

School Education Board Report – AGM 15th May 2019

The School Education board meets several times a year to discuss various School related matters. The current members of the Board are: Archpriest Michael Kalka, David Kelly (Principal), Carol Hicks (teacher), Katrina Haby (parent), Chris Dowling (parent), Natasha Devetak (parent), Leoni Duane (parent), Jenny Giardina (parent) and Marilyn Fischer (Parents and Friends representative).

During the last twelve months there have been many changes and challenges. As a new member of the Education Board, I was impressed and proud to see the massive amount of consideration and effort invested into our school and children.

Below is a brief summary of some notable school matters raised at the board meetings:

- New leadership: Archpriest Michael Kalka
- The implementation of a new government enforced program: National Collection of Children's Data (NCCD). This altered the way we receive school funding for children needing extra support.
- Implementation of Student Performance Analyser (SPA) Program, which more easily tracks student progress by keeping all sorts of data together.
- Continued use of the Benchmark Assessment Scheme (BAS- which was rolled out last year). The BAS helps assess reading and comprehension.
- New in house programs to support spelling (SMART Spelling) and wellbeing ('peaceful kids' & 'moving up day').
- Annual Financial Statement Audit: great results, minor findings/feedback
- OHS Audit: good results compared to other schools, some recommendations.
- Archpriest Michael Kalka adjusted the school enrolment policy which excludes some families. Although the feedback from the school tours is overwhelmingly positive, there are reduced enrolment numbers in 2019.
- Creation of a new master plan drafted by Archpriest Michael Kalka, which replaces the previous school master plan drafted in 2016. The plans are at the concept phase and outline some suggested ways to improve the functionality/aesthetics of the Parish and School. The plan also considers ways in which land can be use in order to provide funding to support the Parish. The parish master plan committee are seeking feedback from the board and local community/parents.
- An application has been submitted for a new school building consisting of 12 General Learning Areas.
- Review of over twenty policies and procedures looking at things like safety, behaviour and development of a new 'Parent Code of Conduct'.
- Updates regarding the efforts of the Parents and Friends committee which included numerous fund raising projects. These included, multiple school BBQs, the Easter raffle, Mothers/Fathers Day Stalls, Mary Help of Christians Feast Day, movie night

and the wonderful Walkathon. The Parents and Friends committee have again done a marvellous job at raising significant funds for the school.

I'm keen to remain on the board and continue working with a passionate group of people to achieve the best for our School. I feel that on most part, as a parent representative, my contribution plays an important part in shaping the decisions which need to be made.

Sincerely,

Natasha Devetak