
From the Principal

Term 2 has been a busy term. Students in Year 10-12 have had exams and you will very shortly be receiving your child reports. NAPLAN tests were completed and OLNA results came out. Our Year 12s had a wonderful Ball at Frasers, Kings Park with an "Enchanted Garden" theme. Finally, the Parent Report Evening is on 22 June from 3.30pm to 7.00pm.

Our school has been involved in the Independent Public School process. A critical aspect is to have our community be aware of and develop our schools governance, gauge the level of support for the school including the pursuit of the IPS status.

The School Council

Our School Council has been meeting regularly as part of the process of examining its role, improving its effectiveness and applying for BSHS to be an IPS. There are several initiatives about to come about:

- Our new website will be released this month with links to the Council.
- A new training and induction process for members.
- A code of conduct for council members.

What does the Council do?

The council has an important role to play in the governance of the school including setting strategic direction, overseeing the schools finances, evaluating the schools performance formulating codes of conduct including the school uniform.

Who is our School Council?

Our Council is chaired by Helen Notis. The Principal is Stephen Pestana. The Parent representatives are Svetlana Naumoski, Lara Broomfield, Trudie Dwyer and Karen Paull. Our Community Representative is Margaret Banks.

The staff are represented by Helen Maitland, Anna Sanzogni and Kevin Castensen. Lesley Street returns in Semester 2 as the Principal.

The Council welcomes the Hon Chris Hatton MLA and Professor Ted Snell as Community Members to assist the council develop a more strategic focus. Chris Hatton has a long history with Balcatta SHS. Professor Snell is a distinguished academic, critic and practicing artist with a rich background in the Arts. They join Margaret Banks, who has an outstanding career as a leader in Education. We very much appreciate the involvement of our parents, staff and community members.

How often does it meet?

The Council meets twice a term and its dates are published in the Calendar. Members of the public are able to come to see the Council though, of course, they won't have voting rights.

How can I be involved?

- Come along to a meeting.
- Think of becoming a member.
- Be involved in the minutes and agendas.
- Speak to a member if you wish to have an issue raised at the council.

What is an Independent Public School?

Independent Public Schools are best placed to make the best decisions for their students in consultation with their communities.

Independent Public Schools:

- have greater independence for local decision making which directly reflects the needs of their students and communities.
- employ greater flexibility in areas such as staff recruitment, budgeting, procurement, school development days, travel approvals and

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Student support.

- take part in regular external performance reviews to provide their school communities with independent assessment of the differences they are making over time.

Public accountability

Each Independent Public School:

- has an independent review in the final year of its Delivery and Performance Agreement, with the report made available to the Minister for Education, Director General and the public.
- produces an annual school report endorsed by the school board
- undertakes ongoing self-assessment of performance which is reported to the school board.

Governance

Governance of an Independent Public School requires:

- the principal to ensure the school has an effective school board that is representative of the school community and complies with the *School Education Act 1999* and *School Education Regulations 2000*.
- endorsement of the Delivery and Performance Agreement by the chair of the school board, Principal and Director General.
- endorsement by the school board of the school business plan and associated budget.
- the Principal to provide relevant monthly financial reports, results of any school audits and reviews, and advice on school performance and student improvement targets as detailed in the *school business plan*.
- *participation by the school board chair or board representative in the selection of the Principal when a vacancy arises.*

What do you think about IPS?

Should Balcatta SHS be an IPS? Please take part in our brief IPS survey at this link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BSHSParentIPS>

Get Help with a Tutor

The Yourtutor free tutoring service run with ECU at Balcatta SHS has seen a continued growth in its

use during the month of May. Just slightly under

2400 minutes of free tutoring was used by our students in May is double the usage from March. The total usage from May last year is up 1% and the satisfaction of our students in the service is between very good to excellent.

The Year 8s and Year 11s are the highest users of the service and the subjects receiving the most enquiries are English and Mathematics. The students have commented on how good, as a whole, the tutors have been with one student recording that their tutor had “honestly told me my mistakes and how to make them better. She is very keen to help and she is quite patient. I loved her!!!!”

Students can access your tutor by going to the Yourtutor site, www.yourtutor.com.au and using the access code supplied by the school. The site is active and tutors operate between 3 and 10pm Sunday to Friday during the school year. Students should avail themselves of one on one tutoring or assignment help, free of charge, to help improve understanding and their grades.

Stephen Pestana
Principal

Important dates

21 June	Year 10 Lightning Carnival
22 June	Parent/Teacher Interviews – 3.30 - 7.00pm
23 June	Year 8 Immunisations
1 July	Last day of Term 2 for students/teachers
20 July	Term 3 commences for students
27 July	Parent Information Evening for Year 11
28-29 July	Choreography Nights