

**CSP Rep Report**

**Term 2; 18/05/2022**

**Prepared by: Olwyn Connolly, Co-CSP Rep/DBBCSP Mgt Committee/CCSPNSW Councillor**

**Diocese of Broken Bay Catholic Schools Parents Management Committee** **(DBBCSP)**

DBBCSP met in March to set the strategic plans for 2022. It was discussed and agreed at the meeting that after two years of lacking connectivity the focus should be kept simple and centred on getting back to doing things well for our school and parish communities.

The areas of focus for 2022 are:

**Reconnect** – reconnecting our partnerships and relationships across CSP and our school communities now that we are transitioning back to regular life

**Refocus** – collating examples of best practices to help our schools to maintain, enhance and develop their parent body structures and governance, parent engagement and involvement, feedback loops and partnerships

**Renew** – opening our school gates to our parish and local communities to build engagement and involvement in supporting the learning and development aspirations we have for our children.

Each area will have a small project with a defined output that can be shared across our schools via the CSP reps. The overarching aim is to present and implement by end of 2022 a new parent body constitution for our schools to adopt, that reflects the current way that our school communities live and gather and supports the activities and objectives that a parent body looks to achieve in any school year. This is to be accompanied by a CSP/Parent Body Handbook – which provides examples of activities, processes, and other templates to support the administrative aspect that comes with voluntary nature of parent bodies.

The role of the CSP forum and the reps was discussed, and it was acknowledged that the value that this collective parent voice provides to DBB and shares across schools was not well understood. A renewed explainer document of the role of the CSP in liaising between DBB, school principal, P&F and parish was developed to be shared by reps back to their respective stakeholders, and across wider parent groups.

**DBBCSP – North Shore & Northern Beaches Cluster Meeting**

The north shore/northern beaches cluster of schools CSP reps met on Wednesday 11th May for an in-person discussion on the focus of the CSBB in this year. Vincent and Olwyn attended on behalf of HF.

The meeting focused on the DBBCSP strategy for 2022 and a facilitated discussion was held around the areas of focus for 2022 – gathering input, suggestions and ideas from those in attendance to help develop the outputs that the DBBCSP Mgt Team are looking to deliver.

All schools seem to be in a similar situation regarding the slow and cautious approach to getting a calendar of activities back online, but similar events have been taking place or planned in our schools.

It was agreed to create a list of vendors that schools have used to be shared across the cluster for others to consider in their calendar of activities.

**Council of Catholic Schools Parents NSW (CCSP)**

The first CCSP meeting was held in March in Sydney. The executive director role for CCSP remains vacant, with the current chair stepping up to fill the role in an acting capacity on a voluntary basis. The council was address by Shadow Minister for Education Tanya Plibersek.

The Diocesan Sharing provided updates on key challenges and responses to enhancing school community engagement across each diocese. Challenges were similar and the ability to hear and share solutions was valuable.

The Council was advised that material would he shared for use in their dioceses from the NCEC once an election was announced. The material seeks to support the dialog parents of children in catholic schools can have with their local members about how education forms part of their policies and the specific focus to support all systems of education.

CCSP working party updates were provided. Areas of focus are: Diverse Learning Needs, Reconciliation Action Plan and Catholic Identity. Further updates on plans and outputs will be provided in Term 2.

Next meeting to be hosted by the Diocese of Lismore in Coffs Harbour on 19/20 May.