

2010 Diary Reminder:

CPPA WA AGM and Retiring Principals Lunch
Friday 19th November 2010 - Hotel Rendezvous, Perth

For Your 2011 Diary

■ CPPA Members' Day

Friday 25th March - Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle

■ CPPA WA Conference

Monday 30th, Tuesday 31st May and Wednesday 1st June - Hyatt Regency Hotel

■ CPPA AGM and Retiring Principals Lunch

Friday 18th November

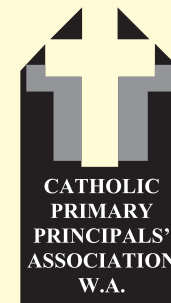
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Catholic Primary Principals' Association

Newsletter - 2010

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Colleagues

We are three quarters through another school year and like those before, this one has not been without its drama. The purpose of this newsletter is to communicate to members, information about the Executive work. Sub-groups within the Executive are assigned responsibility for ensuring identified issues remain in focus and are attended to.

Our most important priority has been the funding of primary schools and while we have made slow progress, there is progress. Commencing in 2010 some success was achieved with the co-responsibility pool extended to include smaller populated schools (<100).

APPA have been successful in receiving written responses from the major political parties, requesting primary school funding for Science, social and emotional learning programs and, support for children with special needs.

The role of the Executive within the Quality Catholic Schooling project has been to seek information about the overall implementation of the project. Brendan Spillane, Project Leader for Quality Catholic Schooling made a presentation as part of the Members' Seminar in April this year. Discussions about Quality Catholic Schooling continue to form part of the meetings with various Catholic Education Office personnel.

At present there is a Work Party looking into the Principal Review Process. There are complex questions and issues that have arisen from this. The outcome of the review, in turn, will flow on to the design and structure of the performance appraisal process for Assistant Principals, a matter initiated by the Executive in 2009.

Many schools are involved in the National Partnership Project. While this does not currently involve all schools, it is important that we make a contribution to the structure and content of the professional support on offer. There is Principal representation on the advisory group and recently the Executive met with the Learning & Teaching K-12 and Special Projects - Literacy and Numeracy Teams from the Catholic Education Office to advocate our position for greater input into the professional development offered in the future.

Primary Principals played an integral part in the campaigning for the ongoing funding of schools in the Catholic sector during the lead up to the Federal election. There was qualified success in the campaign with indexing of funding for Catholic schools agreed to until 2013. With the work of the Catholic sector across Australia and the success of APPA in its campaign, all political parties have now been made aware of the concern we have for appropriate levels of funding.

The Executive meets regularly with the Director and the Deputy Director, as well as other key Catholic Education Office personnel. Our discussions are drawn from issues we have identified as priorities and from the issues brought to the attention of the Executive. These

are open and frank discussions at times and we continue to build on developing the relationship we have with the Catholic Education Office and the connections we have established over time.

As an Executive we are regularly asked to contribute to the policy review process and our responses are timely and constructive in content. By the years end the Executive will have responded to over ten policy reviews.

Our relationship with external stakeholders is one area that continues to grow from an Executive perspective. Sponsorship plays such an important part in the ongoing financial wellbeing of our Association. I again ask that we all give these supporters of the Association the opportunity to at least quote on work when appropriate and to present to us what their company has to offer.

In the last decade there has been a quantum leap in the work undertaken by APPA as the peak body across Australia for primary school principals. The Association also has a presence on other national bodies, including the Australian Catholic Primary Principal Association and Principals Australia.

The number of requests made to the Executive for submissions and comments on a range of issues continues to be on the increase. In 2010 the Executive has used online survey tools as a way to reach out to the general membership for comment. This is part of the commitment to building a relationship with general members. Our work in this area has included:

- Attendance by an Executive member to one each of the regional meetings in Broome, Geraldton and Bunbury.
- Dissemination of information at all regional meetings and promotion of communication between members and CPPA Executive.
- Pastoral care and social networking with members as part of the Association's role.
- Face to face gathering opportunities with country and newly appointed, first time principals.

For those who attended this year's APPA Conference in Perth, I hope the event afforded you the opportunity to share your concerns, your successes and good camaraderie with your peers and also the opportunity to extend this to new professional connections. Our AGM later this year is on the 19 November. This gathering is an opportunity to thank the many people who have made a significant contribution to the Association and a brief respite from the busyness of schools at that time of the year.

David Barns
CPPA President

PILLAR REPORTS

Principals Pillar

Nadia Maso (Chairperson), David Barns and Mark de Kluyver

The Principal Pillar recognises that highly effective Principals are essential to quality schools. The pillar is committed to the advancement of the professional expertise and status of Primary Principals.

