

## **GSC Board – Chairperson’s Report 2017 – 2018. Public Open Meeting Tues June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

I have pleasure in presenting the Chairperson’s Report for 2018-19

“The purpose of the Geraldton Senior High School Board (the Board) is to enable members representing our community to engage in activities that are in the best interests of students and will enhance the education provided by the school”.

This is a statement taken from our Terms of Reference built from direction provided in the ‘Western Australian School Education Act 1999’ and the ‘Western Australian School Education Regulations 2000’.

During the past twelve months the business of the Board has been guided by our published Terms of Reference and Code of Conduct. These provide guidance for what we do and how we engage at regular meetings, participate in the wider community and what we are accountable for as representatives.

Our Board maintains continuity of service through half the Board member group’s Term of Office expiring and a half Board election now held annually. To this point the Board has maintained a full complement of members VIZ. four staff representatives, five parent representatives and five community representatives.

Board members are dependent on reporting material and commentary provided regularly by Principal Greg Kelly and other designated staff to be informed about school and student progress as well as how available resources are meeting current and possible future needs. I believe Board members have become more familiar with the Financial Reports presented and the opportunity to explore detail has been appreciated.

We are grateful for the thoroughness in preparation, completion of reporting documents and opportunity to question and discuss points of interest and concern. Communicating via the CONNECT platform is established and most Board members access documents through this medium. Support has been available through Executive Officer Andrea Ducas and her willingness to provide support to all Board members is acknowledged.

As we approach the end of the first semester as a 7-12 school the Board is keen to understand how successful transition strategies have been and how the Senior High School culture is developing. Feedback from students and staff from the contributory schools will be an important part of the narrative.

To this point it is apparent that marketing the school to the community has been successful if measured by enrolment numbers. This has allowed class groups to be set up with confidence and presumably given direction to school administrators about making projections into 2020.

The National School’s Opinion Survey 2018 provided us with an insight into ratings given by students, staff and parent respondents. The school could understandably be satisfied with the positive trend in the responses from all groups over time. Board members Nikki Pead, Carrie Puzzar and John Regan scrutinised Survey data and a summary statement was presented for inclusion in the Annual Report and consideration in the next Business Planning cycle.

The Board endorsed Charges and Contributions for 2019 by the December 1 deadline, the 2018 Annual Report, the refined Business Plan 2017-19, and the 2019 Leavers' jacket as an additional item to school uniform. The 2019 Budget was ratified at this year's April meeting. Financial reports presented at each meeting have been received and accepted after appropriate levels of interrogation.

The School continues to present well in the public space and annual events such as the Graduation ceremony, ANZAC Peace Service, sporting carnivals and the activities conducted recently during Careers Week and the National Reconciliation week program were credit to everyone involved and an effective demonstration of community partnership and support.

As a Board we look forward to continuing our support. I acknowledge the contributions of departing Board members Margaret Maxwell, John Regan, Dolly Dalgety, Ken Patten and welcome the contribution new members Narelle Cocking and Narrelle Bate will be encouraged to make.



Garry Simmons

Chairperson

11<sup>th</sup> June 2019.