

# Mount Lawley Senior High School

## School Council Report 2006

This brief report is in the context of the School Council's powers and duties as expressed in its Terms of Reference.

*The Council has the following powers and duties:*

*to take part in:*

- ❑ *establishing and reviewing from time to time, the school's objectives, priorities and general policy directions;*

The Principal brought a number of strategic issues to the Council for its input including:

- development of the School Plan
  - future planning discussions in late 2006 as a consequence of the impact of Perth Modern School as a selective school including advocacy role with Executive of Department of Education & training
  - International enrolments, international links with China
- ❑ *the planning of financial arrangements necessary to fund those objectives, priorities and directions;*

School Council has an input into major budget allocations and regularly reviews progress of Actuals to Budget. It has assisted the School to secure funding (eg Investing in Schools \$143,000) and has promoted additional streams of funding from parent population. The Council has also reviewed the financial aspects of the IT Plan.

- ❑ *evaluating the school's performance in achieving them; and*

The Principal routinely brings very comprehensive performance statistics to the attention of Council members and provides opportunity for discussion.

Council instituted learning area reports in 2006 and received briefings from Science and Society & Environment. These were very valuable information exchange sessions.

### **LEARNING AREA BRIEFINGS 2006 - 2007**

*Recognising the role that Council has in evaluating school performance in meeting its objectives, Council will invite each learning area over a 2 year cycle to brief it about their subject area. The Learning Area briefings will include:*

- *Current programs / subjects (in both Middle School & Senior School) and student performance*
- *Managing the transition from Year 9 to Year 10 transition including links between Middle School and Senior School programs*
- *Managing the transition from Year 10 to Year 11*
- *Progress in implementing courses of study or VET competencies.*
- *Identifying the links between the learning area programs and universities, TAFE or industry.*
- *Plans to provide for gifted & talented students.*
- *What plans does the learning area have for the future? What resources will be needed? What professional development will be needed?*
- *How can School Council help?*

*Learning area leaders will be make a 20 minute presentation (max) and then answer questions for a further 10 minutes.*

The Chair of School Council participated in the School review process

- ❑ *formulating codes of conduct for students at the school;*

Nil 2006

*to determine in consultation with students, their parents and staff a dress code for students when they are attending or representing the school;*

School Council lead an extensive consultation process in 2006 that has resulted in the adoption of new uniforms in 2007. Members of Council (Geioff White, Marcia Boronovskis) made significant contributions to this process.

*to promote the school in the community;*

Key promotional activities in 2006 included participation in the opening of the building; the 50<sup>th</sup> celebrations. The School Council was also involved in the nomination of the School for a Teaching Australia School- Parent partnership award and the nomination of Terry Boland for the WA Principal of the Year.

*to approve:*

- ❑ *charges and contributions for the provision of certain materials, services and facilities under section 99(4) of the School Education Act;*
- ❑ *extra cost optional components of educational programmes, under section 100(3) of the School Education Act;*
- ❑ *items to be supplied by a student for use in an educational programme, under section 108(2) of the School Education Act; and*
- ❑ *any agreements or arrangements for advertising or sponsorship in relation to the school under section 216(5) of the School Education Act;*

School Council provides guidance to the Finance Committee about key directions for funding and reviews and approves subsequent recommendations for fees, charges and voluntary contributions.

*with the approval of the Minister or the Director General, as the Minister's delegate, to:*

- ❑ *take part in the selection of, but not the appointment of, the school principal or any other member of the teaching staff under section 129(2) of the School Education Act; and*

Not required in 2006

*to do all things necessary or convenient to be done for or in connection with the carrying out of its functions.*

Reviewed and made changes to the Council's Terms of Reference to improve the representation of students onto School Council.

***Activities carried forward to 2007:***

- 2007 budget
- Heavy school bags / lockers issue
- Developing a more effective link between School Council and Student Council
- Enhancement of the School's commitment to the care of the Ex-POW Memorial and its remembrance activities around Anzac day
- Promotion of aboriginal culture through the 'enough is enough' campaign
- Review of subject areas
- Support the strategies developed in the 'future planning' proposal.

Christine Richardson  
Chair, School Council  
19 February 2007