

SCHOOL COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

School Council met on 16 June 2018, and welcomed back Mr Phil Savill to the school from the beginning of Term 3. Council also thanked Ms Susan Cowley for the continuity she provided during Mr Savill's secondment to Macgregor State School.

MEMBERSHIP

Council recognised the interest from parents in participating on the Council, and made a priority to implement the process by which new members will be elected from the parent body for the beginning of 2019.

MISSION

The Council adopted its Mission Statement as follows:

The foundation of the School Council is to provide consistent support to the administration team, staff, students and parents of Gumdale State School.

Our overarching mission is to drive the growth of the school to be a Centre of Excellence within the curriculum learning areas of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Maths (STEAM). This goal will help ensure the ongoing improvement of educational outcomes and values for all children enrolled at the school and prepare them for the society they will potentially become leaders of.

Our Mission Statement is underpinned by an enriched learning environment, innovative teachers and administration team and our culture of "Always Our Best".

We will achieve this by;

- Being actively consulted in the employment of senior administration team members to ensure consistency and strength of leadership for the entire school.
- Promoting the employment of highly qualified, experienced staff (teaching and non-teaching) through clear communication of expectations to the administrative team.
- Ensuring longevity of employment of quality staff (teaching and non-teaching) through support for initiatives that lead to engaging, effective and meaningful incentives beyond the standard remuneration options, professional development, a focus on personal health and growth and other retention incentives
- Ensuring the Council supports the senior administration team in fostering a positive social tone within the school.

STAFF RECOGNITION

This Term, Council recognized the excellent work undertaken by Ms Daphne Gillies, Master Teacher.

NAMING OF OVALS

Council has been discussing the process by which the two school ovals should be named. It was decided to name the Top Oval through a two year sponsorship arrangement, which will be communicated to parents and local businesses.

The bottom oval will be named after a distinguished sports person who attended GSS as a student. The Student Council has identified three people who could be considered on this basis, and Council is writing to these people to determine if they are willing to be considered by the school for such naming. If so, they will be voted on by the parent body.

NATIONAL CELEBRATORY DAYS

Council endorsed the Department's guidelines for celebrating national holidays and celebrations, and indicated that the school will use terms and language appropriate for those celebrations.

IPS CONFERENCE

Ms Cowley and Mrs McBeth attended the IPS Alliance Leadership Conference, which discussed the future development of independent public schools. Key benefits of this initiative were seen to include:

- flexibility to tailor the strategy of each school to the local community and context
- greater ownership of the strategy at a local level when it is developed by the School Council in consultation with the local community
- autonomy to select staff members with best skills and cultural fit to enhance implementation of school strategy
- ability to trial innovative approaches, practices etc and if successful, to share and implement across the state system, if not successful, to share to prevent others from making the same mistake
- enhanced engagement with school community including families, businesses, principals, senior leadership teams, teachers, aides and other staff when it is clear what the school stands for and what it is striving to achieve.

STUDENT BEHAVIOUR

Council will be reviewing the Student Behaviour Management Plan in the latter part of this year.

QUESTIONS?

If you have any questions about the School Council, or want to get involved, please contact Marissa Bowen, email: mbowe79@eq.edu.au