



Tasmanian Catholic Schools Parents and Friends Federation

STATE COUNCIL
MEETING

Saturday 28 Feb 2009
Grindelwald

Sat 8:30 – 5:30 pm

MINUTES

1. Welcome and OPENING PRAYER – 8:50 am
2. ATTENDANCE & APOLOGIES

PRESENT		APOLOGY	
NAME	REGION	NAME	REGION
Bill Button	State President		
Linda Smith	Treasurer		
D. von Samorzewski	State Secretary	Angela Briant	IEU -Tas
		Martin Laverack	Nth Rgn President
Anthea Griffin	Observer		
Nigel Chong	Observer		
Michael Hangan	Executive Officer	Ian Dalton	Immediate past president / Life member
John Waldock	IEU – Tas president		
Mary Excell	Life Member		

Acceptance of apologies

-
3. PREVIOUS MINUTES – dated 22 & 23 November 2008, tabled and moved as true record of meeting. Moved, , Linda Smith Seconded, Michael Hangan carried.
ACTION – EO upload to the Federation website

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4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Action List reviewed as follows:

ACTION – DVS Letter to CEO – Letter of support for the need of principals to have support from business managers so that principals (particularly in small schools) can spend more time supporting teaching and learning and faith based activities.

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5. CORRESPONDENCE –

IN - Archbishop Adrian – Dr Dan White resignation
Vicar General - Fr Mark Freeman message
CEO Melbourne media release Catholic Education response to bushfire crisis
The Family-School and Community Partnerships Bureau is developing questions for a national Parents Survey being funded by the Department of Education Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR).
Combining Schools & Work (supporting successful youth transitions) – Cth - Standing Committee on Education & Training)
National Curriculum email / request - *The National Curriculum Board has released English, mathematics, science and history framing papers for public consultation*
Australian Early Development Index (AEDI) – we have been forwarded a copy from Christine Butterworth for our information
Building our better schools revolution
TSSP&F Parent Feb newsletter for 2009
Attached please the two application packages that will provide templates for applying for:

National School Pride (NSP) Minor Capital Works/Major Maintenance projects;
and for the combined Primary/Secondary Colleges Science & Language
Centres for 21st Century.

Australian New Zealand Association for the Advancement of Science
(ANZAAS conference details for students <http://www.anzaas.org.au/youth.html>)

On behalf of Mr Anthony Morgan, Deputy Director, Head of Teaching and
Learning, please find attached a request from the TQA seeking input about
course development for 2009

CEO Catholic Education Applauds School Building Initiatives media release
Do better at school

A NATIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR RELIGIOUS FREEDOM paper re APC

Out

Get well card to Sue Napier
Congratulating Archbishop for an AM.
Letter to Archbishop Adrian re – Brother in Law.
Paula Wriedt thanks you card
Letter to Principals – seeking sponsorship information re 50th Conference

Motion

That the correspondence in and out be accepted.

Moved – Linda Smith, seconded – Michael Hangan, carried

6 REPORTS

- PRESIDENT REPORT -

Nil Report – information provided throughout meeting

7 - TREASURERS REPORT

1 Jan 08 – 31 Dec 2008 Profit and Loss Statement presented and talked to.

1 Jan 08 – 31 Dec 2008 Profit and Loss (Budgeted) presented and talked to.

1 Jan 08 – 31 Dec 2008 Profit and Loss (Actual) presented and talked to.

Details to be provided at TCSPFF AGM on the 16 **May** 2009. (see details later on)

Motion – Treasurer’s Financial Report for Calendar 2008 year

That the Treasurer’s Report be received and accepted as a true record of the financial position
of the Federation for 2008 and be presented to the 2009 AGM. See [attachment A](#)

Moved Michael Hangan, Seconded Mary Excell. Carried

Motion – Proposed motion for conference

That the Federation increase affiliation fees from \$2.50 to \$3.00 per full time student.
Rational will be present to AGM.

Moved Michael Hangan, Seconded Mary Excell. Carried

Motion – Treasurer’s Budget for the 2009 Calendar Year.

