



# Balcatta Update

June 2017

## From the Principal

The School Board members, Helen Notis (School Board Chair) and Anna Sanzogni (staff member) and I, recently undertook an Independent Public Schools' training event titled, "School Board Development Program". We gained useful information that we shared with the board. We have implemented, at the board meetings, an ongoing familiarisation with our School Business Plan, and focused on particular targets and strategies that aim to improve student outcomes. At Balcatta Senior High School, we are very fortunate to have a very proactive Board who are always encouraging, support school development and add significant value.

Our School Board members consist of Helen Maitland (Principal) and Helen Notis as School Board Chair. The parent representatives are Svetlana Naumoski, Lara Broomfield, Trudie Dwyer and Karen Paull, community representatives are Margaret Banks, Chris Hatton and Professor Ted Snell and school staff are represented by Anna Sanzogni, Kevin Castensen and Helen Hawley. Lesley Street returns in Semester Two as the Principal. The Board meets twice a term and the meeting dates are published in the calendar on our website. Members of the public are invited to attend the board meetings, although they do not have voting rights.

A sincere thank you to all parents who have paid their contributions and charges or have a payment plan in place. Unfortunately there are still parents who have outstanding amounts to be paid. There are a number of payment options available including direct debit, credit card, cheque, EFTPOS or cash which can be paid at the front office. Reminder invoices have been sent out and all parents who have not paid these accounts should have a payment plan in place. It is vital that these are paid as the monies received are directed to student learning programs.

### OLNA

All Years 10 to 12 students who undertook the OLNA tests in term one have received their results. It is pleasing to note that a number of the students have achieved the required standard for either Reading, Writing or Numeracy. The next round of OLNA is scheduled for September.

It has been a very busy term, with a range of events and opportunities undertaken by our students.

We have a number of students and staff leaving on Wednesday 28 June on the Civics and Leadership Tour to Canberra and the snow fields of New South Wales. We wish them all a safe and fun trip and look forward to photos and updates for the website and next Bulletin.

I would sincerely like to thank the dedicated staff (teaching and non-teaching), for the contributions they bring to the school. With the end of this term only weeks away, I wish all students and staff a safe and relaxing break.

Helen Maitland  
Principal

## News

### Years 7 to 12 Reporting Evening

There will be an opportunity on Wednesday 28 June for parents to meet with teachers to discuss their child's Semester One report. Teachers will be available for interviews by appointment from 3.00pm to 6.00pm. The interviews will be conducted in the school library. We are using the online booking system called SOBS. To book an interview time, go to our website and click on the 'For Parents' link then 'Parent Teacher Interviews'. If you require assistance in accessing the information, please contact the school on 9345 8200 and we can make the booking for you. Please ensure you know the name of your child's teacher/s when phoning for assistance. We encourage all parents and guardians to attend, so that you can meet with the teachers and discuss your child's progress. Reports will be emailed and posted to parents.

### Events Around the School

#### Coding Club

A select group of Year 7 and Year 8 students is participating in an academic extension program 'Coding'. This is being run by Andrea Conte from Fire Tech Camp Australia. The students have been learning about coding, and were all excited when I dropped in recently as they were "coding a game", with a hero and villain. The program finishes at the end of this term, and has been well received by the students.

## Inaugural Years 7 and 8 Science Fair

Congratulations to all the Year 7 and Year 8 students and their Science teachers, on a fantastic display of scientific excellence. We had a number of parents, grandparents, staff, students, as well as students from Takari Primary School visit the event. In addition, Osborne Primary School students visited the Science Fair prior to the beginning of their first Forensic Science Transition session. The Year 7 and Year 8 students were great ambassadors for our school (see more details on our website and upcoming Balcatta Bulletin).

## Year 10 Parent Evening

On Tuesday 13 June, the school held a successful Year 10 Parent Information evening, which was well attended by parents and students. The audience was provided with a wealth of information regarding the transition into senior school, including the courses available, and the requirements of achieving the Western Australian Certificate of Education (WACE). Parents were very positive in response to the information presented and the opportunity to ask questions from the staff in attendance. Year 10 students will be bringing home 'Initial Course Selection Form' that they are required to complete and return to school by 30 June 2017. More information regarding this event can be found on our website.

