



BOARD CHAIRPERSON REPORT 2016

As we conclude our second year of operation of St John Bosco College, this Annual Community Meeting is a significant occasion in the life of the College.

We know that our most effective schools are characterised by positive and cohesive relationships within our parent community. Tonight is one of our ongoing opportunities to embrace our parent community and to assume key leadership positions within the organisation as well as providing visibility of the Board for the coming year for those new to the Community.

Catholic Education in Western Australia adopts a policy of an Interim Board in the first two years of developing a Foundation School/College, therefore in November 2015 the current Board was formed, who continued the work of the interim Board in consolidating the planning and implementation of St John Bosco College. The members of the Board are:

Gayle Emmerson	Board Chairperson
Fr Kaz	Parish Priest
Kevin Sheehy	Principal
Pamela Taylor	Treasurer
Rachel Wilson	Secretary
Scott Clark	
Tracey Marshall	
Steve Doody	

It has been insightful working with the College leadership team and administration staff throughout 2016. As we can all appreciate, a progressive and modern College like St John Bosco needs the continual support and guidance from a range of people within the College community and our College Board is no different. The committed members are from different backgrounds with the common goal of having the children's interests at heart. We are lucky to have the knowledge and expertise of both Father Kaz and Mr Sheehy to support us.

This year saw the beginning of the building work of the remainder of the Junior Primary, additional administration space (multi-purpose and uniform shop), and of course the wonderful new oval, which will be the student's favourite next year, I am sure. The work is nearing completion and will be a wonderful addition to the College next year with additional free space and larger classrooms for the Year 4-6 students.

Along with this plethora of building work the College was selected to undertake an audit by Catholic Education WA, which meant long days and nights for the committed staff and the implementation of new policies, procedures and guidelines. To add to this, the Outside School Hours Care service has also been selected for an audit and this work is currently ongoing to comply with those requirements.

Our Board members have been employed in a number of areas this year, from policies and procedures, security issues, emergency response, finances and probably one of our Board member's favourite tasks, helping to design and coordinate the furniture for the new building spaces. As our College continues to grow, new committees will be formed within our Board and we look forward to sharing these with you along the journey.

As the community and staff grow throughout 2017, planning for the next stage of the journey for St John Bosco continues. With a year of no building work and no audits (hopefully!), it provides a great opportunity to build on the great College community that already thrives and to evolve and develop. With 4 additional classes next year, approximately 340 students, many new families and 6 additional teaching staff, we have the opportunity to learn from each other to continually improve.

Our parent community has thrived this year. Thank you Sharon and her Executive Team and all members of the Friends of St John Bosco for everything that has been achieved this year. The fundraising activities have been very well organised and extremely successful. The external fundraising has also shown those outside the College what a wonderful community we have here at St John Bosco College. Next year looks to be an even busier year so I would encourage you all to provide your support wherever you can. These fundraising efforts provide valuable resources for our children's learning journeys and are truly appreciated.

Thank you to Mr Kevin Sheehy for his commitment and dedication to establishing this Catholic College Community over the last three years. His vision, strategic thinking and ability to build a College Community which is centred in Christ is much appreciated. The last two years has been focussed on teaching and learning, the physical building of the College and the building of a College community. All of which he has managed admirably.

The dedicated and loyal teachers, education assistants and our Outside School Hours Care educators, and admin staff have been instrumental in making this year so successful. I am so very pleased to see some of our new staff for 2017 here tonight.

We also thank Fr Kaz for his spiritual leadership and the support he displays to the Principal, staff, students and families of St John Bosco College. This year saw the Sacrament of Reconciliation received by the St John Bosco Year 3 students and the support given by Fr Kaz has been wonderful.

My appreciation is extended to all the Board members who have worked together, constructively for the past 12 months and I look forward to the next 12 months. I would like to thank you all for our support, knowledge and inspiration.

Lastly our appreciation is extended to Scott Clark who, due to other commitments, has had to step down from his position on the Board. His time and input has been very much appreciated.

May I take this opportunity to wish all people gathered here this evening a wonderful conclusion to the College year and a Holy Christmas.

Gayle Emmerson

November 14 2016