



Mary MacKillop
Memorial School
we care

2022 AGM Report

Wednesday the 15th of February
2023 at 6pm



School Board 2023 AGM

Wednesday 15th Feb 2023, 6pm

Agenda

WELCOME

Tom Pearce

1.

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Kaitlyn Lusty

3. OPENING PRAYER

Nicole Coote

4. APOLOGIES

5. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS AGM

6. BUSINESS ARISING

7. REPORTS

Chairperson

Finance

Principal

Tom Pearce

Janice Coote

Nicole Coote

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

9. ELECTIONS – Nicole Coote

10. CLOSE OF MEETING

11. Members of the new school board will meet briefly following the end of the meeting to elect the executive

Mary MacKillop Memorial School

Board AGM Minutes

Held on 16th March 2022 at 6.00pm at MMMS.

Present: Sr. Loreto, Judy Mountford, Janice Coote, Sam Baxter, Leticia Gosse, Tom Pearce, Tracey Brokken, Kathy O'Connell, Danielle Heazelwood, Kaitlyn Lusty, Glenn Tucker, Bronte Cox

Apologies: Nicole Coote, Nicole Reschke, Ashley Braun, Matt Tilby, Amanda Flint, Father D.

Prayer Sr. Loreto

Welcome: Judy Mountford and Sr. Loreto (on behalf of Nicole Coote) welcomed all to the meeting and thanked all members for their time and contribution to the school board. A special mention to Judy Mountford, thanking her for six years on the MMMS School board and two years as chairperson.

1. Confirmation of Previous Meeting

Moved Tom Pearce, seconded Tracey Brokken (carried)

2. Chairpersons Report – see attached, tabled at meeting

Moved Judy Mountford, seconded Tracey Brokken (carried)

3. Principal's Report/Annual Report – see attached, tabled at meeting

Moved Judy Mountford, seconded Tracey Brokken (carried)

4. Finance Report – see attached, tabled at meeting

Moved Judy Mountford, seconded Tracey Brokken (carried)

5. Parish Report – tabled at meeting

6. 2021 Board Members

6.1 Ex Officio Members:

Fr. Michael – Parish Priest

Nicole Coote – School Principal

6.2 Appointed Member:

Sr. Loreto

Staff Member

6.3 Elected Members:

Judy Mountford (third and final term), Nicole Reschke (end of second term), Tracey Brokken (end of second term), Ashley Braun (end of first term), Leticia Gosse (end of first term), Matthew Tilby (end of first term, no re-nomination), Amanda Flint (middle of first term), Tom Pearce (middle of first term)



7. Vacancies for 2022 Board: Five vacancies declared.

8. Nominations Received:

Nicole Reschke (1 year term) – accepted

Tracey Brokken (1 year term) – accepted

Leticia Gosse (2nd term) – accepted

Ashley Braun (2nd term) – accepted

Glenn Tucker (1st term) - accepted

Note: All in favour of five nominations accepted.

9. General Business

9.1 Sr Loreto put to the school board fundraising opportunity for the school, the Pilgrims Dinner on Saturday 22nd October and Sunday 23rd October. It was accepted that the school board and parent volunteers would provide catering at the school for the dinners. Suggested charge of \$40pp for 2 course meal, wine normally donated.

First meeting to be held 19th February 2022 @ 5.30pm

Meeting Closed 6.15pm



PRINCIPAL'S REPORT – Annual General Meeting 2022

This AGM Principal's Report is a reflection paper on the 2022 school year and is in line with the requirements of the Schools Assistance Act.

It gives me great pleasure to present the School Board Annual General Meeting Principal's Report for the 2022 school year. I undertake responsibility to lead a school community and I am committed to ongoing success. This report is one that is built from a deep sense of pride and gratitude for all that has been accomplished in 2022.

2022 Commitment:

This year our school committed to being innovative and to build our practices in the following domains:

- 1 Catholic Identity
- 2 High Expectations
- 3 Excellence in achievement
- 4 Innovative learning spaces
- 5 Curriculum and co-constructed learning and assessment design
- 6 Student agency

Catholic Identity

The Catholic Identity of our school continues to be nurtured by staff and students and in a range of ways. Sam Baxter capably undertook the role of Religious Education Coordinator and led the community throughout the year in religious celebrations such as; St Joseph Feast Day, Lent, Project Compassion, Holy Week, St Mary of the Cross MacKillop Feast Day and Advent to name a few. Our community raised money to go towards Project Compassion through Shrove Tuesday Pancake Day and money and goods from the St Vinnies Winter Appeal. We donated funds to Catherine House on St Catherine day and the community generously donated to the Giving Tree, which aided those in our region.

We celebrated what it means to be involved in Catholic Education in South Australia during Catholic Education Week and throughout the year all staff and students were involved in learning and deepening their scriptural knowledge through prayer, with a focus on the Crossways Curriculum. Classes visited the Mary MacKillop Interpretative Centre and in The Arts program brought to life Mary's legacy.