Principal Review Process Work Party

The Principal Review Process Work Party was established in May of this year. The work party is chaired by Mr Bill Ryan, Director of Staff Services at Curtin University and consists of representatives from the CEO Executive, Workforce Relations Team, Leadership and Organisational Development Team, CSPA and the CPPA. CPPA members have been surveyed so that their feedback on various aspects of the current review process can be presented to the work party for their consideration.

Association Pillar

Margaret Williamson (Chairperson), Eileen Climo, Greg Ward

The well being of our fellow colleagues is paramount and the Association Pillar endeavours to provide peer support in the area of Pastoral Care for all those in the CPPA. We hope that through condolences, congratulations, prayers, flowers, cards, messages of support and personal contact our peers feel the support of their fellow Principals. Please continue to advise the Association Pillar Chairperson if you know of anyone who is in need.

Maintaining effective communication with CPPA members via newsletters, the CPPA website, Members' Day and the Principal Conference is another important aspect of the Association Pillar. The CPPA website is well established and it not only has a lot of CPPA information on it, but also many articles and research documents that may

Primary Pillar

Sue Fox (Chairperson), Fran Italiano, Martin Major

The Primary Pillar continues to be involved in current issues that impact on Catholic Primary Education.

Primary Pillar members commented on the Review of the Curriculum Framework for curriculum, assessment and reporting purposes in Western Australian schools, with particular reference to Kindergarten to Year 10.

Work within the Reporting Work Party is ongoing with the trialling of MyMart3 occurring in five schools this year.

Catholic Pillar

Shaun O'Neill (Chairperson), Tim Emery, Peter Panizza

Support Services for Children

Some months ago the Catholic Pillar commenced work on developing a questionnaire looking into issues surrounding the provision of student support services in Catholic schools. The survey was tabled at the July meeting for the Executive to review. There has been some discussion amongst Pillar members as to where we head with this in view of other developments such as the Work Party reviewing Learning Support Funding. The consensus was that there was relevancy and the decision was made to forward the survey to Sue Fox, Chair of Primary Pillar, who is a member of the Learning Support Funding Work Party, for their consideration.

Policy Review

The Catholic Pillar conducted a review of the CECWA policy on Teacher Workloads.

Policy Reviews

In response to a request from CECWA the Principal Pillar has reviewed changes proposed to the Review of Process for Development of Policy Statements for Catholic Education in Western Australia. Proposed changes relate to the new language used in the Mandate, as well as the principles of gender equity, which are to be included in the development or review of all future policy statements. On advice of the Principal Pillar the CPPA endorsed the changes made.

Professional Development

Members are reminded that the CPPA continues to offer financial support for professional development opportunities for Principals. The funds are available to support small groups or individuals to engage in courses that relate directly to the professional needs of Principals. Application forms are available from the CPPA website <http://www.cppawa.asn.au/>.

be of interest. The Association Pillar is currently looking at updating the format of the Website, so keep watching this space.

Succession planning for the CPPA is vital for the Association to continue to flourish in the future. Hence, within the CPPA Executive, different members have undertaken a variety of roles throughout the year in order to broaden their experience, with the intention of providing direction in the years to come.

In response to a request from the Catholic Education Commission of Western Australia the Association Pillar has also been involved in policy reviews this year including the Appointment of Staff in Catholic Schools and Aboriginal Education. A review of the CPPA By-Laws has also been undertaken this year. These by laws sit alongside the CPPA Constitution and provide further clarifying information.

The Primary Pillar submitted an extensive review of the Early Childhood Education Policy and gave written feedback to the Catholic Education Office regarding the General, Special Needs and Aboriginal Teacher Assistant Position Description and Duty Statements required for negotiations with the Liquor Hospitality and Miscellaneous Union.

Representation on the Western Australian Primary Principals Association K-Yr 1 Project has continued this year as part of the debate on quality literacy practices for these year levels. This group also submitted feedback to ACARA on the content at each year level and the proposed Achievement Standards.

The Pillar forwarded suggestions for amendment and clarification to the policy committee.

CPPA By-Laws

The Catholic Pillar has developed a draft set of CPPA By-Laws which will become an appendix to the CPPA Constitution. It is anticipated these will be completed and presented at the upcoming AGM on November 19, 2010 for ratification.

