



## Annual General Meeting 2019 for FreeSchools World Literacy Australia

### FreeSchools World Literacy Australia

ABN 13 233 167 644; Reg No = A0050403N

DATE commencing: Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> Feb 2019 TIME: 9:00 am  
DATE completion: Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2019 TIME: 9:00 pm

INTERNET VENUE: FreeSchools Literacy Australia email network  
[fswl-australia@googlegroups.com](mailto:fswl-australia@googlegroups.com)

Member pre-registration is essential to participate and vote

### Minutes of the Meeting

#### 1. Rollcall of members present and apologies.

There were 10 participants in attendance (\*Committee member)

Graeme Chapman\*  
Sister Mary Crescence  
Bernie Belarski\*  
Merindi Belarski\*  
Donna Cervantes\*  
Robert Coenraads\*  
Ian Esmore\*  
Marion Lesaffre\*  
Delphine Swadling\*  
Kathleen Swadling\*

#### 2. Welcome and background briefing by the Chairperson/President.

Dear Committee and Friends,

Our 2019 AGM will open on this coming Sunday 10th of February at 9:00am and run for a few weeks, thereby allowing all of the Committee Members ample time to register and vote. This year we will try to speed the process along a little on the advice from Ian Esmore that our meeting minutes and reports need to be submitted earlier in the year.

Please find attached the standard Agenda for the 2019 AGM. The main purpose of this meeting is to present the 2018 Annual Report containing the audited accounts of FreeSchools World Literacy, and to elect our new Committee of Management for 2019.

#### 3. Minutes of previous year's Annual General Meeting (AGM) 2018

Motion: That the minutes of the 2018 AGM be accepted by the Committee.

Move: Kathleen Swadling      Second: Graeme Chapman      Carried

#### 4. President's Report. As circulated to membership

It has been nearly two decades now since Mark Bloomfield and I travelled to Motihari Evening School in Bihar State, India in 2000 - a single schoolhouse for the poor children of the village being run by Sister Crescence. There, I realized for the first time in my life, the real need for free education for the poor, and the ability of education to drastically change the lives of those who were lucky enough to get it. I also saw the benefits of that knowledge spread from the student back to their families and to the local community.

Since that time, donors in Australia have raised a total of \$93,683 towards our educational efforts.

In Bihar State, we have 980 students being taught by 27 teachers at 23 FreeSchools World Literacy funded centres.

A total of \$3,923 was raised for FreeSchools World Literacy aid projects during the 2018 reporting period for the Free Schools in Bihar, India, thanks to the fundraising efforts of a dedicated group of regular donors including Isabel Abraham, Melissa Alldis, Donna Cervantes (donated \$500 directly to FSWL-USA and so not reflected in the accounts), Alice Chan, Marion Lesaffre, Julian McGarry, Bob Mills, Ken Morley, Saskia Raevouri, Che Stapleton, Kathleen & Trevor Swadling, Andrew & Delphine Swadling, Ken Morley, the Coenraads Family's Francis C. Nieves Memorial Fund, the Forest Kirk Women's Fellowship. This also includes student scholarships raised by the Forest Kirk KidzChurch (for Shilpi), Warrick & Lorna Brady (for Lalmuni), the Forest Kirk Men's Group (for Subhash) and Francheska Coenraads (for Ruby). (FreeSchools World Literacy annual registration fees of \$55.80 were donated and paid directly by Secretary Ian Esmore).

FreeSchools World Literacy maintains high-quality audited annual accounts and reportage presented to Australian Council for International Development (ACFID) standard.

Finally, I would especially like to thank the FreeSchools World Literacy Committee of Management, many of whom have been members and donors since the Committee's inception.

Dr. Robert Coenraads  
President - FreeSchools World Literacy (Australia)

#### 5. Treasurer's Report.

Dear Committee,

I have the pleasure of submitting the FreeSchools World Literacy Financial Report and Audited Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2018 as part of full FreeSchools World Literacy Annual Report for 2018. The accounts are an unbroken record dating back to the beginnings of FSWL in 2001 and are presented in ACFID standard format.