That the tabled 2009 Budget be put to motion for adoption at the AGM.

Moved Michael Hangan, Seconded Mary Excell. Carried

Motion – Treasurer’s Report

That the 2009 YTD Treasurer’s Report be received and accepted as a true record of the financial position of the Federation.

Moved Michael Hangan Smith, Seconded Linda Smith, carried

SECRETARY – Nil report

ADMINISTRATION – New website is nearly ready to go live. New Federation website address is www.tcspff.org.au

NEW COMMUNICATION STRATEGY - EO has included (in the new website) the ability to provide **all school P&F presidents with a Federation email address**. This will be used to disseminate information to all schools. Federation will also investigate possible use of SMS to disseminate information. Ie <http://www.msglobal.com.au/>

2009 - AGM

16 May 2009 Saturday

Location – St Patrick’s College, Senior Staff Room

Time 1:30 – 4:30 pm

Casual Dinner (own cost) @ TBA 6:30 for 7 pm. Ask local P&F to attend dinner?

Lunch on arrival

Nil registration fees

Action – EO – Ring St Pat’s to confirm and cater?

ACTION – DVS Advertise details in Triangle.

Motions to AGM - Proposed changes to the TCSPFF Constitution

Section 4. Memberships

4. a) i.

Section 5 a) iii)

iv)

v) **The Executive officer shall be an EX...**

b) i.

b) ii)

d)

6. e)

7. b)

c)

d)

9. a) iii.

12. b)

14. a)

b)

c)

16)

Details of changes will be distributed to all TCSPFF affiliates with conference registration & details paperwork, as per constitution.

Motion - Constitution

That the proposed constitution changes put to the 2009 AGM in appropriate motions.

Moved Michael Hangan Smith, Seconded Linda Smith, carried

2009 Conference update 50th Golden Jubilee 15 August 2009 (Saturday Only).

Theme – **Past** **Present** **Future**
 Reflections **Living** **Choices**

This conference is a one day conference

Proposed Guest Speaker – David Loader. Damian has obtained samples of David's work and short bio. [See attachment C](#)

The Archbishop has been pencilled in for **15 August 2009 (Saturday Only)**.
Proposed [Agenda attached D](#)

A St Pat's conference committee meeting will be held on the March 5 at 5:30 pm.
ACTION DVS will attend.

ACTION – DVS to provide conference information in next Triangle. (Term 1, 2009)

ACTION – DVS & EO will devise approach to seek funding to support following proposal. EO will raise proposal with Catholic Education Week Working Party. (It should be noted that the TCSPFF Conference in 2009 is at the end of End of Catholic Education Week.)

A School Captain Forum is proposed for the Friday before conference (14 Aug 2009). The EO will consult with the Catholic Education Week Working Party to investigation the feasibility of the proposal. Details available from EO / TCSPFF office.

-
- STUG – Nil report
 - TCEC – Nil report
 - NCEC – Nil report
 -

CEO – **ACTION – EO** to forward to Sr Gabrielle (chair of partnership working party)
Nomination for regions working groups include North West – Linda Smith, North –
Damian von Samorzewski, South – Michael Hangan.

Catholic Education Week 8 Aug – Start of Catholic Education Week

Theme – Embrace Mary MacKillop – Engage the World

Catholic Education Week Mass' in regions will be 11 Aug (South), 12 Aug (NW), 13 Aug (Nth)

Regional Directors will be involved in their region's Catholic Education Week activities.

Regional Directors are

Sean Gill – South
Christen Edwards – North
Carey McIvor – North West

Meeting with Dr Dan White 12 December 2008 – Agenda available on request.
ACTION – EO Organised meeting with Acting Director.

STUG – National Transport Forum – Research Workshop – 2009. Adelaide 23/ 24 April 2009 (100 parents) via DWEER (BB may attend) DWEER will cover expenses.

