



**PUBLIC EDUCATION
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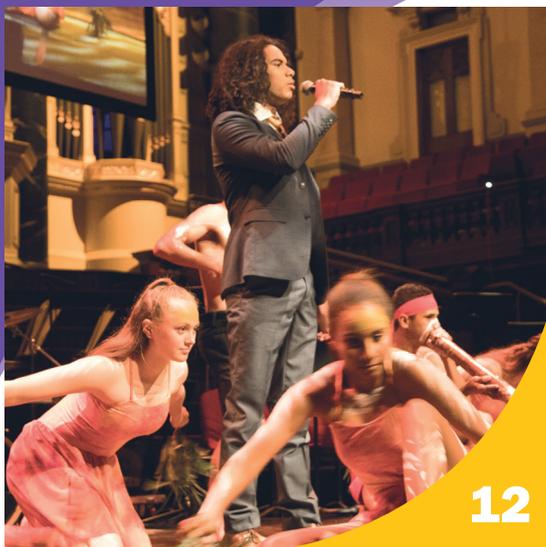
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F: 1800 655 866

E: journal@pandc.org.au

W: www.pandc.org.au

contributions and feedback to:
journal@pandc.org.au

Advertising

Federation of Parents and Citizens Associations of New South Wales

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FRONT COVER IMAGE: Postcard Pics designed by Hugh, Kindergarten, Louth Public School students; created as a fundraiser for the school.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Susie Boyd

Last term the Commonwealth Government voted in favour of Gonski 2.0, similar to a bad Scooby Doo mystery, with smoke and mirrors parents across the State are being deceived into believing this is a good deal. However – given that NSW already had a deal in place, where we were receiving more than \$800 million more, for our collective school budgets – it is just tragic.

Our State Minister and Premier, will be looking at the legal options they can take – however, it does seem likely that we can do nothing more to increase our federal education allocation. What we can do however is REMEMBER! We need to remember who promised and then re-neged, we need to remember who has removed funding from your children's schools in this next two years, reducing their opportunities and we need to ensure that those people know that you remember.

At P&C Federation, we encourage P&C Association's and individual parents to contact their elected officials and the reason is "because if you don't tell them what you want, how can you expect to receive it".

If I could give you one piece of advice to assist you, your P&C Association and your Community – it would be to meet your local elected officials and find out what they are doing or can do for your school.

Still in the political arena: you will hopefully have seen the windfall given to Education in the State Budget and I am rapt to advise that the Government is addressing the backlog of maintenance that has built up over the years, and they are building more schools to accommodate the needs of our families.

As you can imagine a project this size, requires a team dedicated to it – I am happy to say, that we have met and listened to the several key members of their team and it does appear that everyone values the community's input and recognises that community support is paramount to a successful project conclusion. If there are any concerns regarding a project in your area, please seek support from us at P&C Federation.

"I ENCOURAGE YOU ALL, TO CONTACT A NEIGHBOURING SCHOOL, FIND OUT THEIR P&C ASSOCIATION'S DETAILS, CHAT ON THE PHONE, ATTEND ONE OF THEIR MEETINGS, CATCH UP FOR COFFEE, SHARE IDEAS, THOUGHTS,

The last paragraph of my address is dedicated to Collaboration. Each year as a P&C Association you will discuss budgets, purchasing, discos, canteens, staffing, uniform shop, excursions, fundraisers and more. The crazy thing is that there are approximately 2000 other groups similar to yours doing exactly the same thing!

Each of these 'other groups' (P&C Association's) are at various levels of understanding, all trying to do the very best job they can – just like you.

Each of these people will have successes, each will have failures, but each of them, in some way shape or form will have some characteristic's very similar to you.



Crazy to think about huh?... Even crazier to meet with them and see yourself reflected in their speech, their passion and their desire to make others happy. I find joy in meeting with other P&C Association's, and in my role, I am extremely fortunate that I have been able to do this.

I encourage you all, to contact a neighbouring school, find out their P&C Association's details, chat on the phone, attend one of their meetings, catch up for coffee, share ideas, thoughts, hopes and dreams. You will be amazed how energised you come away from the meeting, whether it is because you were able to share some of your knowledge with them or because you learnt new information. From there you could reach out to meet with others and pretty soon you have a decent support network, who can go on to collaborate on grants, fundraiser or any number of projects – the choice is yours!



Hank, Year 3, Louth Public School



William, Year 1, Louth Public School

ICPA CONFERENCE

45 years and counting...

Picturesque Bourke was the venue for the 45th Isolated Children's Parent's Association of NSW (ICPA) Annual Conference. A historic river port on the Darling River in Outback NSW. It's remote location - 780 km north-west of Sydney which - led to the term "the back of Bourke" to mean the great unknown.

P&C Federation's Far West Councillor Natalie Walker and New England Councillor Angela Martin, travelled to Bourke to attend Isolated Children's Parent's Association 2017 Annual Conference held on 29th and 30th of March this year.

'It was a great opportunity for us to meet with parents and citizens of our public schools in rural and remote NSW and understand the issues affecting our regional, rural and remote public schools', Councillor Natalie Walker said.

The conference was opened by an enthralling video presentation and singing act by the students from Louth Public School, Dubbo Students of Distance Education and Broken Hill SOTA School. Year 11 Hospitality students from Bourke High School provided catering on Day 2 of the ICPA NSW state conference.

"WHAT A WONDERFUL EFFORT THESE STUDENTS PUT FORTH TO MAKE THE 45TH ICPA CONFERENCE A SUCCESS!"

The event was also attended by Geoff Pellizzer, the new Executive Director Public Schools NSW and Sean Andrews, Director for Western Plains Network.