## FreeSchools World Literacy - Australia

### TABLE OF CASH MOVEMENTS FOR DESIGNATED PURPOSES

Cash movements for year ended	Designated Project	Cash available at beginning of year	Cash raised during year	Cash disbursed during year	Cash available at year end
2018	Bihar, India	\$ 5,299	\$ 3,921	\$ 5,380	\$ 3,840
2018	Thailand	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
2018	Africa	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
2018	Interest	\$ 76	\$ 2	\$ -	\$ 78
<b>TOTAL 2018</b>		<b>\$ 5,375</b>	<b>\$ 3,923</b>	<b>\$ 5,380</b>	<b>\$ 3,918</b>

Note: International transfer of funds to India \$3,917.54 on 16/1/2019

#### Statement:

1. FreeSchools World Literacy is reliant on donations for its overseas projects and is financially healthy. During 2018 FreeSchools raised \$3,923, bringing its bank balance to a total of \$3,918. On Jan 16, 2019 FreeSchools sent \$3,918 to its India Project. Donna Cervantes donation (\$500) is not recorded in our accounts as this was sent directly to FreeSchools USA. No bank costs were incurred in this transfer as the funds were sent via Western Union (at a better rate than the bank and with no transfer fees).

2. These funds were disbursed in their entirety to FreeSchools project in Bihar, India (\$3,918) where they were used to pay salaries of teachers working at the FreeSchools according to the disbursement letter. This works out to be an average cost of about \$15 to \$20 per year per child being educated and we consider this application of donor funds to be highly effective in providing an education to disadvantaged children.

3. The Thailand and Zambia projects were closed off during 2017 due to our objectives having been met,

Motion: That the President's report and audited accounts be received and accepted as read as part of the FreeSchools World Literacy Annual Report for 2018.

Move: Ian Esmore

Second: Kathleen Swadling

Carried

## 6. Election of Committee of Management and Nomination of Public Officer

The 2018 FreeSchools World Literacy Committee of Management indicated its willingness to re-stand for office during 2019. They were elected as follows:

ROBERT COENRAADS nominated as President\_Chairperson FSWL

Move: Kathleen Swadling

Second: Ian Esmore

Carried

IAN ESMORE nominated as Secretary FSWL and Public Officer

Move: Robert Coenraads

Second: Kathleen Swadling

Carried

MERINDI BELARSKI nominated as Treasurer FSWL

Move: Robert Coenraads

Second: Kathleen Swadling

Carried

BERNARD GABRIEL BELARSKI nominated as Committee Member FSWL Move: Robert Coenraads      Second: Kathleen Swadling	Carried
DONNA MARIE CERVANTES nominated as Committee Member FSWL Move: Robert Coenraads      Second: Kathleen Swadling	Carried
GRAEME CHAPMAN nominated as Committee Member FSWL Move: Robert Coenraads      Second: Kathleen Swadling	Carried
MARION LESAFFRE nominated as Committee Member FSWL Move: Robert Coenraads      Second: Kathleen Swadling	Carried
DELPHINE SWADLING nominated as Committee Member FSWL Move: Robert Coenraads      Second: Kathleen Swadling	Carried
KATHLEEN SWADLING nominated as Committee Member FSWL Move: Robert Coenraads      Second: Ian Esmore	Carried

## 7. Chairperson to confirm appointments.

President Robert Coenraads confirmed the appointments to the Committee of Management as listed in Item 6.

## 8. Confirm schedule of membership fees

It was confirmed that FSWL Australia will have NIL membership fees for 2019.

Move: Robert Coenraads      Second: Kathleen Swadling	Carried
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## 9. General Business:

ROBERT COENRAADS –

Under this item, I would like to note (for our Minutes) the following votes of formal thanks:

1. I have sent a letter and Certificate of Thanks to Bob Mills CPA for auditing our annual accounts to the standard of the ACFID Code.

2. I would like to formally thank Committee Member Graeme Chapman of Architectural Art <http://www.archart.com.au/> for uploading the 2018 annual report to the FreeSchools Australian Web page which can be found at the following addresses;

**[www.freeschools.org.au](http://www.freeschools.org.au)**

**[www.robertcoenraads.com.au/freeschools.htm](http://www.robertcoenraads.com.au/freeschools.htm)**

These volunteer efforts in support of FreeSchools World Literacy are as real to us as any monetary donation, as we would otherwise have to pay with valuable donor funds for these services.

10. Set date and time for next Annual General Meeting. Close meeting

The next Annual General Meeting of FSWL will commence in February/March 2020.

The Committee is thanked for its involvement in the AGM

END OF MINUTES