## Debating team success

Our final round of the 2017 WA Debating League competition was held at Perth College on Wednesday 14 June and I am very pleased to report this was our most successful night of the year, with three out of our five teams winning their debates. Two Year 7 students participated in their first debate making a significant contribution to their team's performance.

### Novice teams (Years 7/8)

Balcatta 1 defeated Mt Lawley 1: Melina Hosseinzadeh Oroumi, Isaac Gregg, Elena Momirski.

Balcatta 2 defeated Carmel School 1: Aayushi Pandeya, Aksah Mathew, Tabitha Mathew.

Balcatta 3 defeated Perth College 4: Yesha Parekh, Tyson Smitham, Tahlia Wells-Vasile.

Our Junior and Senior teams both had defeats. Congratulations to the following students for their excellent participation in this round of the competition:

### Junior team (Year 10)

Balcatta 1 defeated by Perth Mod 7: Josh Barron, Tyler Rollinson, Harvey Ma, Suhasi Patel.

### Senior team (Years 11/12)

Balcatta 1 defeated by Perth College 2: Alicia Gregg, Domonique Barone, Ana Rychlak, Wilson Chalwe.

Thank you to Helen Maitland, Jaye Christie and Tess Curtis for coming along during the season to support our students.

## P&C News

Here we are at the end of another term. A sincere thank you to a supportive and enthusiastic Executive Committee. Your valuable contribution and commitment during the Term has been greatly appreciated.

I would like to extend a warm welcome to Richard Karamfiles who has assumed the role of Secretary. Richard will be elected at the next meeting but is actively involved with the Executive Committee, planning and researching upcoming events.

### Scheduled P&C Meetings

Commencing 7.30pm and held in the Staffroom:

- 9 August 2017
- 1 November 2017

## Acknowledgements

The P&C would like to acknowledge Mrs Helen Maitland, Mrs Helen Hawley and Ms Tess Curtis for their combined leadership at Balcatta Senior High School (BSHS) during the term. They have done a great job in their respective leadership roles supporting our students and staff to ensure that our values of Respect, Unite and Excel have been adhered to. We appreciate their commitment and dedication to the BSHS school community.

## Uniforms

In our last Update (May), Mrs Maitland outlined that students are reminded to adhere to the BSHS Uniform Policy. The P&C advocates our Uniform Policy as endorsed by our School Board and encourages our students to wear our school uniform and adhere to our dress code. There are many benefits and reasons for students wearing their school uniform including:

- Increase students' self-esteem because they do not have to participate in the "school fashion show." Dressing alike helps students learn that what really counts is on the inside.
- Promote a sense of teamwork and increase school spirit.
- Save families time and money. Our school uniform is inexpensive and affordable compared to "designer" labels. Wearing the uniform daily makes it easier for parents to know what their child is wearing every day without having to shop for new clothes.

Our Uniform Shop (on school site) is managed by Tudor Uniforms, a premier supplier of school uniforms and is open each Wednesday from 8am to 10am. There is a 24/7 online sales ordering available through the Tudor Uniform website. They offer various payment methods including EFTPOS, credit card or cash at the uniform shop.

## Upcoming Events

The Committee is currently looking at ways to promote our school and the P&C through "fun" and inclusive events which will engage our students and our school community. These ideas have been supported by our Principal but are still in discussion and are a work in progress. More information will be provided through our school website in the P&C Community Events. These events will incorporate fundraising towards resources that will benefit our students.

On behalf of Jenny Ambler  
P&C President

## Important Dates

19-21 June	Gifted and Talented Visual Arts Camp
19 June	Year 10 Lightning Carnival
20 June	6.30pm Years 4-6 Parent Information evening
27 June	Semester 1 Awards (all years)
28 June	3-6pm Years 7-12 Reporting evening
28 June - 6 July	Civics and Leadership Tour
3-16 July	Term 2 Holidays
17-18 July	School Development Days
19 July	Students commence Term 3
27-28 July	Choreography Nights