Nat Walker, Joan Dickson (BHS), Geoff Pellizzer and Sean Andrews



Kristi Ibbotson, Brandhi Lovett, Dayah Hayman, Charli Randall, Tori Williams, Nat Walker and Geoff Pellizzer



Nat Walker, Nerida Healy (Broken Hill School of the Air P&C) and Rachel Litchfield (President Palinyeway Public School P&C)



Kelley Anderson (Teachers Federation) Angela Martin, Nat Walker, Skye Bragg (ICPA) and Kate Treweeke (President ICPA)

INVESTING IN THE FUTURE FOR OUR STUDENTS

By Mark Scott

Australia is witnessing the effect of a new baby boom as thousands of additional students enrol in our schools.

This decade there has been a record number of births – now more than 300,000 births a year nationally. To put that figure in context, at the peak of the baby boom in 1961 there were 240,000 births a year.

The NSW population is forecast to rise by two million people by 2031 and in our public schools we are planning for more than 164,000 additional students over the next 13 years, a 21 per cent increase.

The rapidly increasing population is a significant driver of a record government investment in school infrastructure, which provides the department and our school communities with an opportunity to design agile and flexible learning spaces to meet the future learning needs of our students.

We are putting a lot of thinking into what we need to do in education now to prepare today's students for tomorrow's world. We will reap the dividend of the decisions and investments we are making today with children in our classrooms.

Over the next four years the NSW Government will invest \$4.2 billion on new schools and significant school upgrades. The 120 new and upgraded schools will create 32,000 more student places and 1,500 extra classrooms.

The school building program will be led by a new unit, School Infrastructure NSW, which will work with schools and communities to plan how the school projects will proceed. This unit is a turning point in planning for the education sector as we seek to meet the needs of enrolment growth in consultation with communities.

There's a new website that will be a one-stop-shop for schools and their communities to see information that informs capital works planning across the state. More content will be added to the website as programs develop over the next 24 months.

Current and future project information for each school will be provided on the School Infrastructure NSW website:

<https://schoolinfrastructure.nsw.gov.au/>

The Budget also provides \$747 million over the next four years to address high priority planned and backlog maintenance in schools. This includes an additional \$411 million available from the 2017-18 financial year.

Wireless connectivity will be upgraded in around 900 regional and remote schools as part of the Government's \$46 million Connecting Country Schools program. We can make more use of technology to create more learning opportunities for regional, rural and remote students by improving access to fast and reliable online learning resources.

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Early childhood education has been made more affordable for families with an additional \$217 million announced in the Budget for the Start Strong program, which provides needs-based funding for all children to receive 600 hours of quality preschool education in the year before they start school.

Research shows that children who participate in a quality early childhood education program for 600 hours – or about 15 hours per week – in the year before school are more likely to arrive at school equipped with the social, cognitive and emotional skills they need to engage in learning.



Mark Scott, Secretary
NSW Department of Education

The benefits endure well beyond primary school – higher levels of educational attainment, economic participation and family wellbeing have all been linked to moderate levels of participation in early childhood education.

Under the Start Strong program, community preschools that enrol children aged four and five for 600 hours in the year before school receive increased subsidies from the NSW Government. Extra funding is provided for Aboriginal children and children from low-income families.

To ensure Start Strong makes a real impact on affordability, services must pass on at least 75 per cent of the increased funding to parents through reduced fees. Start Strong also provides funding for children who attend long day care centres in the year before school.

The extra investment in the 2017-18 Budget extends Start Strong funding through to 2021. More information on Start Strong is available at www.startstrong.nsw.edu.au.

Mark Scott is Secretary of the NSW Department of Education



Artist's impression of the new Arthur Phillip High School at Parramatta



Futures learning at Anzac Park Public School in Cammeray

NESA

By David de Carvalho

Being asked for feedback is great. Having your ideas listened to and acted upon is even better.

At NESA, this is how we want our stakeholders to feel.

In May, NESA met with representatives from the P&C Federation and from other parent groups to seek their feedback on a charter that explains to parents and carers our role and purpose.

Representing the P&C Federation were P&C Federation President Susie Boyd and one of your Councillors Tim Spencer. Written feedback was provided by the P&C Federation Secretary Alan Gardiner.

“AS YOU WILL REMEMBER FROM YOUR OWN TIME AT SCHOOL, AND AS YOU WILL SEE WITH YOUR CHILDREN’S EXPERIENCES, THE QUALITY AND ABILITY OF THE CLASSROOM TEACHER CAN MAKE ALL THE DIFFERENCE TO STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AND ENGAGEMENT.”

At the meeting the parent groups went through the charter line by line, making suggestions about what parents and carers wanted to know.

NESA is currently incorporating this feedback before going back to them to make sure they are happy with the changes.

When the charter is finalised we will make it available to all parents and carers to assist them to access NESA advice and resources about their children’s education.

In addition to the charter for parents, one of the changes that came with the creation of NESA was an organisational Charter that governs our overall aims, and sets out our mission and purpose, objectives and functions, standards, values and operating principles, and the role of our Board. This Charter is available on our website. I encourage all our stakeholders to read it and let us know if we are meeting the high standards we set ourselves.

While we always consult with teacher, parent and other groups on new and revised syllabuses, we also consult with students.

We call this our Student Voice.

For the new HSC English, Maths, Science and History syllabuses and currently in consultation new Science and Technology K-6, Technology 7-8 and PDHPE K-10 syllabuses, we met with and had feedback from over 500 students.

This is important and valuable feedback. We want to check that the topics and detail are engaging, challenging, and meet the needs of students of all abilities.

As you will remember from your own time at school, and as you will see with your children’s experiences, the quality and ability of the classroom teacher can make all the difference to student achievement and engagement.

This is why NSW has set minimum entry standards for teaching degrees, a literacy and numeracy test that teaching students need to pass before they can work in a NSW school, and from 2018 all teachers in NSW will need to be accredited with NESA and undertake



David de Carvalho, CEO
NSW Education Standards Authority

100 hour of professional development (PD) every five years.

