



MATTHEW GIBNEY CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

2017 Annual Community Meeting Chairperson's Report Wednesday 22 November 2017

Good evening Matthew Gibney staff, parents, P&F and school board members and welcome to the school's 2017 Annual Community meeting.

For those of you who don't know me, I am Gavin Hogg. After serving as the Parents and Friends representative on the school board in 2015 and 2016, this year was my first year as part of the Board and as Board Chair and I have been very grateful for the opportunity to play a small role in contributing to the wonderful school and school community that Matthew Gibney Catholic Primary School is.

In writing this report I have looked back and reviewed the minutes from the Board meetings throughout the year and see it has been a busy and productive year for our school community.

This year the school has welcomed new teaching staff, Shannon Anderson, Christina Zurzolo and Melissa Hibben.

Student enrolments to the school were up by three from 2016.

At the beginning of this year Janine Hadfield, Jennifer Moore, Mike Feltham and I attended induction for new Catholic School Board members at the Office of Catholic Education Western Australia.

Throughout the year staff participated in six professional development days, including an Education Conference and subject matter which included personal and professional growth and teaching and learning technology applications.

In 2017 under the responsible fiscal leadership of Board Treasurer Gareth Healey and fellow Finance sub-committee members Mark Powell and Sue St Jorre, the School Board made significant capital investment to maintain and improve the school's facilities. Key capital expenditure initiatives included;

- Replacing the buildings aging locks with an automated card scanning locking system; improving the security of the school in the process,
- Replacing the aging and unreliable PA system for the undercover area with an upgraded Sound System which students, teachers and community members have enjoyed the benefits from during school assemblies, masses, concerts and events.

The school introduced a new Code of Conduct which was rolled-out to staff, the Board and members of the P&F & communicated to the school community via the school newsletter and website.

The school is now coming to the completion of the 2nd year of its three year Strategic Plan. To assist the school in delivering on the objectives and outcomes of this Strategic Plan, the board formed a number of sub-committees which have made positive progress. In addition to the Finance sub-committee there was;

- Building & Capital/Maintenance & Workplace Safety sub-committee
 - An Occupational Safety and Health audit was conducted, resulting in a number of actions being implemented to improve safety aspects of the school
 - The issue of the safety of students and community members in the car park was regularly featured and drove initiatives including signage and communications to ensure students and family members utilised the pathways when accessing the car park to prevent the issue of someone being run over in the car park.

- Marketing sub-committee
 - Negotiated with the St Francis of Assisi Parish in Maida Vale for prominent signage promoting the school on the fence of the Church facing Hawtin Rd and at the entrance to the church bringing the existence of the school to the attention of passing motorists.
 - Marketing materials for the school for Parish and Baptism packs
 - Currently exploring with the Board options to give the school's website a complete revamp to make it more contemporary and informative for both current school community members and prospective members who are exploring schooling options for their children.

- IT and Canteen & Uniform sub-committees

On Friday 19 May, I was fortunate enough to attend the bi-annual Catholic Schools Board Chair Conference facilitated by Catholic Education Western Australia. The conference consisted of three presentation workshop sessions:

- Maximising the Boards Effectiveness.
- LEADing Lights Digital Transformation in Catholic Schools.
- Risk Management in Schools.

This was followed by a Eucharist at St Mary's Cathedral celebrated by Archbishop of Perth Timothy Costello who then opened the conference dinner. The dinner included a Keynote Address from Minister for Education and Training Sue Ellery. The day presented a wonderful opportunity to meet and speak with other Catholic School Board Chairs.

On behalf of the School Board I would like to thank the P&F executive and members for the wonderful contribution they have made to our school community in 2017, in organising and running a number of successful community and fundraising events. I would especially like to thank the P&F for the valuable financial contributions they have made to the school this year as a result of the wonderful fundraising efforts of the community over the past couple of years. In 2017 the P&F has contributed a total of \$30,000 to the school. A couple of items I would particularly like to call out are;

- \$15,000 funding for 30 new iPads for the school which has provided for an increased ratio of these devices to students within the classroom,

- \$10,000 funding for reading books for Pre-primary to Year 6 to ensure the school's literacy program has contemporary reading resources.

These financial contributions for these resources greatly assist the school in providing the students with contemporary learning resources without putting additional financial burden on school families.

As we move into 2018 and the final year of the school's three year Strategic Plan, we will begin to commence work on formulating the Strategic Plan and direction for the school for the next three years. As the application of Information Technology in education broadens and Catholic Education WA moves forward with the LEADing Lights Digital Transformation, a key consideration will be the options to provide upper school students with one-to-one access to a portable computer, whilst at the same time making this affordable for the families of our school community. In 2018 the Board will be planning and working on presenting the school community with a proposed model to do this in the most cost-effective manner.

I would like to sincerely thank my fellow board members; Angelina, Diane, Janine, Jennifer, Karen, Michelle, Gareth, Keith, Mark, Mike, Paul Adams and Paul Van den Dries for your time and expertise in ensuring the Board moves forward with its agenda. Particular thanks to;

- Gareth for his financial oversight
- Janine for her work as secretary
- Mike, as P&F rep for communicating the great work of the P&F to the Board
- Michelle for her work as Parish representative and her valuable communication to assist in a strong link between the parish and school communities. Your presence will be missed and,
- Paul Adams in his role of Deputy Chair

To this year's departing Board members; Angelina, Michelle and Paul Adams, thank you for the contributions that you have made to both the school Board and community over a number of years.

Most importantly I feel, thank you to the wonderful staff and teachers of Matthew Gibney Catholic Primary School for the wonderful commitment you show and work you carry out tirelessly with our children everyday in one of the most important profession there is. It is recognised that your contributions will have a life long impact on our children and finally to Mark, thank you for the strong leadership you provide to the school.

I wish you all a wonderful end to 2017, a safe and Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and look forward to being part of the Matthew Gibney community in 2018.

Gavin Hogg

Board Chairperson

Matthew Gibney Catholic Primary School

22 November 2017