Catholic Principals’ Association of Tasmania

Newsletter

September 2015

The Catholic Principals Association of Tasmania (CPAT), which represents the principals of 37 schools, is our voice on matters of common interest to all CPAT members. It provides a forum for professional support and well-being under the four pillars of:

- Curriculum,
- Principal Wellbeing,
- Professional Learning and
- Association.

The pillars give the focal point for discussions and workshops at state-wide meetings, which are held three times per annum, retreats and conferences. The CPAT executive meets four times per year and on three of these occasions face-to-face time with TCEO Director, John Mula, is part of the agenda.

CPAT has achieved several major outcomes in the past twelve months. Our CPAT website went live in January, the CPAT Honour Board was unveiled in February and after over a year of consideration and determination the revised CPAT Constitution will be ratified at the November AGM.

Prior to the first general meeting of the year, principals new to the association were welcomed personally by a CPAT member principal and provided with a comprehensive Induction Pack. They were advised personally and via the association website of current foci and plans.

In June the principals’ biannual retreat was led by Father Richard Ross with the focus *Ignation Spiritual Conviction that God is active and above all present in all of us*. Sessions emphasising Reflection, Gratitude and Service were introduced by Father Richard and then principals were given the opportunity to move away and outside to ponder a series of questions or their own personal circumstances. The days included times for sharing, collaboration and reflection.

Our Next Meetings:

**PECCS:**
Meetings in recess

29 October 2015 – 4pm to 5pm
(TCEO Conference Room)

**CPAT Dinner:**
Hobart – 3 November 2015

**CPAT Ordinary Meetings:**
4 November 2015, MacKillop

Website: [www.cpat.tas.edu.au](http://www.cpat.tas.edu.au)

Principal Appointments
2015 -
Mary Wall: Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Primary School, Deloraine
2016 -
Helen Spencer – St Mary’s College, Hobart
Eamonn Pollard – MacKillop College, Mornington
Richard Chapman – Star of the Sea College, George Town

Congratulations!

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Mass was celebrated with Fr Richard on the Thursday evening and members spent two days in the glorious surroundings of the Freycinet National Park.

CPAT are currently exploring ways to grow their support for principal wellbeing. CPAT President Stuart Kelly facilitated a workshop before the Freycinet retreat, which referenced Phil Riley data and supplied further ideas for the development of a Principal Care Team aimed at supporting Principals where and when there is a need.

Also, as part of CPAT’s efforts to continue to build a strong collaborative and consultative working relationship with the TCEO, the Executive has adopted a 5C’s framework as a lens to assess the value of new initiatives or when responding to TCEO ideas for change. The 5C’s are:

- Catholicity,
- Context,
- Collaboration,
- Communication and
- Care.

Sponsorship gained by CPAT supports the work of the association’s valuable Executive Officer and also the annual awarding of the Kate O’Driscoll Aspiring Leadership Award. This year’s scholarship, to subsidise attendance at an interstate Gifted and Talented conference was awarded to Launceston teacher Allison Cornish.

After a long period of negotiation, the Tasmanian Catholic Education Single Enterprise Agreement 2015 was approved by the Fair Work Commission and enforced as of August 2015.

As the result of issues raised by CPAT and concerns ranging from appointments, to contracts, to wellbeing, new TCEO Director John Mula has instituted a working party, which includes Principal representation, to review Catholic Principalship in the Archdiocese of Hobart. Through recommendations to the Director in relation to: Principal role description and required qualifications, Principal professional learning, Principal remuneration package, Principal classifications and allowances. Principal contract, Principal renewal leave, Principal appraisal and coaching, Principal selection and appointment procedures, Principal well-being, Principal professional support and other related issues as agreed during the review the working party is to provide a comprehensive package to support and enhance principalship. This timely review is to be completed by late 2015.

CPAT acknowledges the support of the Director for Tasmanian Catholic Education, Mr John Mula. Both the executive and ordinary members appreciate John’s willingness to meet regularly, to discern and discuss and to move forward on major issues influencing the wellbeing of our Principals and our school communities.

Joy Matar
Report to ACPPA 2015 AGM

Please continue to keep the Executive informed of any emerging issues and keep abreast of all that is happening by reviewing the agendas and minutes available via the secure Principal’s Login Facility on our website: www.cpat.tas.edu.au.

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