

2015 President's Report for Brisbane Archdiocesan Catholic Primary Principals Association

Executive for 2015

Executive Committee President:	Dave Cashman
Vice-President:	John Spillane
Secretary:	Karen Bakon
Treasurer:	Kevin Bianchi
Spiritual and Pastoral Care Coordinator:	Chris Thomas
Past President	Mick Kelleher

Management Committee 2015 Please see attached.

Our Association this year continued the tremendous work of those who have gone before us in advocating for and supporting principals in a variety of ways.

Significant achievements for 2015 include:-

- Great spirit and good attendance at all of our general and MANCOM Meetings.
- An ongoing positive relationship with our Executive Director and the BCE Leadership Team.
- Our largest number of financial members, with nearly all eligible principals and heads of primary joining the Association.
- Strong representation on other principal groups including *Maureen Thomas, Rick Sheehan, Mike Aspland, Vyv Menegon and Judith Seery* on APPA; *Mick Kelleher, John O'Connor, Paul Leeson, and Dave Cashman* on QACPPA; *Mike Aspland and John Spillane* on Principals Institute Australia; *Martyn Savage* on ACEL and *Nick Gallen* on QELi. Particular note should be made here of the leadership of our QACPPA delegates in co-ordinating a joint process across the dioceses in preparation for the next principals' EB and planning for the provision of meaningful professional development for all Queensland Catholic Primary Principals and Heads of Primary.
- Further representation of BACPPA by members on at least thirteen other BCE or external committees. (Please see attached).
- Four Brisbane principals, *John O'Connor, Paul Blinkhoff, Peter Surawski and Stephen Montgomery*, nominating for and being included, on the organising committee for the 2017 APPA Conference in Brisbane.
- Joining and having Executive and MANCOM Members participate for the first time in the Australian Catholic Professionals group events.
- The updating and reformatting of our BACCPA website.
- The formation of the first BCE Committee proposed by BACPPA, being the Workplace Advisory Committee.

- One of our members, *Nathan Haley*, and his school community of St Mary's, Laidley, continuing to lead the outstanding Rural Connect Project in support of the drought stricken farmers of central Queensland.
- BACPPA instigating and jointly promoting and co-ordinating the Orange Sky Laundry initiative to fund an additional van, representing Brisbane Catholic Education, to extend this service to Brisbane and then other Queensland Centres, and the well-spring of support by our members and their communities for it.

Items raised and addressed by BACPPA this year include

- Principal investigations and pastoral support
- Appreciation for staffing schedule enhancements; DELT initiative and management of the "resource stewardship" process
- The widespread concern about meeting responsibilities in the WH&S area.
- Implementation process for new student protection requirements, including the SCRM and future plans for other enterprise systems, including BI Awesome.
- The future of school boards.
- Clarification of communication to principals regarding compulsory attendance/participation; the new Centrecare arrangements and where BCE principals stood with suspension and exclusion in regards to the change in EQ arrangements.
- Anonymous comments in the principal appraisal process.
- The timing of staffing processes, especially "Change of School" in Term 2.
- PB4L (Positive Behaviour for Learning) and alignment with present BCE Student Behaviour Support Guidelines.
- The impact on Parish schools in moving to Archdiocesan governance.
- Indemnity insurance for principals.
- The Primary Learning Leader Position.

Special mention must be made of long term and heavily involved BACPPA stalwarts Peter Blundell and Rick Sheehan being the very worthy recipients of the Tom Fitzsimon and Neil Bloxsidge Awards respectively- hearty congratulations to them both once again - and of another very long serving BACPPA Member of note, Mike Aspland, on the announcement of his retirement. Mike your passion for the best interests of children and for the work of our Association will be sorely missed, as will your tenacity, great sense of humour, collegiality, the history that you hold andyour willing representation at APPA conferences!

Once again, it has been another great year in support of each other where much has been accomplished. Thank you to all of our members for their participation and contribution, and to our members of representative committees, the Management Committee and our Executive for their extra involvement, commitment, willingness to represent and wise insights. May I offer a personal vote of thanks to Karen, John, Kevin, Chris and Mick for the support and assistance they have given me in my role. All of this, from everyone, is very much appreciated.

Wishing you every blessing for the remainder of the school year and to you and your families for the Christmas season. I look forward to working alongside you once again, and all the joys and challenges that this will hold, in 2016.