/grounds 24%
- Shelter shed 11%
- Lack of covered play areas 7%

The key themes mentioned in the responses can be summed up in the following sample responses: "shelter shed and uniform shop building"

"The buildings are fragmented and hotch-potch, which means that different grade groups are in different parts of the school."

"Portables, and all the laneways in-between. Look and feel is cheap and temporary. Don't like all the laneways and unsupervised space they create. Loss of northern oval is very sad and I think will be problematic for growing population."

What changes/things would you like to see at Bell Primary School?

The 161 respondents entered 468 responses to the question. The responses have been broadly grouped into the following topics:

- Gym/Hall 14%
- Landscaping / grounds 17%
- Permanent classrooms 12%
- Play spaces 22%
- Paths/access 7%
- Altering portables 8%
- Upgrade existing buildings 17%
- Other 3%

The key themes mentioned in the responses can be summed up in the following sample responses: "I would like to see portables placed where shelter sheds are instead if taking up open land that students play in."

"More pathways to portables"

"A hall where the whole school can gather. It could also be used as a gym, used for whole school concerts, assemblies etc. NOT a covered basketball court but an ACTUAL BUILDING."

Thank you to all community members who took the time to complete our survey. It has provided the Strategic Infrastructure Group with valuable feedback.

Please send any comments or questions to the group's email address at: planningbell@gmail.com

Strategic Infrastructure Group

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