

PARENT COUNCIL FOR DEAF EDUCATION Inc

**2005 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Sunday November 27th 2005 2:00pm**

AGENDA

1. Present and Apologies
 2. Adoption of Minutes of the 2004 Annual General Meeting held on Sunday November 28th 2004.
 3. Business arising from the Minutes
 4. Adoption of Reports
 - 4.1 President's Reports
 - 4.2 Project Co-ordinator's Report
 - 4.3 Financial Report
 5. Guest Speaker – Lee Bilby, Bilby Publishing
 6. Election of Office Bearers
 - 6.1 President
 - 6.2 Vice-president
 - 6.3 Secretary
 - 6.4 Treasurer
 - 6.5 Ordinary members
 7. Appointment of Auditor
 8. Special Business
 9. General Business
- Break
10. Presentation: Damian Lacey – CEO Deaf Children Australia
National Parent Charter

Thanks & Closure of Meeting

PARENT COUNCIL FOR DEAF EDUCATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2005

Project Co-ordinator Report

I assumed the position of interim Project Co-ordinator in August of this year replacing Linda Wilson who has contributed much time and effort in her contact with parents and Service Providers. My role has been primarily to oversee the administration staff of PCDE and maintain those projects initiated by Linda.

The office of Parent Council for Deaf Education has moved to a larger building on the grounds of the Royal Institute for Deaf and Blind Children. This building allows for more space and separate working areas for administration staff, Project Co-ordinator and Volunteers which includes the Management Committee.

This past year has seen PCDE continue to work at the front line and behind the scenes addressing those issues faced by parents and families with deaf and hearing impaired children and youth.

PCDE continues to monitor parent concerns regarding issues with Australian Hearing Services and Early Intervention Services as well as supporting parent with individual advocacy cases. Along with the project co-ordinator, members of PCDE have been involved in the Anglicare's Respite program, Adult Services Working Party and representing PCDE in Deafness organisations such as Deafness Council NSW.

September saw some valuable presentations at the 2005 Whole Child Conference. Concurrent to this conference was the Youth Forum which was co-ordinated by Craig Maynard. The feed back from both the Whole Child Conference and Youth Forum were very positive.

Funding cuts to services inevitably result in minimising the service itself which can force individual services to combine their resources with other services. This can be a positive step, however, often the goals of the individual service – based on grass roots needs – can be compromised and even pushed aside in order to achieve systemic / corporate outcomes in line with Government funding requirements.

PCDE recognizes the need to work alongside – indeed WITH – other organisations representing parents with deaf and hearing impaired children. We will continue to address individual as well as corporate needs ensuring, however, that the needs of individuals are seen as a priority. This has and will continue to be the backbone of PCDE. We look forward to new and ongoing contacts with other organisations representing parents of deaf and hearing impaired children.

I would like to thank those people of the Management Committee and administration who have continued to contribute their time and energy to PCDE. Alex Ebert, Louise Rakowski, Craig Maynard, Lyn Deane, Peta Turner and Kimberley Allan. Your determination – at any cost! – to see the continuation of PCDE is to be commended...

and highly respected.

An organisation's existence, I believe, lies in the unity of its staff and members and their willingness to support that organisation's existence. Outcomes can only be achieved when there are goals and goals are only achieved when there are people there who are prepared to work towards those goals.

I look forward to working with the new Management Committee and members of PCDE to establish and achieve outcomes throughout 2005/2006.

Steven Ripley
Project Co-ordinator