This brings teachers in line with other professions.

I had the opportunity in May to attend the Public Education Foundation Awards that celebrate the excellence and efforts of students, teachers, principals and the staff who serve in public education. It was great to see their achievement, success and commitment recognised.

In May, Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 students sat the NAPLAN tests. The Year 9 students had the opportunity to demonstrate the HSC minimum standards of literacy and numeracy three years ahead of 2020 when they are in Year 12.

NAPLAN results, to be released in August, will provide diagnostic information about students’ learning progress, as has always been the case. There is no ‘pass’ or ‘fail’ in NAPLAN. Those Year 9s who get Band 8s will have demonstrated they are above the HSC standard already. This is a great result for them, but not the expectation for the majority of Year 9 students. Students have three and a half more years of learning and multiple opportunities to sit the online tests before the HSC.

I encourage you to read the facts about the HSC minimum standard which are available on our website. Let’s focus on the long term benefits of strong literacy and numeracy skills, and build kids’ resilience to keep trying to do their best and fulfil their potential.

National Assessment Scale for NAPLAN
National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy





HANDY HINTS!

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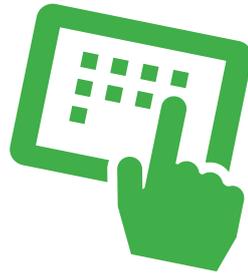
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IT'S RENEWAL TIME AGAIN!

Insurance

P&C Association's Membership and Insurances taken with P&C Federation expires on 31 July 2017. P&C Federation would like to invite your P&C Association to consider renewing your membership and consider our customised range of insurance policies developed with P&C Association operations in mind.



MEMBERSHIP

Annually

Membership with P&C Federation provides your P&C Association with \$50million Public Liability Insurance Coverage, along with a range of support and other services that are offered by P&C Federation.

Your P&C Association can maintain its membership by paying the membership in accordance to your student population of your school.



INCORPORATED P&Cs

Incorporated and Audit requirements

P&C Federation would also like to take this opportunity to remind Incorporated P&C Associations under 'Parents and Citizens Association Incorporation Act 1976', when your P&C Association decided to become an Incorporated Entity that there were two (2) requirements.

1. Maintain membership with P&C Federation.
2. Provided a copy of your most recent Audited Annual Report/Statement of income and expenditure, certified by the auditor to our Office within one (1) month of your P&C Associations Annual General Meeting (AGM).

If you have not already provided a copy of your most recent Audited Annual Report/Statement of income and expenditure certified by the auditor to our office, please arrange to do so. If you would like to check please call the office or email:
mail@pandc.org.au

INSURANCE PACKAGES

Insurance packages options are also available for your P&C Association to consider

Once your P&C Association has selected to pay membership, your P&C Association is then entitled to purchase any additional insurance cover it may require. P&C Federation has been developing over the past two (2) years enhanced insurance packages for our members to consider.

If your P&C Association runs multiple services **i.e. Canteen, OOSH or Uniform Shop?**

Your P&C Association may want to consider looking at our current tailored Insurance Packages that provide the extra levels of cover needed for these activities or individual premiums can be purchased.

P&C Federation encourages all P&C Associations to review their operations to ensure that the appropriate coverage is in place.

If you have any questions you'd like to clarify or if you'd like to purchase a policy from P&C Federation please contact P&C Federation's insurance officer Ela on **1300 885 982** or email **insurance@pandc.org.au**

BURN TO LEARN

Fitness boosts student brain function and reduces study stress

Year 11 students are taking part in a new specially designed intensive exercise program to overcome study worries, improve fitness and boost brain function.

The *Burn 2 Learn* program is a collaboration between the University of Newcastle, Australian Catholic University and the NSW Department of Education, and aims to improve health, coping ability and cognitive function in senior school students.

The first schools to test the program are Merewether High School and Kotara High School in the Hunter region. It will be expanded next year to 20 public high schools and involve more than 800 students.

Burn 2 Learn will see students take part in three, ten minute, high intensity exercise sessions a week across a range of activities including dance, combat sports and gym. The students organise themselves into groups and will run the exercise sessions themselves after receiving training from the research team or trained teachers. The sessions can take place before, during or after school.

The research team includes the world authority on the link between physical activity, cognition and learning in children, Professor Charles Hillman from the USA's Northeastern University, who will guide the design and analysis of the cognitive testing.

Burn2Learn project leader Professor David Lubans, from the University of Newcastle's Priority Research Centre for Physical Activity and Nutrition, says that by Year 11, only 10 per cent of young people are meeting the recommendations for the amount of physical activity.

"We are focusing on senior school students who we know are dropping out of physical activity as their studies ramp up, because they feel they don't have the time to be active," said Prof Lubans.

"So we have designed a program involving short, high intensity exercise that students can run themselves that will have a positive effect on their physical, mental and cognitive health.

"There is a wealth of evidence linking fitness levels with academic performance. But what we need now is experimental evidence that can establish the type, duration and intensity of exercise necessary to improve cognitive function."

He said if we can give Year 11 students the opportunities to reduce their stress and feel better right now, then that's a great outcome. "But if we can provide a generation of kids with the necessary motivation, knowledge and skills to do this type of exercise they can receive amazing benefits for the rest of their life."

Merewether High School Principal Christine Rippon said her school jumped at the chance to be involved in the study.

"This fits totally with our ethos of looking after the whole student as our kids move towards the HSC," she said. "We firmly believe that physical activity is just as important as their academic studies.

"We have seen students who have told us very clearly the physical activity they have picked up while doing the HSC has supported them in achieving outstanding results."