- APC – Meeting Canberra 13/14/15/16 March, including DEEWR and Strategic planning meeting
- College of Executive Officers – Report from meeting 21 April 09
DEEWR – NIL report
- SRB – Nil report from Stuart Ellis
- TRB – Nil report (ask Tasmanian State P&F)
- PARENT PROJECTS –

-
- Parent Liaison Officer – Anthony Morgan (Note – The Federation's considers that this proposal is supported by the proposed Partnership in Practice proposal by the TCEC and could be seen by many parents as a positive step in building open and transparent parent / parish / school relationship.

- BGA – School principals should know BGA funding allocation for 2009.
- IEU – Tas John Waldock (president) provided an overview of **Collective bargaining** between the CEO and union – review and highlighted how it is progressing, whilst highlighting points of interest from a parent prospective. Some points include;

Beginning Teachers – Release time to support development at early stages of the career.

Class sizes – Is this an issue. The IEU – Tas wish is to get a firm commitment from the CEO in relation to class size. This is yet to occur.

High needs students – counted as 1.5 students so teacher can better accommodate at differentiation of the curriculum.

Early Childhood classes capped at 22.

Cleaning – A review has been asked for to maintaining a reasonable standard.

Concern that required workloads in schools may not take account of all aspects of a teacher's responsibilities.

Incentive to add in the adequate staffing of remote and rural schools sought.

Concern that teacher aides maybe being exploited – particularly in relation to early starts and late finishes.

30 minute breaks sought, (currently 20 mins) because of lack of time to get to staff room, toilet, have lunch and get out to relief other teacher on duty.

Investigation of 4 term year sought as many students can't handle 13 week terms.

Maternity leave.

The union has concern about how special needs students need to be better accommodated, but lack of support and resources is having an impact on how well inclusive education can really occur in Tasmanian Catholic schools.

Concern about the lack of access to support staff for teachers and students (Occupational Therapists, Speech theorists, educational theorists, etc....)

Allowances are sought for teacher assistants in relation to toileting, feeding, supporting additional therapies.

Teacher Assistants – concern raised about low relative income to skills required.

Union is also concerned about OH&S awareness in schools, the lack of ongoing training for staff and appropriate application of Tas OH&S legislation.

9. GENERAL BUSINESS

- New TCSPFF website url www.tcspff.org.au
- New TCSPFF forum website
- <http://tasmaniancatholicchoolparents.freeforums.org/>

Principals Conference is planned for (27 April – 1 May 2009)

Action EO – send letter requesting time in their agenda?

ACTION – DVS to Ask CEO to lobby schools to seek Keys to Ps driver education. Awareness program. Dept of Transport program. Send letter to CEO, suggesting (**Bill** to send me RACT letter to Damian to Gordanna)

2009 TCSPFF Strategic Plan – Did not discuss – ran out of time

2009 Focus Points (remembering we are a volunteer organisation with many commitments.)

Principal's Conference

AGM

50th Conference

Tasmanian Partnership

Meeting with Premier and Education Minister / Minister

PLA

Meet with Sue Napier / Greens

PD for volunteers

CEO MOU / Partnership agreement

Region reps to meet with School P&F for first ten minutes of their monthly meeting, once a term.

Plus usual standing committee commitments.

Archbishop's Charter

Can be found at <http://www.ceo.hobart.catholic.edu.au/documents/CATEDUcharter87051.pdf>

ACTION – DVS Send letter to CEO asking the possibility if new regional directors support implementing the Volunteers Policy early 2009. (This relates to part 12.3)
<http://www.ceo.hobart.catholic.edu.au/documents/VolunteerPolicy.pdf>

NEXT MEETING -

SC meeting 2009 – 28 March Sunday – Location ROSS 9 am t 3:30 pm
AGM 16 May AGM @ St Pat's Launceston 1:30 – 4 :30 (EO - Need to advise)

12. Meeting closed suspended at 5:30 pm followed by a new year BBQ.

Damian von Samorzewski
State Secretary
Tasmanian Catholic Schools
Parents and Friends Federation

tcspf.secretary@gmail.com

0438 639374

DRAFT

DRAFT

Attachment B

Dear colleague

The Family-School and Community Partnerships Bureau is developing questions for a national Parents Survey being funded by the Department of Education Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR). I am seeking some assistance from you so that we can refine the survey questions and ensure they target the right issues. To that end, I wish to conduct a series of Focus Groups with parents and community members. The Focus Groups are a sort of 'warm up' engagement with matters that parents think are important.