Work Party Nominations

The Catholic Pillar was asked to seek the nominations of three Principals to put forward as members of a Work Party to consider State Funding Projects and Learning Support Coordinators. The names of the following Principals were put forward to assist:

- | | |
|----------------------------|---------------|
| a. School without a centre | Peter Cutrona |
| b. School with a centre | Sue Fox |
| c. Small school | Greg Martin |

APPA Report

Tim Emery, CPPA WA Representative to APPA NEC 2010

There will be no surprise in saying politics dominated the last few months of APPAs efforts. A questionnaire put to all parties produced responses from Labor, Liberal and the Greens that allowed schools across Australia to see what the major parties intentions were with respect to APPA's four priority areas. Those areas are:

- Science and the need to support teachers with professional development and to increase resources required for the effective teaching of science to implement the new Australian curriculum.
- Children with Social and Emotional Learning needs require greater support.
- Increasing funding for Children with Disabilities.
- Greater transparency of school funding.

APPA expressed concern to all political parties about reforms to reward teachers on performance and contribution to the school. Much more thought and collaboration needs to go into this reform. There is also concern about the use of reward funding as a means of funding schools, as it could lead to 'school against school' competition.

In the development of the National Curriculum, APPA has been kept well informed by ACARA. They are listening to the feedback that is being received and are also quite aware of some of the issues identified. ACARA are aware these are matters to be resolved as the curriculum develops. APPA has prepared an excellent response to the Geography Learning Area paper. Once again the content load is an issue and there is concern about the complexity at the primary

ACPPA Report

David Barns, CPPA WA Representative to ACPPA

The Australian Catholic Primary Principals' Association is one representative body for principals in catholic schools throughout Australia. Primary in its focus for 2010 have been efforts to regain standing amongst catholic principals and to present the collective position of these to others. In 2010 there has been a move towards increasing the number of face to face executive meetings and to schedule these immediately prior to the APPA Executive meetings.

The Australian Catholic Primary Principals' Association hosted a cocktail party for all its members on Wednesday 22 September as part of the recently held APPA Conference. This was a wonderful opportunity as for all members to meet and mingle with counterparts from all states and territories. The function was held in the Michael Keating Room, Notre Dame University following the special mass celebrated by Archbishop Hickey at St Mary's Cathedral, Perth.

The Australian Catholic Primary Principals' Association is supporting the President of ACPPA, Mr Bruno Benci's attendance at the canonization of Blessed Mary MacKillop, to be held in Rome later this year.

In May this year ACPPA supported a 'Breakthrough Coaching Course' in Adelaide with international acclaimed presenter, Malachi Pancoast. It was well received by those who attended.

level. An inquiry approach is recommended but APPA encourages that explicit teaching also takes place. Some omissions are evident e.g. marine environments and oceans. Further recommendations have been made across K-Yr 6.

APPAs funding paper has been passed to the Government and an opportunity was given to Leonie Trimper and the presidents of the three sectors to meet with the Funding Review Committee. APPA's four key messages are: funding should be based on need; there should be one single funding model for all schools; all funding should be transparent and there should equal funding for primary and secondary schools.

The annual APPA Conference was held at Burswood in Perth 21-24 September. "Balancing Primary Education" was the theme. A number of inspiring speakers made the conference a worthwhile leadership experience.

APPA has contributed to the NAPLAN developments which include: testing being aligned to the Australian Curriculum; a broadened range of outcomes to be tested; development of on-line adaptive testing and a greater emphasis on formative testing.

MySchool website is undergoing a review and some of the developments are positive. It seems in the future there will be no "parent satisfaction" data or teaching staff expertise data. Inclusion of levels of funding received by schools is getting closer to being included.

Principals Australia Report

Nadia Maso, Principals Australia Representative

Principals Australia exists to support Principals and their associations in building effective, inspirational and sustainable leadership in Australian schools. Principals Australia is a not-for-profit, incorporated body owned by the four peak Australian Principals Associations, representing secondary and primary, government, catholic and independent education sectors and is responsible for managing a number of national projects including Mind Matters, Kids Matter, Dare to Lead and Leaders Lead.

In 2010 a new Chief Executive Officer was appointed. Ms Liz Furler commenced as CEO bringing to the position a wealth of experience in senior management and policy development at national and state levels in education, health and the not-for-profit sector.

A work party has been convened to develop a new strategic plan. Consultation with other associations has been made a priority with feedback being sought concerning the role and function of Principals Australia in relation to all principals' associations and the relationships between all groups. Principals as individuals are also being given the opportunity to give direct feedback through participation in a national survey. Principals Australia has commissioned a national survey of principals and school leaders to understand what impact the changing national education and schooling landscape is having on leadership and learning in schools. CPPA members are encouraged to complete the online survey (www.principalsaustralia.edu.au) to assist Principals Australia in determining how it can best support school leaders achieve outcomes that will build better schools and ensure the best for children and young people.