Our student's faith was further enhanced through Class Masses and Liturgies, including whole school Liturgies and Masses for Feast Days and other celebrations, where teachers led students in writing their own prayers of the faithful. The Sacramental Program started towards the end of the year with 17 children and families engaging in the program. This program is Parish based and supported by the school, with Fr Dev developing the sessions and assisted by Bec Baxter. We look forward to the sacrament celebrations of Confirmation and First Holy Communion in 2023.



Early Learning

Our school continues to play an important role in the community providing an Early Years program, consisting of Occasional Care (3-5 year old program) and Playgroup. In 2022 Occasional Care and Playgroup was capably led by Cobie Walters and Romi Eckermann. Mid-year we introduced an option



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of a whole day of Occasional Care that was regularly attended by 4-5 children every week. SPiCE (Supported Playgroup in Catholic Education) Playgroup is a platform that provided opportunities for families to engage with our school. In 2022 it was run on a Friday morning from 9.30 – 11 for any families with children aged between 0 – 5 years. Although attendance was spasmodic, we aim to have a more consistent group attending in 2023.

In Term 4 we offered a comprehensive transition program for those children starting school in 2023, titled Joey's Jumpstart. The extended transition was very well received by parents and children and assisted in new students feeling comfortable in their environment, with the educators and with other students.

Community

The beginning of 2022 was once again challenging when looking to engage with the broader community, however, students attended community functions and celebrations, such as The Arts Festival, Remembrance Day, Anzac Day and the Acoustic Music Festival. They were invited to take part in tree planting along the Coonawarra Trail and around the pond in front of the Interpretative Centre.

A successful Art Exhibition was held at Katnook Estate during The Arts Festival, where all students had art work displayed and an Opening Evening was held. Many students were also successful in winning prizes for their entries in the Mount Gambier and Penola Show, where we entered both Art and Produce.



In 2022 we introduced the MacKillop Markets. This enterprise consisted of selling produce from our Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden that was surplus. The initiative provided students in Year 4/5 to investigate how to run a business and encompassed many new skills, such as; advertising, pricing, picking and displaying and selling.

While the aim for 2022 was to revitalise the Parent Club, unfortunately this did not come to fruition and will be a continued dream for 2023. The Just One Thing letter however continued to assist in coordinating families to help out in a number of ways.

The introduction of the fundraising levy has alleviated the need for fundraising outside of school time. The funds from 2022 have been ear marked by the School Board for new outdoor furniture for the new nature play space.

Extra-Curricular Activities and Learning

In 2022 camps featured highly in extra-curricular activities, with the Year 2/3 class having an excursion to Mount Gambier followed by a sleep over at school. The R/1 class enjoyed their excursion to Mount Gambier and had dinner at school on their return. The Year 4/5 two-night camp in Robe was once again a successful experience and the Year 6 group joined St Anthony's Catholic Primary School in Millicent for an action-packed camp in the Adelaide Hills and Adelaide.

Students had the opportunity to engage in Sporting School programs throughout the year. These sports included; soccer, basketball, swimming and surf lifesaving. They also engaged clinics run by different sporting agencies.





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Student Leadership

Student leadership is an integral part of the culture at Mary MacKillop Memorial School. The key components are service, community outreach and personal development. Key student leadership groups are; School Captains, House Captains, Choir Leaders, Student Representative Council members and Young Environmental Group leaders, who lead initiatives in sustainability in our school.



Inclusivity

Our school is a place of authentic inclusivity, catering to the best of its ability for students with specific needs. In 2022, students were supported by Personalised Plan for Learning (PPL) and Individualised Learning Plans (ILP). Programs and support provided by the school's own resources and other funding through the NCCD (National Consistent Collection of Data) aided all students to achieve their goals.

Wellbeing

Throughout 2022 wellbeing continued to be a focus for our school community. In 2022 we employed a School Counsellor for one day a fortnight. Dale Domleo, Kaitlyn Lusty as Inclusive Education and Wellbeing Coordinator, and I as Principal, formed the 'Wellbeing Team' and we worked closely with the REC (Sam Baxter) to support the wellbeing needs of all students. R U OK?, Bullying No Way! And Harmony Day featured strongly in our school and student leaders were engaged to lead a variety of activities to highlight these important days and their educational message.

All staff who had not been trained in Resilient Impact undertook this training with the Life Buoyancy Institute, while other staff were further trained in developing growth action plans and making deeper connections with students, particularly those identified as vulnerable. Strategies and practices were effectively implemented and utilised by staff to support the needs of all children.



