

SCHOOL BOARD CHAIR



During the year, the School hosted a “Back to School” event to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Class of 1969. This is the third cohort of students to achieve their 50th and become members of the “Churchlands Gold Class”. This has now become an annual event for successive graduating years. Thanks go to Tracey Galton and Helena Francis for arranging the event.

The Churchlands Senior High School Foundation (Inc) “Solar Power for Scholarships” project to install 400kW of solar power comprising over 1,000 panels was established in late 2016. With the hard work of the Foundation Board, the very generous donations of donors large and small and the support of the P&C, the Foundation was in a position to fund the project in its entirety by early 2017. I continue to be extremely disappointed and embarrassed to report that Building Maintenance and Works (BMW) only managed to put the project out to tender in the second half of 2019 and that the Project is not due for completion until May 2020 – some 42 months after the School and the Foundation first engaged with BMW. Due to this delay, the School has not been able to realise and take advantage of the significant saving from the generation of free solar power for two years. It is an understatement to say that I am not impressed with government bureaucracy, red tape, management and accountability involved in this project.

Since its inception, the Foundation has awarded eight Music Scholarships of \$4,500 each and in 2019 the scholarships were awarded to Gabriel Krzak and Myra Lee.

The School is a broad community whose success and reputation is dependent on cooperation between and on the hard work and dedication of: the leadership of the Principal and his Executive and Administrative team, an active School Board, P&C, Alumni and Foundation, and in no small way, the staff and the students.

In particular, I would like to thank the Principal Mr Neil Hunt for his outstanding leadership and who, along with his Executive team, has achieved exceptional outcomes for the school. The Board congratulates the Executive team on the planning, implementation and execution of the various strategies set out in the school’s Business Plan. As a Board, we have strategic oversight of the school’s achievement targets, finance and overall direction and throughout we have worked in positive accord with the school administration. During 2019, the School Board focused its efforts in the following areas:

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2019 saw the results of the past few years of growth in student numbers and the expansion of the campus settle into a productive and happy school that functions well for staff and students alike.

Enrolments at the beginning of 2019 were 2880. Of those, there were 530 Year 7s who have adapted well to secondary school, thanks to the caring staff who have made the students’ transition from primary to secondary so seamless.

The outstanding WACE and VET results reflect well on our students’ diligence and enthusiasm for learning and are a credit to their teachers who have always gone above and beyond what is expected of them. I take this opportunity to thank the staff on behalf of the Board and to acknowledge the strong leadership Neil Hunt has provided to ensure his staff feel supported and recognised for their efforts. Our students’ achievements are a great testament, not only to the students and their families, but also to the Principal, teachers, support staff and school management as a whole. I also congratulate the Class of 2019 on their outstanding achievements not only academically, but also for their leadership and role modelling throughout 2019. Their success has enhanced Churchlands Senior High School’s reputation within both the education and wider communities

The preparation of the school’s budget for 2019 was diligently undertaken by the Principal and his Executive and that budget was unanimously approved by the School Board. The changes to the per student funding announced in late 2017 by the Minister for Education continue to impact the bottom line, but all credit to the Executive team for ensuring that the effect on all areas of the school has been minimised. For Churchlands, the per-student allocation was between \$7871 and \$9693 for every student enrolled at the February 2019 student census.

- Review of the reports by the Principal on the progress of the Business Plan.
- Endorsement of the Annual School Report, school budget and student performance targets and achievements.
- Endorsement of the financial arrangements necessary to fund the school objectives, priorities and directions.
- Review and endorsement of current and future building programs.
- Support and promotion of the Board, the P&C, the Churchlands Foundation and the Alumni in the school and the community.

Serving on a School Board is a privileged opportunity to contribute and create better outcomes for the school, students, staff, parents and community. I thank the Board members for their time and the diligence with which they have worked through the many issues facing a school such as Churchlands. In particular, I thank the Head Girl Bethany Smith and Head Boy Ethan Blume for their considered input into Board discussions.

I also acknowledge and thank the following Board members for their efforts and dedication: Tracey Galton (Alumni Representative), Chris Porteous (P&C Representative), Grant Brinklow, Justin Forbes and Katherine Sturley (Elected Parent Representatives), Jane Hegarty and Steve Galvin (Staff Members) whom generously gave their time and expertise during 2019.

It has been my privilege to serve on the School Board since 2012. As announced to the Board at the end of 2019, I intend to stand down from the Board during 2020, on completion of the Solar Project. I will continue my involvement with the school as Chairman of the CSHS Foundation.

For your information, copies of the Minutes of all Board meetings are published on the school’s website <https://www.churchlands.wa.edu.au>.

The Board welcomes your input and encourages your feedback.

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