The University of Newcastle is collaborating with the Department of Education on a number of other projects exploring the way that physical activity can affect behaviour in the classroom and cognitive function, and long-term cognitive performance, and training teachers to enhance their classroom strategies and practices.

BREAKOUT STORY

The Department of Education's School Sports Unit regularly collaborates with universities to bring best practice around physical activity and learning into the classroom.



Merewether High School Yr 11 students undergoing baseline testing for the study: Dylan Connors, Michael Baker, Ethan O'Byrne, Shirley Salaria and Meg Holmes.



Lachlan McMurray, Ethan O'Byrne and Michael Baker from Merewether High School practise some of the skills they will use in the Burn 2 Learn program.

Some of these collaborations include:

THINKING WHILE MOVING

- This program trains primary teachers to integrate physical activity into mathematics lessons to improve both the physical activity levels, enjoyment and engagement in learning. So far more than 600 teachers across NSW have participated in the training, and created the resources that are now available to all teachers through the Premier's Sporting Challenge website. In addition, identified highly skilled teachers are completing training as Thinking while Moving presenters to build capacity across local school networks. This is a collaboration with the University of Newcastle.

IPLAY

- Working with the Australian Catholic University and the University of Newcastle, the Department has supported the development of the iPLAY website that supports professional development for primary school teachers and program leaders to help boost physical activity levels of students. Using technology to track activity levels, teachers can gather data, reflect on teaching strategies and complete on-line learning modules. Currently 90 schools have enrolled in this whole-of-school professional learning program with funding available to support up to 200 schools.



Professor Charles Hillman from the USA's Northeastern University



Project leader Professor David Lubans, from the University of Newcastle's Priority Research Centre for Physical Activity and Nutrition.

CONTRIBUTOR STORIES

DOING IT FOR THE KIDS by Miranda Potae

This year once again the wonderful volunteers of St. Mary's Public School came together to organise 'Mother's Day Stall and The Cake Stall.'

"The Mother's Day Stall and The Cake Stall are among the annual events that have been running in the school for quite some years," said Miranda, a St. Mary's Public School P&C Member.

'Our P&C Association always comes together every year for these two events

for our kids. Held on two different days, the planning and execution takes place at P&C Association meetings.'

'The Cake Stall is run through donated cakes from the parents and families of the school community. Along with fundraising it gives the children an opportunity to enjoy a treat for 50 cents with their friends while at school. Always a huge success, The Cake Stall is very popular amongst the school community.'

'For Mother's Day children can purchase simple and thoughtful gifts between \$1-\$5 for their loved ones from the Mother's Day Stall. Very well loved by our students, they say it is a great opportunity for them to buy a present without the big price tag,' Miranda added.

Photos of the wonderful volunteers of St. Marys Public School in their P&C aprons at their recent Mother's Day Stall and The Cake Stall.



ACTIVE KIDS ARE SMARTER KIDS

The National Walk Safely to School Day (WSTSD) was held throughout Australia on Friday 19th May 2017. Now in its 18th year, this annual event encourages parents and carers to walk to school with primary school age children and reinforce safe pedestrian behaviour.

Sharing her WSTSD story with us is Ariba Omar, from Sturt Public School, Wagga Wagga who walked from home to her School on the National Safety to School Day this year.

"I was very excited to participate in the WSTSD event this year so I walked from home to school on the 19th of May," Ariba said enthusiastically.



"It was fun to walk to school and I enjoyed the healthy breakfast options my school provided," she added.

The happy year 2 student signed off saying, "I am looking forward to the next year's Walk Safely To School Day."



HAVE A STORY YOU'D LIKE TO SHARE?

WE LOOK FORWARD TO READING YOUR EXPERIENCES, COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS, SEND US AN E-MAIL ON JOURNAL@PANDC.ORG.AU

KEEP UP-TO-DATE WITH P&C FEDERATION ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE: P&C FEDERATION, AND VISIT OUR WEBSITE: WWW.PANDC.ORG.AU FOR MORE INFORMATION.

ALTERNATIVELY, YOU CAN ALSO CONTACT US ON **1300 885 982**.

Share Learn Network



P&C Federation

2018 Conference

and

NSW P&C Volunteer

of the Year

Awards Dinner

2 & 3 March 2018

Novotel, Church Street, Parramatta

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SAVE THESE DATES!!

Friday 2 & Saturday 3 March 2018

P&C Federation 2018 Conference

P&C Federation would like to announce the 2018 Conference and NSW P&C Volunteer of The Year Awards to be held on the 2 & 3 March 2018 at the venue of our Proud Community Partner Novotel, Parramatta.

The conference will run over two full days with speakers, workshops and exhibitors with the highlight of the conference being the announcement of the “NSW P&C Volunteer of The Year” at the formal dinner to be held on Friday night the 2 March 2018.

For more information regarding the conference and to register please visit: www.pandc.org.au

DOES YOUR P&C HAVE A VOLUNTEER THAT DESERVES THE TITLE ‘NSW P&C VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR’?

If yes, P&C Federation wants to hear from you! Nominate that deserving volunteer for the prestigious ‘NSW P&C Volunteer of The Year’ title.

What’s more? The finalist chosen from each of the 16 electorates will receive 2 free tickets to attend the 2-day conference. The finalist along with a companion will receive travel, accommodation, conference participation and seats at the awards dinner where the ultimate title of ‘NSW P&C Volunteer of the Year’ will be announced.

Introducing ‘NSW P&C Volunteer of The Year’

As the P&C Federation 2018 Conference coincides with National P&C Day 2018, what better opportunity than to recognise the commitment, time and effort volunteers give to support and assist their school community and most of all the students.

P&C Federation would like to invite

all affiliate P&C Associations across NSW to nominate a candidate for the title of NSW P&C Volunteer of the Year, for the period January – December.

