

## **Newcastle Anglican Schools Corporation Report to Synod 2009**

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The Newcastle Anglican Schools Corporation was established under an Ordinance of Synod, 2007. The Ordinance provides for Board representation from different Diocesan committees as well as representation from our Diocesan Schools. This initiative continues to deliver strong governance and oversight to our Diocesan Schools.

2009 has been a year of progress for the Newcastle Anglican Schools Corporation with a full time Executive Officer role being created and subsequently filled. This role is funded by a quarterly levy payable by each of the four Diocesan Schools. This levy covers all operating costs for the Newcastle Anglican Schools Corporation and is assessed based on the annual average turnover of each of the Schools. The Executive Officer is currently responsible for the completion and overview of all the administrative functions for the Corporation, along with longer term strategic goal setting and delivery.

The Board members of the Newcastle Anglican Schools Corporation, including the capacity via which they were elected, are as follows: -

The Right Reverend Dr Brian Farran (Bishop of Newcastle) (President)

Mr John Cleary (Diocesan Business Manager) (Board Secretary)

Mr Malcolm McDonald (Trustee of Church Property)

Mrs Beryl Fenwick (Elected Board member from Member school boards) appointed March 2009

Mr Colin Johnston (Audit Committee)

Mr Philip Goldsworthy (Elected representative of School Principals)

Mr Noel Herbert (Diocesan Council appointment)

Dr Allan Taylor (Diocesan Council appointment)

The following Board members retired during the year: -

Mr John Colvin (Trustee of Church Property)

The Venerable Stephen Pullin (Elected Board member from Member school boards) was no longer eligible to serve on the Newcastle Anglican School's Corporation Board following his retirement as a Board member of Lakes Anglican College throughout the year. Mrs Beryl Fenwick was elected following his departure.

Board meetings of the Newcastle Anglican Schools Corporation are held on a monthly basis at the Diocesan office. Since the appointment of a Chief Executive Officer there has been much traction gained within the School's Corporation. The CEO has visited each school and met with both the respective Principal and the Business Manager. Bishop Brian Farran (President) also has a busy schedule attending School Council meetings where possible. These site visits and attendance at Council meetings enables the Schools Corporation the opportunity to appraise first hand each individual school's facilities, leadership and their future growth plans.

The schools continue to report on their financial matters by submitting to the Newcastle Anglican Schools Corporation audited annual financial statements and quarterly financial updates, inclusive of cash flows and business plans.

Following the current Federal Government funding initiatives National School Pride and Building the Education Revolution all four of our schools have benefited from substantial government funding paving the way for essential upgrades, repairs and maintenance projects and new capital works projects being undertaken within each of our schools. This is a very exciting time for our schools with major capital works being undertaken as we meet. Please refer to each school individual report for further details.

Future priorities of the Newcastle Anglican Schools Corporation will be assisting the Diocese in managing its current loan portfolio for schools, assisting schools to continue to develop their infrastructure via a capital expenditure review and approval process, the exploration of synergies between our Diocesan schools particularly in relation to procurement and most significantly, providing a model of schooling allowing for wide community access to Anglican school education.

The Schools are at the forefront of the mission of the Anglican Church. The 2009 National Conference of the Australian – Anglican Schools Network (AASN) learned that 147,000 students are in Anglican Schools in Australia – far more than worshippers in Anglican Churches on any Sunday.

The NASC assists the Diocesan Council and the Bishop in ensuring that the School's are focused in the Church's mission.

It is with disappointment that I accepted the resignation of Ms Natalie Raine - Chief Executive Officer for the NASC on 18<sup>th</sup> August 2009 which took effect immediately. We have commenced the search for a replacement and hope to announce later this year.

**The Right Reverend Dr Brian Farran, Bishop of Newcastle**  
**President, *Newcastle Anglican Schools Corporation***  
August 2009