Would you be willing to assemble about a dozen people from your area to participate in a Focus Group session some time during March-April ? The session will last around 2 hours, and can be held at whatever time and place is mutually convenient for all concerned. I will generally be available to conduct the Focus Groups any time from Saturday – Wednesday each week. (Excluding 2 March, 14-16 and 24-25 March, 3-5 April) The Bureau will meet the costs of tea/coffee/biscuits.

Each Focus Group should involve people of similar backgrounds and experiences (e.g. parents from a middle class metropolitan high school, or from a primary school in a blue collar community, or Indigenous parents from a regional school etc.) If you are interested in helping out, please give me a ring and we can discuss it in more detail.

In the first instance, I will simply accept offers of assistance in the order I receive them, although I may have to later adjust arrangements to ensure a good cross-section of parents from different backgrounds are represented. I hope and expect that the exercise will be of as much benefit to you and your organisation as it will be to me.

Thank you for considering my request.

Sincerely

Brenton Holmes

Research and Communications
Family-School and Community
Partnerships Bureau
Tel: 02 6282 5150
Mobile: 0416 127 397
PO Box 323 Curtin ACT 2605
www.familyschool.org.au

*David Loader is an education consultant and Associate Professor in the Faculty of Education at the University of Melbourne.
Email davidloader@telstra.com*

David was a School Principal for 32 years. He was Principal of Kinross Wolaroi College, Orange (initially PLC, then Kinross and then Kinross Wolaroi) 1971-8, Methodist Ladies' College, Melbourne 1979 – 1996 and Wesley College, Melbourne 1997-2002.

He has been a Principal Fellow in the Faculty of Education, Melbourne University 2002 to 2008.

He is the author of two books. *The Inner Principal* published in 1997 by Falmer Press, London. This book gives a psychoanalytical perspective on school leadership.. *Jousting for the new generation; Challenges to contemporary schooling* published in Australia by ACER Press in 2007 provides a critique of modern day schooling.

David is a Board member of Swinburne University and National Institute of Circus Arts

In Australia's centenary, he was awarded the Centenary Medal 'for outstanding services to education.'

In 1999, the Australian College of Education awarded him the Sir James Darling Medal and in 2008, David received the Gold Medal from Australian Council for Educational Leaders

Besides being a regular contributor to Teacher (published by ACER) David works as a leadership guide (mentor) writer and speaker. He is particularly interested in leadership and school futures

Attachment C

Hello all

I was called to Canberra last Friday for a briefing by the PM, DPM and Treasurer on the education element of the economic stimulus package. I'll circulate a report in the next couple of days.

While I was in Canberra I was talking to Bob Johnston from the Association of Christian Schools and he alerted me to the Freedom of Religion and Belief Review, which he suggests has been kept pretty much under the radar. He said the person who is driving the review is the Victorian Attorney General. Apparently submissions had been set to close on 31 January, but they've now been extended until 28 February. I have attached a copy of the discussion paper and a paper by Patrick Parkinson, Professor of Law at the University of Sydney, for your information.

The outcome of the review could have implications for the current exemptions from anti-discrimination legislation currently held by some non-government schools and schooling authorities. I have asked Jo Lonergan to have a look at the papers and assist me in drafting an APC response. She has particular skills in that area and I will circulate the draft paper to you all for consideration ASAP. If you would like to contribute to the development of the draft at this stage please

Cc:

Subject: Vicar General - Fr Mark Freeman message as listed below

Importance: High

Mr William (Bill) Hickey, the husband of Archbishop Doyle's sister, Moya, died in the early hours of Sunday morning, 18th January 2008. Bill had been suffering from pancreatic cancer for some months. The Archbishop has flown to Townsville to attend the Funeral Mass for Mr Jack Rush (Fr Terry's father). He will then travel to Brisbane to join his sister and her family. The Archbishop will remain in Brisbane until after his brother-in-law's Funeral Mass which is expected to be celebrated later this week. Please pray for the Hickey and Doyle families at this time and please ask your communities to do the same. May Bill Hickey rest in peace.