A finalist will be chosen from each of the 16 electorates and will receive 2 tickets to attend the 2-day conference including

accommodation and breakfast at the Novotel Parramatta. The ultimate winner of the title ‘NSW P&C Volunteer of The Year’ will be announced on the 2 March 2018, at the P&C Federation 2018 Conference Awards Dinner.

To nominate visit www.pandc.org.au for details.

2018 Conference Proud Community Partner



FORUMS

P&C FEDERATION FORUMS CONTINUE TO EXPRESS, ENGAGE AND ENLIGHTEN!

Now in its third year since its inception in 2015, the P&C Federation Forums continue to follow its goal for 'Building Capacity in Our P&C Associations' by travelling around the state to deliver face to face forums. So far, the face-to-face forums have seen success all over NSW and the P&C Federation remains committed to providing a consistent message to its members about delivering support, advice and advocacy.

WHAT ARE THESE FORUMS ABOUT?

These Forums are about increasing member communication and engagement. They give P&C Federation the opportunity to inform the P&C Associations of the resources available to them through P&C Federation along with the opportunity to dispel concerns or misconceptions by members about the role of P&C Federation. In addition, Forums are a great place to connect with like-minded parents and caregivers who want the best public education system for our children.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?

Forums help P&C Associations understand how to put procedures in place to ensure a sustainable and well-functioning P&C Association with a seamless handover of information year after year.

P&C Associations can get more information relating to the roles and responsibilities within a P&C Association, its structure, best practice, and procedures to ensure P&C Associations are compliant to their constitution.

In addition, Forums give an opportunity to members from different P&C Associations in their local area to interact and share ideas; ask questions and address concerns; and gain fresh innovative ideas.

CAN A P&C ASSOCIATION REQUEST A FORUM?

Absolutely! P&C Federation travels around the NSW state to deliver face-to-face presentations to both its metropolitan and regional members.

Please send P&C Federation an e-mail request to projects@pandc.org.au if your P&C Association would like to host a Forum. Please include suggested date/s, time preference (morning or evening) and topics you'd like P&C Federation to address.

IS THERE A FEE FOR REQUESTING P&C FEDERATION TO PRESENT A FORUM?

P&C Federation does not charge any fee for requesting a Forum. We travel to you and deliver a face-to face forum at no cost whatsoever. P&C Federation just asks that the P&C Association provides a light lunch or supper with refreshments for those who attend.

WHO CAN ATTEND THE P&C FEDERATION FORUMS?

Forums are free to attend and open to all P&C Associations and community members, as well as to those who are interested in joining their local P&C Association or would like a better understanding of the role a P&C Association has in the school community. Neighbouring P&C Associations are also invited to attend which opens opportunities for sharing of information.

P&C Associations are more than welcome to attend any of the forums advertised regardless of whether they are in their electorate or not.

HOW DOES P&C FEDERATION HELP IN ORGANISING A FORUM YOUR P&C ASSOCIATION IS HOSTING?

P&C Federation will e-mail invitations for the upcoming Forum the P&C Association is hosting to all P&C Associations in the electorate and capture numbers of those

"A LOT OF INFO PACKED INTO A SHORT TIME"

"IT WAS A WONDERFUL EXPERIENCE. IT WAS VERY HELPFUL WHEN OTHER P&C ASSOCIATIONS ALSO SHARED AND DISCUSSED THEIR ISSUES AND WHAT THEY WERE DOING LOCALLY"

wishing to attend by gathering registrations. Hosting a forum is a great opportunity for like-minded parents and caregivers to network and build community relationships. The details for the Forum will also be advertised via P&C Federations E-bulletin, and on P&C Federation website: www.pandc.org.au via the website calendar.

Details and reminders are also shared on our Facebook Page: NSWPCFed

P&C FEDERATION FORUMS 2017: BUILDING COMMUNITY RELATIONSHIPS

Since its inception in 2015, P&C Federation has successfully hosted over 50 Forums across New South Wales and we remain committed to express, engage and enlighten through state-wide forums. We'd like to thank our members who have already hosted forums for their encouragement and support and P&C Federation look forward to more Forums in the future!

IF YOUR P&C WOULD LIKE TO HOST A FORUM PLEASE SEND US YOUR REQUEST ON PROJECTS@PANDC.ORG.AU.

HANDY HINTS!



IS YOUR P&C ASSOCIATION INTERESTED IN HOSTING A P&C FEDERATION FORUM?

Is there a specific topic your P&C Association would like to know more about?
Would you like roles, responsibilities and activities of a P&C Association clarified?

Send an email to
projects@pandc.org.au

Topics you'd like P&C
Federation to cover

Please include suggested
date/s, time preference
(Day or Evening)

**P&C FEDERATION FORUMS ARE FRIENDLY AND INTERACTIVE
AND THERE IS ALWAYS TIME TO ASK QUESTIONS!**

*Make sure you include your school's name, your name and contact details.

NEWS

FWC announces a 3.3% increase to minimum wages

The Fair Work Commission (FWC) has announced a 3.3% increase to minimum wages effective from 1 July 2017.



Fair Work
OMBUDSMAN

The increase applies from the first full pay period starting on or after 1 July 2017. Award rates will increase by 3.3% and the increase doesn't affect employees who are already getting paid more than the new minimum wage. P&C Associations as employers must meet all the national legal obligations. It does not matter that the P&C Association is an organisation made up of parent volunteers, as an employer your P&C Association is treated no differently to private businesses. Please visit: www.fairwork.gov.au for more information.

SIRA publishes new guidelines on return to work programs for employers

The State Insurance Regulatory Authority (SIRA) has published new guidelines on return to work (RTW) programs for all employers in New South Wales.



