



NEWCASTLE ANGLICAN SCHOOLS CORPORATION

“The glory of God is man (sic) fully alive.” *St Irenaeus of Lyons*

The object of the Newcastle Anglican Schools Corporation is the establishment, promotion, governance and support of Anglican Schools within and outside the Diocese and to communicate the Gospel of Jesus Christ to students, staff, parents and the community.

The Newcastle Anglican Schools Corporation continues to operate according to its object by clear policy direction, comprehensive financial oversight of schools and by investigating structural models to improve the synergies among member schools and the Corporation. The four member schools of the Corporation are Bishop Tyrrell Anglican College at Fletcher, Lakes Grammar – An Anglican School at Warnervale, Manning Valley Anglican College at Cundletown and Scone Grammar School. Funding of the NASC and its Officers is generated by levies paid by the member schools.

NASC Board membership has changed during the year: The Reverend Stephen Dent resigned and in his place the Board has welcomed Emeritus Professor Dr Terry Lovat. Mrs Beryl Fenwick, the School Boards representative, resigned in December 2010: this position is yet to be filled. The NASC Board continued to meet once a month until it resolved in May 2011 to meet bi-monthly. The Board resolved also to convene two meetings per year at two member schools: this enables members to tour the schools, and to meet with staff, students and school board members. In 2011, the Board convened at Manning Valley Anglican College in March and at Scone Grammar in May.

The NASC Officers are responsible for organising and have facilitated:-

- Meetings, with presentations, of school Principals, Business Managers, School Chaplains each term
- Induction of New Staff in Diocesan Schools Programme 19 March 2011
- Combined Schools Boards Day 6 August
- Schools Celebration Day November 2010 in Christ Church Cathedral
- Professional development services to support new staff in Diocesan schools, new Chaplains, and newly appointed school Board members.

Presentations have been made to such meetings by Bishop Brian, Bishop Peter, The Reverend John Power, Mr Michael Hannah Principal of Lakes Grammar, the Reverend Canon Brian Gibbs ; Association of Independent Schools NSW personnel, PwC representatives, Mr Richard MacDonald of ANIP. Topics include:- the Cure of Souls in Diocesan Schools; New Expressions of School Chaplaincy; the Role of the Religious Education Co-ordinator in the schools; insurance options for Anglican schools; school audit preparations and use of the portal; Mission in Diocesan Schools.

The NASC Officers have represented the NASC at:-

- The Australian Anglican Schools Network Annual Conference in Brisbane 2010
- The Australian Anglican Schools Network Executive Directors’ meetings in Sydney 25 October 2010 and in Canberra 27 July 2011
- Bursars’ Association of NSW Conference in Bathurst April 2011

The NASC Officers are responsible for the preparation of the Board Business Papers, and for undertaking school visits in November, December 2010, January, February, March, May and June 2011.

Current initiatives of the NASC include:-

- the facilitation and implementation in 2012 across the four member schools of a common curriculum in Christian Religious Studies that will deliver a syllabus encompassing years K to 12.
- Policy development re Internal Audit procedures
- Investigation of streamlining financial synergy of the Corporation's schools.

Current challenges on the educational landscape of Australia include the Federal Funding Review, MySchool website, the National Curriculum, and the National School Chaplaincy Program: each of these has/will have significant impact on all independent school systems which makes the involvement of the NASC and member schools in these processes imperative.

During the year, the NASC has worked with Eclipse media and with 'Encounter' to publish information/updates about the work of the Corporation and its member schools.

The NASC notes the retirement of The Reverend Milton Fowell from his position of foundation Chairperson of the Manning Valley Anglican College Council on 30 June 2011, and gratefully acknowledges with thanksgiving his pivotal role in the birth and growth of this low-fee Anglican school that serves the Manning region and proclaims the Gospel of Jesus Christ within and outside that faith community. The Venerable Arthur Copeman has been appointed to replace Fr Milton as Chairperson of the College Council.

Margaret Gibbs

Executive Officer and Secretary to the Board