

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 2021

As we continue to face the global pandemic challenges in 2021, our Board members continued to support our school in delivering the necessary services to our students, staff and school communities.

The Board met six times in 2021 where members examined, provided feedback and endorsed necessary school procedures, policies and new programs.

The annual public meeting was held on November 1. Despite the public meeting being advertised in the school newsletter and ConnectNow, no members of the public attended the meeting.

Approvals and Endorsements

- The Board endorsed the Department of Education 'Statement of Expectation for 2021/2024'. This Statement of Expectation (Statement) makes clear and public the expectations and responsibilities of schools and the Department in student achievement and progress. The Statement is between; the Department of Education, represented by the Director General; the school, represented by the Principal; and is noted by the school Board, represented by the Chair.
- The Board reviewed and endorsed the Annual School Report 2020.

- The Board approved the voluntary school contributions and charges for 2022.
- The Board approved the Revised Uniform Policy 2021.
- The Board approved the School Development Days for 2022.

Advisory

- The Board reviewed the 'The Funding Agreement for Schools 2021', which outlines the accountability expectations of the principal in relation to the management of funding to the school through the student-centred funding model and the operation of the one-line budget.
- The Board reviewed the 2021 school budget.
- The Board reviewed the NAPLAN 2021 results.

School Board Training

The annual School Board training took place on March 22 at Grovelands Primary School and was facilitated by experienced Principal and former Regional Director, Mrs Julie Woodhouse.

Based on the results of our internal Board Effectiveness Survey in 2020, The Board decided to undertake a facilitated discussion that addressed three questions:

- How do we maximise the skill sets of the whole Board? How do we enable that to continue to achieve better outcomes for our school community?
- How do we engage in the next round of strategic planning without 'getting lost' in data?
- How do engage in the financial accountability implied in the survey within the limitations of the financial documents the department allows us to view?

Mrs Woodhouse shared her experience and engaged the group in a rigorous conversation that:

- Increased our understanding of the role of the Board in monitoring School Finance Data.
- Led to the development of our Board Project – "Visions of an Inspired Future"
- Led to changes in how we approve procedural items in our agenda, in order to free up time for more in-depth strategic discussion.

Board Survey

The Board Conducted a full survey of its operations in Term 3 & 4 of 2021. The outcome of this survey combined with the influx of new members determined that the Board decided to undertake professional learning on Governance and roles and responsibilities of Board Members in 2022.

Board Project

Following the Board training, the Board was keen to engage in a project with the aim of further engaging Board members, increasing the Board profile, and supporting the students and school. "Visions of an Inspired Future" was created to inspire year 5/6, which also aligned with the new school vision "An inspired community of engaged, empowered learners".

Mr Watts and Mr Laurence launched the first "Visions of an Inspired Future" session on November 29 which was attended by 80 year 5/6 students and some teachers. The presentations were well received by the students and teachers. This will be an annual event.



Acknowledging the School Community

The Board wishes to acknowledge the staff, students, parents, volunteers, and school community at large for their fortitude, patience, understanding and contributions for another challenging year.

A special mention to the following groups and individuals:

- New Spring Church for their contributions to the school.
- The Smith Family for supporting 40 families in our school in 2021.
- The Westfield Park Child and Parent Centre for providing LeapFrog and for working alongside GPS staff.
- University of Western Australia (UWA) for providing the Children's University program where 16 students from GPS graduated in December 2021.
- P & C Association for their fund raising and supporting school events.
- Staff members Mrs Hady, Mrs Brown, Ms Smith, Mrs Floyd and Miss Morre for their service to the school.
- Mrs Emma-Mae Kapuscik for her leadership as Principal during Mr. Bradshaw's long service leave.
- Outgoing Board members Mrs Kylie Gorman, Mr Gavin Grace, Mrs Leah Brown, and Mr Angelo Laurence for their years of service on the School Board.

Current Board Members

Parent Representatives: Jacqueline Reddings, Daniel Pollacchi, Angelo Laurence

Community Representatives: Sarah Greenwood, Ted Watts

School Representatives: Michelle Ninyette, Emma-Mae Kapuscik, Matthew Hoble, Mark Bradshaw

Board Chair: Angelo Laurence

Principal: Mark Bradshaw