State Insurance
Regulatory Authority

Coming into effect on 31 May 2017, the guidelines outline the requirements of employers in managing work-related injuries or illnesses. P&C Association are classified as Category 2 employers, which is defined as employers with a basic tariff premium of \$50,000 or less. There are 3 steps to implementing a RTW program:

1. Appoint the person responsible for recovery at work – Someone should be appointed to manage recovery at work activities any workers compensation that arise. This person can either be an existing employee or a RTW coordinator engaged through a contract or work arrangement.
2. Develop a RTW program – The RTW program outlines general procedures for handling work-related injuries or illnesses. Employers must consult their employees when developing a RTW program. A standard RTW program for Category 2 employers can be found in the Appendix of the Guidelines.
3. Implement the RTW program – When the RTW program is implemented, employers must make copies of the RTW program available to workers. Employers must review their RTW programs every 2 years. Please visit: www.sira.nsw.gov.au for more information.

FHHA - FRED HOLLOWS

Award to recognise students following in Fred Hollows' footsteps



The Fred Hollows Foundation is calling for teachers, parents and community members to nominate students for the Fred Hollows Humanity Award.

The award recognises Year 6 students who show compassion, integrity and kindness in their lives, just as Fred did. Nominations open Monday 24 July and close Sunday 10 September.

Award recipients will be recognised at a state presentation ceremony where a Junior Ambassador to The Foundation will be announced. This Ambassador will extend their humanity by allocating \$5000, donated by Specsavers, to a Fred Hollows Foundation program of their choice to help end avoidable blindness.

To nominate a student go to:

www.hollows.org/humanityaward



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ARTEXPRESS

Rewarding artists of the future

ARTEXPRESS is an annual series of exhibitions of exemplary artworks created by NSW visual arts students for the Higher School Certificate examination. It has already been proving a great hit this year, with exhibitions held at the Art Gallery of NSW, Campbelltown Arts Centre, Hazelhurst Regional Gallery and Moree Plains Gallery.

Several students' exemplary work has been honoured with prizes thanks to our various sponsors.



Callum Thomas Denmead with Leona Beeson from S&S

S&S AWARDED THE FOLLOWING S&S CREATIVITY AWARDS (\$250 IN ART MATERIALS) :

- Callum Thomas Denmead from Northern Beaches Secondary College (NBSC), Freshwater Senior Campus for '33°S 151°E'
- Riley Quinn Treisman from NBSC's Manly Campus for 'Life Strands'
- Amelia Katherine Coleman from Warners Bay High School for 'Outward Expression of One's Self'.

JULIAN ASHTON ART SCHOOL PRESENTED TWO SCHOLARSHIPS:

- Jay Davies from Braidwood Central School for her work entitled 'Within/Without' (full-year scholarship). The school was also awarded the Sir William Dobell Art Foundation Award.
- Liam Griffith Wilson from Wollongong High School for 'Still Life of Flowers with Puzzle' and 'Still Life of Flowers and Fruit' (Summer School scholarship)

Canon Australia presented a Canon EOS 80D DSLR cameras to Byron Dempsey from Menai High School for his work 'Delusional Loss', and another to his school.

The entire gallery of artworks can be viewed on: artexpress.artsunit.nsw.edu.au, and you can view a great interview with one of the exhibiting students via: [youtube.com/watch?v=LFZ47f-e03g&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LFZ47f-e03g&feature=youtu.be)

More openings follow throughout the year, including at Western Plains Cultural Centre, Grafton Regional Gallery and Goulburn Regional Art Gallery. Don't miss this opportunity to view spectacular works from artists of the future!



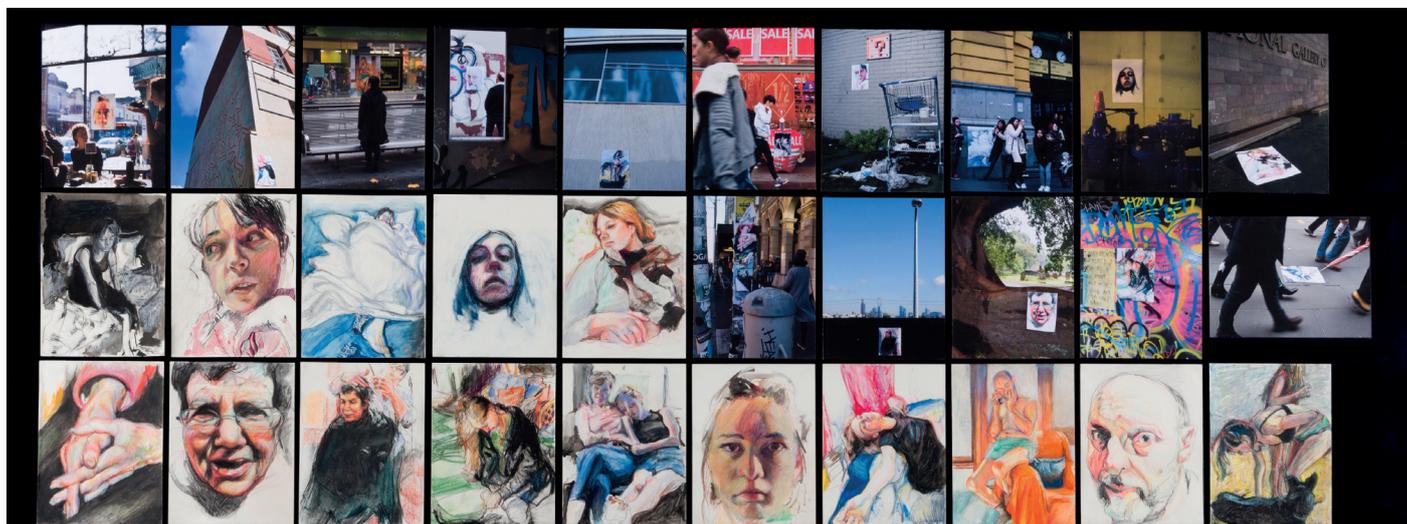
Liam Griffith Wilson's still lifes



DoE Secretary Mark Scott, Liam Griffith Wilson, Jay Davies and Julian Ashton Art School's Paul Delpart



A detail from Riley Quinn Treisman's 'Life Strands'



Jay Davies' ARTEXPRESS work 'Within/Without'

PUBLIC EDUCATION FOUNDATION AWARDS

Public education students 'hit the jackpot' at awards night

When former Tempe High School student Samuel Martin decided to enrol in film studies at the Australian Film and Television School this year he was in many ways breaking new ground.

