

# P&F 2019 Principal's Report

## St John Fisher P&F Advisory Group Aim and Goals

**Aim:** The P&F Advisory Group recognises and values the role the parents and carers play in the education of their children and aims to strengthen the partnership between family, school, parish and the wider community for the benefit of their children's overall development and learning.

	<b>SHARING PARENT / SCHOOL PERSPECTIVES</b>	<b>PARENT LEARNING</b>	<b>BUILDING COMMUNITY</b>
Goals	To provide an advisory forum for open communication between the school and parents	To coordinate parent learning initiatives including DPC.	To build a friendly and welcoming faith filled community which seeks to involve all members
Actions	<p>A Parent Advisory Session will take place at each General Meeting.</p> <p>A section of each General Meeting will involve the Principal bringing forward an aspect of school business for discussion and advice.</p> <p>General Business will be included on the item of each meeting</p>	<p>The DPC Representative will report to each General Meeting to update the community on DPC events and initiatives.</p> <p>The school will respond to parent requests in organising Learning Input at meetings.</p>	<p>A Social Committee will work with the Leadership Team to build a program of events for the community</p>

## Sharing School Perspectives and Advisory Section

### Term 1

In Term 1 detailed feedback was given reflecting on the achievements of the previous 3 year cycle of strategic review and outlining the process of review for 2019 and the role of parents.

#### Pastoral Care

- Teachers are receiving ongoing professional learning in the area of pastoral care.
- The school has held a number of parent information sessions including 123 Magic, Anxiety and Friendship Building.
- Pastoral Care is the first thing on agenda at all staff meetings and leadership team meetings.
- There are a large number of individual learning plans.
- The school has completed construction of the Reflective space – the Labyrinth.
- Peer Support Groups meet regularly.

#### Mission

- The school has encouraged social initiatives from students such as Help the Farmers
- Project Compassion program is underway for Lent including markers on the walls in classes to encourage donations.

#### Teaching and Learning:

- MAIs - The school has analysed the MAIs gathered at the start of the year and provided a comprehensive report to parents about how they can help to improve their child's mathematics learning.
- EMU (Extending Mathematical Understanding) Groups - The MAI data helps to identify children who would benefit from intense intervention. Teachers are trained to provide maths intervention for those students who are identified.
- The school recently analysed the maths syllabus to ensure it was covering all curriculum requirements and from this some changes were made to plug gaps.

Attendees were provided with a handout about the P&F Advisory Group Aim and Goals, as well as the 2017–2019 Strategic Goals.

## Term 2

Explanation was given of how that every second 3 year cycle we have an major school review with an external panel which will occur in June 2019. Parents were invited to provide input to the panel through a survey.

Attending parents completed questionnaire sheets to help provide further insight into parent views, while aiding in the collation of data.

Areas of questioning were broken down into 4 sections:

- Catholic Life
- Pastoral Care and Community
- Quality Teaching and Learning
- Leadership/Admin and Facilities

The results were collated and presented to the external panel as input from the parents. A number of parents who were not able to be at the meeting also provided input which was also presented to the panel.

An invitation was extended at the meeting and through the newsletter to all SJF families who may like to meet the CSO Review panel at 2.30 on Tuesday 18th June in the School LARC to provide feedback.

The review panel was grateful for the written submissions as well as the number of parents who attended the review.

### **Term 3**

One of the points that were raised in the feedback during the Term 2 Meeting was around communication.

Our Advisory section of the meeting in Term 3 focused on the new Administration program Compass with some great discussion about how parents could see it being used to engage parents in the school.

We were delighted to have the Diocesan Consultant for the program who gave us insights into how the program works and some of the functions we can add into the future. Parents offered their thoughts and ideas on how we could use the new program for improved communication in the future.

## **Parent Learning / Diocesan Parent Council**

Thank you to our FLO, Honor McGill who has worked across the school in many functions including with our Catholic School Parent Representatives. They have kept us informed of all the programs offered by the Catholic School Parents. Thank you to Lyndall who has filled in at functions of the Catholic School Parents and in Term 2 we welcomed Vanessa Turner, the new SJF CSP representative. A number of functions through the year were attended which kept us connected to other Catholic Schools in the Diocese and the issues that we have in common, as well as informing us of the resources that are available such as the *Broken Bay Catholic School Parents Facebook Site*.

A major initiative was the Tuning into Kids Program which has been offered over Term 4 and was supported by both Honor McGill and our Pastoral Care Coordinator, Luisa Lawicki. Parents were also offered a spiritual experience with the Walking the Way Reflection Session.

## **Building Community 2019**

The social committee headed by Kate Hooke has done a brilliant job of providing the following events for the school community which can be enjoyed by students, parents/carers as well as families.

These include The Big Arvo, The Mother's Day Stall and Mother's Day Breakfast, the Student Disco, The Grandparents' Day Morning Tea, the Father's Day Stall, the Father's Day Breakfast, the Adults Karaoke Night, the Teachers Morning Tea and the Gingerbread night.

New families were welcomed with letters as well as through the orientation process.

## **Financial Contribution 2019**

Introduction of the P&F Levy in 2018 - *Excerpt from parent community letter regarding the introduction of the levy.*

Over the last several years the funds raised by the P&F have made a very significant improvement to both students learning as well as the general resources of the school. Some of these improvements include introducing technology into the classroom including the purchase of multiple iPads into every class as well as the computers in the Library. Apart from the many learning resources, the P&F contributions have allowed us to develop significant projects including building the COLA, placing air-conditioning in all rooms and building playground equipment. With the success of the introduction of iPads the staff is very keen to broaden the number of tablets in each room and the P&F contribution will allow that to happen. The P&F Contribution is also crucial in providing the association with a source of funds to resource the community building events such as the Mothers' Day, Fathers' Day and Grandparents' Breakfasts.

The P&F Contribution would take the place of the major fundraising activities of the P&F and allow them to concentrate on engaging with the community through their community building activities. It would be a non-compulsory charge billed by the school over and above Tuition, Building Levy and Resource Fees. It would be charged at \$95 per family which would provide a similar contribution to what has been raised by the P&F each year. It would be adjusted each year in line with Tuition Fees and could be revoked through a process of consultation between the Principal, the P&F Executive and the School Community.

iPads in classrooms – lease per year: \$30,290.40

New Computers in the LARC – Approx: \$30,000

Outdoor Learning Areas: \$39,666.00

## **Thank you**

Thank you to Leadership Team in the P&F during 2019. To Lyndall, Leanne, Rhonda, Irene, Sandra and Vanessa. It has been a pleasure working with you as you have the good of the students and parents clearly as your aim. Thank you to Kate, as our social coordinator you have worked so hard to flexibly organise events that meet the needs of the community, and have worked so hard to include others in any capacity they are able to assist. Thank you to all the parents that have supported social events and taken the lead in the many capacities over the year. Thank you to Honor, our Family Liaison Officer, who has worked so closely with our parent community in so many ways. The document that Kate and Honor have nearly completed entitled "Just One Thing," will be a great support in continuing to encourage parents to offer their services in a sustainable way.

I look forward to working with the new committee in creative ways to shape the P&F in a way that engages the community as much as possible.