



School Board Annual Report 2020

ENGAGE

EXPERIENCE

EMPOWER

Introduction

The School Board and its members have a fundamental role of enabling parents and members of the community to engage in activities that are in the best interests of the school and its students. Parents and the community can be involved in school decision making and giving advice through the board. The Education Act prohibits the board from being involved in the day-to-day running of the school.

The board has two main legislated roles, **Approval Role** and **Advisory Role**.

Approval Role: The board contributes to the decision making through consultations with the Principal who takes on their advice prior to making decisions. The board is directly and deeply involved in the school and all decisions are documented in the board minutes.

Advisory Role: The board is consulted and helps to brainstorm and resolve issues. All discussions are documented in the board meeting minutes.

Reporting to The Community

One of the most important roles of the board is to promote the school in the community. The board uses the following ways to share its activities to the community:

- The Annual School Report
- The school website
- The school newsletter
- The annual public meeting
- The ConnectNow mobile app
- Face to face discussions with parents and members of the community during school events

Summary of School Board Activities in 2020

Faced with the global pandemic in 2020, our board members rose to the challenge to support our school in delivering the necessary services to our students, staff and school communities.

The board met five times in 2020 where members examined, provided feedback and endorsed necessary school procedures, policies and new programs.

The annual public meeting was held on October 26th. The public meeting was advertised in the school newsletter and ConnectNow mobile app. However, no members of the public attended the meeting.

Approvals and Endorsements

- The board endorsed the Aboriginal Medical Care 360 Service program in the school. Aboriginal Medical Care 360 is a general practice and mobile health service for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. They offer greater accessibility to health care with their mobile service with a vision to create healthy and happy communities. AMC360 is yet to start in the school due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The board endorsed the Language Enrichment Focus program for Years 1 and 2.
- The board approved the voluntary school contributions and charges for 2021.
- The board approved the School Technologies Policy.

Advisory

- Reviewed the Terms of Reference.
- Reviewed the 2020 school budget.

Board Survey

Board members completed an Effectiveness Survey which resulted in a number of new initiatives to better serve the school and to be more transparent to the community about its activities.

School Board Training

The Board Chair and Principal attended the one-day School Council and Board Introductory workshop on 27 February 2020. A number of initiatives from the training have now been implemented to improve the efficiency of the board and its activities.



Acknowledging Staff Members

The Board wishes to praise the staff, students and parents for their fortitude, patience and understanding during the challenges of COVID-19 pandemic. As a token of appreciation, on 26th August the Board Chair, accompanied by Board Members Mrs. Gorman and Mr. Watts, offered afternoon tea to the staff during their Wednesday committee meeting.

I addressed the staff members thanking them for being:

- Flexible in dealing with uncertainty and constant change;
- Adapting programs, operations and service delivery in response to changing expectation from the Government;
- Caring for each other, families at home and children who were at school; and
- Resilient.

Current Board Members

Parent Representatives: Kylie Gorman, Daniel Pollacchi, Angelo Laurence (Chair)

Community Representatives: Gavin Grace, Ted Watts

School Representatives: Michelle Ninnette, Leah Brown, Emma-Mae Kapuscik, Mark Bradshaw (Principal)

Angelo Laurence

Board Chair 2020.