When former Tempe High School student Samuel Martin decided to enrol in film studies at the Australian Film and Television School this year he was in many ways breaking new ground.

Samuel, who was born deaf, said the tertiary institution hadn't had much experience working with students with a hearing impairment.

But thanks to a scholarship from the Public Education Foundation, the 18-year-old's pathway to tertiary education has been made easier.

Samuel was one of almost 280 scholarship winners at the Proudly Public! Celebrating Excellence in Public Schools awards held in Sydney recently.

He received a Walter and Eliza Hall Trust Opportunity scholarship which assists students with a physical disability make the transition from high school to tertiary education.

With the help of the scholarship, Samuel was able to buy the latest technology in hearing aids, which included a remote microphone that can be worn by his film school lecturers.

"It is flexible technology that really works well in a university setting," Samuel says. "I get the teacher to wear it and I can select the range of sounds picked up so I can really focus in on the teacher."

Kurt Fearnley, guest presenter at the awards night, told the scholarship winners they had "hit the jackpot" in being part of such a strong public education system.

"When I was five years old I had a principal who fought for me when I couldn't fight for myself, who said we've had Kurt's brothers and sisters at our school...we are going to have him as well," the three-time Paralympic Gold medallist said.

"He had no idea that moment would propel into where I would be today because that moment gave me an expectation of normality."

Among the other scholarship winners on the night was Deputy Secretary, School Operations and Performance at the Department of Education, Murat Dizdar, who received the Teachers Mutual Bank Executive Leadership Scholarship.

The scholarship allows senior education executives to complete a short professional leadership program at the Harvard Kennedy School, in Massachusetts in the United States.

Mr Dizdar said he was honoured to receive the award and was himself the product of the public education system having attended Summer Hill Public and Fort Street High.

"The positive impact outstanding teachers and leaders can have on young people – especially those who do not come from strong, healthy functioning families – is immeasurable," he said.

"My own decision to transfer from a law degree to education was in the hope I could emulate the role my own teachers played in challenging and extending me to think beyond my textbooks. I owe a lot to the outstanding teachers I had in public education."

The Public Education Foundation was founded in 2007 to allow the public education sector to access philanthropic funding to help support students and teachers in public schools.

PEF Executive Director David Hetherington said increased interest in philanthropy in Australia meant the foundation was able to extend the reach of its awards this year to include scholarships for primary-aged students and more scholarships for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students.

He said more than \$500,000 in scholarships were awarded this year and urged P&C communities to "spread the word" about the Public Education Foundation to broaden its reach to students throughout NSW.

"These awards are expressly for deserving educators and students and I would encourage others to apply and for P&C communities to spread the word," he said.

"WHEN I WAS FIVE YEARS OLD I HAD A PRINCIPAL WHO FOUGHT FOR ME WHEN I COULDN'T FIGHT FOR MYSELF"



Rihana Gulasi was one of the winners of the scholarships on offer to Year 2 students



Walter and Eliza Hall Trust Opportunity Scholarship winner, former Tempe High School student Samuel Martin



Kurt Fearnley made an impassioned speech about the benefits of public education



Guest presenter Kurt Fearnley is a strong advocate of public education



Deputy Secretary, School Operations and Performance at the Department of Education, Murat Dizdar, centre, receives the Teachers Mutual Bank Executive Leadership Scholarship from Public Education Foundation Executive Director David Hetherington and Teachers Mutual Bank Chief Executive Officer Steve James.



Elyse Sene-Lefao, left, and Harmony Lovegrove, centre, perform with the NSW Public Schools Stage Band



Macquarie Fields High School student Sebastian Kelly-Toiava takes centre stage with the NSW Schools Aboriginal Dance Company

EDGE ENVIRONMENT

Supporting Sustainability

Does your School or your P&C Association need quality office furniture but don't have the resources to buy it?

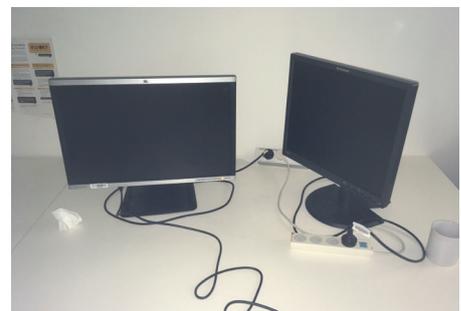
Edge Environment is looking for expressions of interest from schools and P&C Associations across New South Wales to give away quality used office furniture. The furniture is available free of charge from vacated office tenancies. Edge Environment only asks that the receiving school/ P&C Association must arrange removal and transport at their own expense.

According to Edge Environment, every year over 12,000 tonnes of office furniture is thrown away from commercial office refurbishments in the Sydney CBD alone and at the end of a tenancy the departing party is required to 'make-good' the site, which includes the removal of all furniture, walls, electronics, carpet and ceilings. Unfortunately, these materials cannot be recycled and therefore it is all sent to landfill if it is not reused or repurposed. Nationally, the average commercial office tenancy lasts only 7 years which provides a constant source of unwanted furniture.