Pedagogies and Practices: Professional Learning

Staff remain committed to providing meaningful and excellent learning opportunities for all students with a focus on student agency and co-constructed learning. All staff accessed professional learning opportunities and looked to build on their professional practices, referring to the ATSIL standards, the Living Learning Leading Standards and the Clarity Learning Suite. A culture of being innovative and change agents has been lived out by all staff throughout the year. In teaching and learning we celebrated the success of new pedagogies, namely those undertaken through our Professional Learning with Lyn Sharratt's Clarity. Bump it Up Walls, Anchor Charts and Case Management meetings guided by data walls where we put faces on the data.

Staffing and School Resources

In 2022 we welcomed Sam Baxter and Danni Heazlewood to Mary MacKillop Memorial School. Sam took on the role of Leader of Learning, Religious Education Coordinator and Year 4/5 classroom teacher, while Danni took up the position of Reception/Year 1 teacher with a focus on transition. We farewellled and celebrated the career of Jenny Herbert at the end of 2022 as she resigned from Catholic Education South Australia. At this time we acknowledged her dedication and commitment to Mary MacKillop Memorial School for 25 years. We also farewellled Kathy O'Connell for a year's leave, teaching at Tenison Woods College.



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Student numbers decreased in 2022 to 83, three less than 2021, however considering that we reduced our year levels from R – 7 to R – 6, this was an excellent outcome. We maintained four classes in 2022 which continued our flexibility to provide greater learning opportunities for our students as learning needs were spread over four classes. Financially, the school is well poised for ongoing success. In 2022 we completed the redevelopment and re-imagined outdoor and indoor learning spaces of the 1936 building and the extension of a purposefully built Art/Science/Cooking centre. The project estimated cost was \$1.3M, and with the assistance of a \$500,000 Commonwealth Grant and a loan taken out by the school the project was able to be completed at a high level.

School resources continue to be monitored and new resources purchased as required. A cyclic plan for continual upgrading of Laptops and Ipads was undertaken and dated desktop computers were removed from the library. As of the beginning of 2023 the Upper Primary classes will have ready access to 25 Laptops and the Junior Primary classes to 25 also.

I wish to thank the active and committed members of Mary MacKillop Memorial School Board, including Fr Dev, Sr Loreto, and the excellent and dedicated staff. Both groups have devoted their time and passion to the mission, vision and values of the school. It is a privilege to lead a vibrant school community with the support of the Board, staff, families and students.



To the school board, Tom Pearce our chairperson, thank you for your commitment, careful deliberations and vision for our school. Thank you to all school board members for your support of the future for Mary MacKillop Memorial School.

Being a part of an inclusive and caring community that aspires to provide the best opportunities for our children to succeed is a very rewarding aspect of this role. Witnessing the growth in our children and staff this year only serves to further motivate me to continue to build on our vision and be proud to lead a Christ-centred, child-focused Catholic School at MMMS. There are many exciting times ahead and I am grateful for the chance to be involved. I continue to lean on my favourite St Mary of the Cross MacKillop quote: 'So great is the strength we possess in our unity.' We will continue to strive to thrive in 2023!

Nicole Coote
PRINCIPAL



CHAIR REPORT

What a jam packed 2022 Mary MacKillop Memorial School had. We saw the completion of stage one of the master plan, with the new classrooms and kitchen in use. The adventure play area was also finished off, tying the whole area together. It looks fantastic.

It was also a big year with staff movement. We said goodbye to several educators, Jenny Hubert, Cathy OC, Cobie Waters and Ella Hutchinson. All were huge contributors to the school and the school community; we wish them all the best.

I feel it is always important to engage as much as possible with the broader community. Hosting events and inviting people into the school helps showcase what a wonderful institution we have. There were several events in 2022 that certainly allowed for this. The Penola Arts Festival saw a great turn out, with MMMS hosting the kids program. The combined schools board meeting was held in the hall, with several students assisting with service. This was a great night, and again, allowed others to see the newly completed developments.

Fundraising is vital to the school, this year we had a change to the usual. With vine lifting and pruning no longer an option it was decided a quiz night would be a good option. Hats off to Squish and the committee members for organising such a great night. It was a great opportunity to get together for a fun night out, something that has been lacking a bit off the back of COVID. I believe that this has the potential to grow into a major event in the future.

We also saw some long-standing board members finish up with the school. Thank you to Tracy Brokken and Nicole Reschke for all their time and effort over the years. Thank you also to the school board members for your time over the past twelve months. It is greatly appreciated.

I would also like to thank all the staff of MMMS for providing our children with such a safe, fun, and respectful learning environment. One thing I am particularly proud of is the empathy and care our children show for each other.

A special thanks to Janice Coote for all her work with the school finances and everything else she does. And to Nicole Coote, wearing both School Principal and Project Manager hats at the same time, you have done a remarkable job.

It has been a massive year in 2022, I am excited to see what 2023 brings and am looking forward to the new year.

Tom Pearce