Fr Mark Freeman
Vicar General

Monday 9 February 2009

Catholic Education response to bushfire crisis

The Director of Catholic Education in the Archdiocese of Melbourne, Stephen Elder, today offered financial support to Catholic School families who have lost their homes.

Mr Elder also called on Catholic school and parish communities to remember the victims of Victoria's bushfire disaster in their prayers and to support them through the State Government's appeal.

"This has been a disaster of monumental proportions and my thoughts and prayers go out to the victims, their loved ones and all Victorians who have been affected by this tragic event," said Mr Elder.

The CEOM will waive 2009 school fees for Catholic school families in the Archdiocese of Melbourne who have lost their homes and additional funds will be made available for these families to cover education costs.

Special leave arrangements have also been arranged for Catholic school staff who are also volunteers with emergency management organisations.

"Some of our school and parish communities, like the wider community, have been directly affected by the fires and they will need special care and assistance in the days and weeks ahead," he said.

Catholic school staff and students affected by the tragedy have been offered support through the CEOM's Pastoral Care Unit and school psychologists and counsellors are working with affected school communities.

Mr Elder urged the Catholic Education community to support the State Government's bushfire appeal through www.redcross.org.au or by calling **1800 811 700**. The Archbishop's Charitable Fund (Bushfire Appeal) is also accepting donations that will be forwarded to affected Catholic School communities and families. Donation can be made through the website: <www.melbourne.catholic.org.au/archbishop/archcharitablefund.htm>

Five Catholic Schools have closed today as a result of the bushfire. They are: St Mary's Primary School, Yarram; St Mary's PS, Alexandra; St Mary's PS, Whittlesea; St Joseph's PS, Beechworth and Marist-Sion College, Warragul.

Further information from David Ahern, Media, Catholic Education Office, on 9267 0228 or 0418 351 383.

GOLDEN JUBILEE
PROPOSED
CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Past Present Future
Reflections Living Choices

SATURDAY 15 AUGUST 2009

ST PATRICK'S COLLEGE, LAUNCESTON

	Segment Sponsor	
8:00 am		Registration
9:00 am		Conference Opening Ceremony (President Bill Button) Welcome to Country Conference Opening – Archbishop Adrian Doyle
9:45 am		Keynote address presented by – David Loader – The new school; old school paradigms no longer serve us well
10:30 am		Morning tea
11:00 am		David Loader - Planning for the next generation
12:00 noon		Cracker Barrel Workshops – short sharp small group discussions on set themes, assisted by reflecting on David Loader's presentation. Attendees (including school captains) will be appointed to different groups.
1:00 pm		Lunch
2:00 pm		Catholic Education Office in Partnership with Parents (Regionalisation)
3:00 pm		Afternoon Tea
3:30 pm		Students views of Catholic Education and parental involvement – Showcasing entries from ICT competition.
4:00 pm		Archbishop Adrian
6:00 pm		Conference Mass
7:00 pm		Pre Dinner Drinks
7:30 pm		Conference Dinner (Showcasing & presentation of 50 years of the TCSPFF)

Gold Sponsor		
Silver Sponsors		
Bronze Sponsors		
Donations		

Attachment E

Do better at school

Monday, 16 February 2009

[Queensland University of Technology](http://www.qut.edu.au)

Children whose parents are involved in their studies are more likely to succeed.

Family involvement can have a huge impact on the ability of children to learn and succeed in the education system, a Queensland University of Technology study has found. Associate Professor Donna Berthelsen and Dr Sue Walker, from QUT's School of Early Childhood in the Faculty of Education, are both involved with an ongoing, government-funded, longitudinal study of 10,000 Australian children.