Interested? Here is what you need to do. Send an e-mail to blake@edgeenvironment.com.au requesting to subscribe to the mailing list to receive details of available furniture. Subscribers to the list will receive inventories from sites soon to be vacated that have excess furniture ranging from meeting tables and office chairs to projectors, audio-visual equipment, task chairs, workstations, under-desk storage units, carpet tiles and lighting.

Edge Environment recommends P&C members work with their schools to create a wish-list of types of items (and how many) they would be able to receive to expedite the process of selecting from available furniture. They will then be required to liaise with building owners to possibly make a time to visit site, and/or collect furniture from site.

Several schools in the Sydney area, including Moorebank High School, Lucas Heights Public School and Padstow Park Public School have all been significant beneficiaries of recent refurbishment projects. Please contact blake@edgeenvironment.com.au to be placed on a mailing list to receive details of available furniture (you can opt out anytime).





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Education

teach.NSW
Public Education

Exciting opportunities for future teachers

The NSW Department of Education is looking for the next generation of high-achieving HSC students to pursue rewarding careers as teachers in NSW public schools. Students can get paid to study to become a teacher with the guarantee of a permanent teaching position in a NSW public school once they graduate.

Find out more and apply: teach.nsw.edu.au/getpaidtostudy

220 Teacher Education Scholarships

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- \$5000 per year of full time study
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- A permanent teaching job.

50 teach.Rural Scholarships

Benefits:

- \$6000 per year of full time study
- \$5000 appointment allowance
- A permanent teaching job.

80 Teacher Education Scholarships – Aboriginal

Benefits:

- \$5000 per year of full time study
- \$3000 appointment allowance
- A permanent teaching job.

30 Great Teaching, Inspired Learning Cadetships

Benefits:

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- Experience in a school
- A permanent teaching job.



BLAST FROM THE PAST

P&C Federation on Facebook

It was 8 years ago, at the June 2009 Council meeting when it was decided that a Facebook page for P&C Federation be created to engage with P&C Associations, members, students and supporters. The idea was simple that information shared, reaches out to the broader community active on social media.

Last few years, there have been significant changes in the world of communication and social media communication has been popularly on the rise. Each day, more and more people are now relying on their social media to bring them their daily news, exchanging information, updates and networking.

Not only has social media made communication easier by sharing information by simply logging into the account but also its limitless reach not bound by time and borders is beyond commendable.

At P&C Federation, we aim to share the resources we think are beneficial to P&C Associations, students and our school community through social media. We are constantly evolving and adapting with latest methods of communication to share and engage with those interested in keeping up-to-date with information on public education system. We would like to connect with our members on Facebook.

 To follow P&C Federation page on Facebook: **NSWPandCFed**

 Not a Facebook fan? Follow us on Twitter: **NSWPandCFed**

P&C Federation continues to reach out to its members by offering different channels of communication to engage with P&C Associations, members, parents, students, supporters and the wider community. A big thank you to those who follow us on Facebook! 1300 likes and counting...



WHAT'S ON

Public Schools Arts Festival!

An annual exhibition for public school students from the Greater Sydney region.

Now in its 3rd year, the festival provides a wonderful opportunity for public school students from the Greater Sydney region to showcase their creative work and talent. The festival is organised with the participation of a Youth Board, made up of students from various schools.

The festival will launch with an opening night, where the schools come together with friends, family and the wider public to show their work, including any live performances. The festival is on from 28th July to 6th August.

Registration is open and participation is free of charge. For more information, please visit:

www.arcco.org.au/schools-art-sustainability

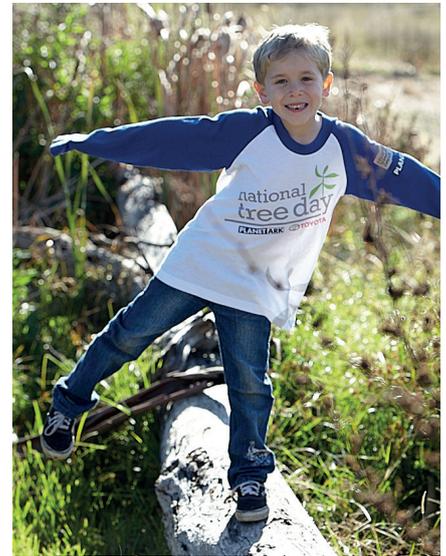


School Tree Day 2017

Each year, around 3,000 preschools, kindies, primary and high schools across Australia take part in Schools Tree Day. Students nationwide have learnt how to plant, and care for the seedlings they grow. Schools Tree Day 2017 will be held on Friday July 28th, although events can be held at any time during the year.

Schools Tree Day can mark the beginning of a long-term environmental program, engaging your students in a fun, hands-on activity that can reinforce their environmental, maths, science and creative arts learning or simply contribute to creating beautiful school grounds. For more information, please visit:

www.treeday.planetark.org



Indigenous Language Song Competition 2017

The Indigenous Language Song Competition is back! ABC Splash is inviting schools to work with their local Indigenous community to translate the song Murrin Gamu into the first language of their area, then record students singing it.

Two winning entrants will win recording equipment for your school or a language resource package designed for your school by First Languages Australia. Entries close: 5pm, 18 August 2017. For more information, please visit:

<http://splash.abc.net.au/home#!/competition/2553441/indigenous-language-song-competition-2017>



Sydney Science Festival 2017: 8th August- 20th August

Sydney Science Festival celebrates and showcases Sydney's diverse and multidisciplinary science and innovation community to inspire a sense of city-wide pride, increase Sydneysiders' appreciation and recognition of science, and motivate young people to study and practice science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics (STEAM).

Part of National Science Week, Sydney Science Festival encourages people of all ages and knowledge levels to discover, discuss and debate science through a program of talks by world-leading researchers, hands-on workshops, exhibitions and events for family exploring all areas of STEAM. The Festival brings together a diverse group of research institutions, museums, universities, industry, and community across Sydney and Western Sydney.





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