Data analyses from their study have so far centred largely around the influence of parents on children's learning and how parental involvement at school affects learning. "The family has the largest influence on children's learning outcomes and how parents value school education is very important," Professor Berthelsen said. "If parents are involved with their children's learning in the early years of school, it makes it more likely that their children will complete school and go on to further study."

Professor Berthelsen said that of the parents interviewed when the children were in Years 1 and 2 at school, around 99 per cent expected their children to complete schooling. However, only 60 per cent were viewed by teachers as being very involved with their children's education. "Almost without exception parents expressed a wish for their children to finish school and go to university, but in Australia the number of students who do so is under 80 per cent," she said.

It has been found that parents who remain engaged with schools throughout their child's education are more likely to have children who do complete high school and go on to further study. "Parental involvement with schools, whether through talking with other parents, their children's teachers, their children about school, or helping their children with homework, reflects that these parents place a high value on education," Professor Berthelsen said. "Such engagement has a positive effect on children's learning.

"While we have found that there is a very high level of parental involvement in the early years of schooling, overseas research indicates that this engagement starts to decrease in the later years of primary school and throughout high school.

"This may be because parental expectations have changed or because they are not confident or comfortable enough talking with their children's teachers and they become more inclined to leave it up to the teachers." Professor Berthelsen said more outreach from schools to parents could help keep them involved.

"If parents did not have positive experiences at school or are reluctant to approach teachers, then it is up to the school to provide that outreach," she said. "At the same time, there are many things parents can do at home to support learning. It is important parents don't see schools as solely responsible for their child's learning.

"Helping with homework and discussing experiences at school and what is being learned lets children know that their parents are interested and concerned."

<http://www.sciencealert.com.au/news/20091602-18802-2.html>

Editor's Note: Original news release can be found [here](#).

-----Original Message-----

From: Damien John Downes [mailto:d.downes@ugrad.unimelb.edu.au]
Sent: Wednesday, 18 February 2009 12:20 PM
To: tcspff@bigpond.com
Subject: Student Science Conference - Youth ANZAAS 2009

To Michael Hangan,

Australian New Zealand Association for the Advancement of Science (ANZAAS), is an organisation that promotes science to the community and advocates better science education within our two countries. To meet this goal we host an annual student conference, Youth ANZAAS, for 60 delegates from Australia and New Zealand, giving year 10 to 12 students a unique science experience. This year the conference is being hosted from July 5 to 10 in Melbourne and I (Damien Downes) am the event coordinator. In order to reach as many students as possible, allowing for the best and brightest to be selected, we would like your federations help.

Hopefully you will be able to help us advertise using a newsletter or online mailing list, as it is often parents who influence students decisions to go to conferences such as these.

I have attached our flier, which covers most details of the conference.

You can also find more details at <http://www.anzaas.org.au/youth.html> where application forms will soon be available. If you have any questions or would like a short blurb for your newsletter please don't hesitate to contact me.

I hope to hear from you soon.

Damien Downes
Conference coordinator
Youth ANZAAS 2009

-----Original Message-----

From: Ann Daley [mailto:ann.daley@catholic.tas.edu.au]
Sent: Monday, 16 February 2009 11:00 AM
To: TCS Parents and Friends Assoc
Cc: Anthony Morgan; Jill Morgan
Subject: Fwd: Request for comment about courses with accreditation expiring in 2009

Dear TCS P & F Executive

On behalf of Mr Anthony Morgan, Deputy Director, Head of Teaching and Learning, please find attached a request from the TQA seeking input about course development for 2009.

This is an area that the Catholic Education Sector has a particularly strong view on and we invite you therefore, to contact Mrs Jill Morgan, Secondary Curriculum Consultant, here at the office (jill.morgan@catholic.tas.edu.au) to discuss this matter further. A combined approach to the response would be most appropriate and carry the most weight.

Thank you for your assistance with this matter.

Regards

Ann Daley
Manager Directorate & Planning