



Parent and Citizen

Term 4, 2016 Vol 68 No 4





IMPROVE YOUR SCHOOL IMAGE WITH A NEW SCHOOL BANNER

"The banners have arrived and they look fantastic.

We are very happy with them."

- Crookwell Public School

"We will display the banner with pride at upcoming events including our Sports Carnivals & parades.

Our P & C are already using the wonderful new logo formats."

- Wallerawang Public School

"They're fantastic!

One staff member wants to carry them around to all the classrooms so the children can see it."

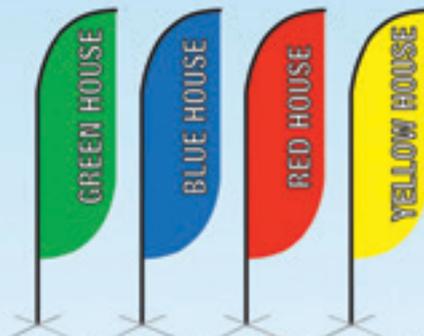
- Culcairn Public School



SCHOOL BANNERS + T-BAR UNIT



LECTERN BANNERS



WINDFREE HOUSE BANNERS



RETRACTABLE BANNERS



MUSIC STAND BANNERS



TABLECLOTHS



OUTDOOR BANNERS



WELCOME MATS



LOGO REPAIR

www.schoolbanners.com.au

Email Us Today for a Quote

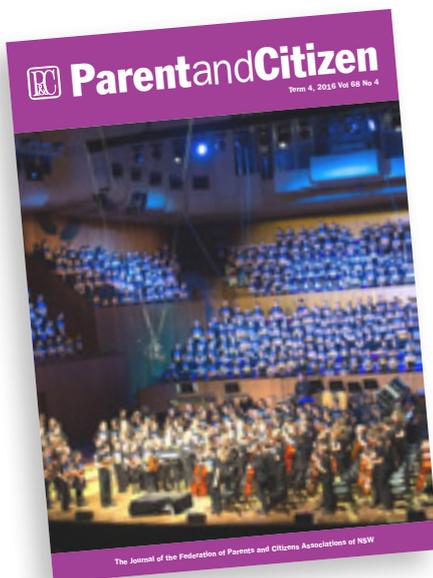
info@schoolbanners.com.au

FREE CALL: 1800 817 151





Message from the President	4	Key Dates	16
2016 P&C Federation Elections	5	Healthy Harold Connects with Parents and Children at Dharruk Community Expo	17
P&C Federation Annual General Meeting 2016	6	A School Community Unites	18
Introducing Mark Scott	8	State-Wide Forums Continue	19
Premier's Teacher Scholarships	9	Insurance and Membership Q&As	20
Heckenberg Public School Thanks Life Member Alma Hunt	10	Quick Member Info	22
Festival of Instrumental Music	12	Australian Schools Plus	23
Tribute to Edna McGill (nee Cameron) OAM	14		



Parent and Citizen Journal

The Journal of the Parents and Citizens Associations of New South Wales
 T: 1300 885 982
 F: 1800 655 866
 E: journal@pandc.org.au
 W: www.pandc.org.au

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

Advertising

The Federation of Parents and Citizens Associations of New South Wales
 E: journal@pandc.org.au
 T: 1300 885 982

The views expressed in the journal are not necessarily those of the Federation of Parents and Citizens Associations of New South Wales.



83 Derby Street,
 Silverwater, NSW 2128
 T: 02 9748 0020
 E: webstar@bluestargroup.com.au



Suite 107, 20 Dale Street,
 Brookvale, NSW 2100
 T: 02 9938 5100
 E: info@kyso.com.au

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

As the newly elected President of Federation of Parents and Citizens Associations of NSW, I would like to begin by thanking all of the previous Presidents, as well as the thousands of other volunteers who over the years have helped keep the amazing beast that is the P&C Federation functioning!

I would also like to acknowledge David Hope, who I feel has been a P&C Federation President in all but name. David mentored me from the time I was first elected to the P&C Federation and has fought hard for its integrity.

The role of the P&C Federation President is a tall order, requiring diplomacy and an understanding of governance. The role involves keeping abreast of the ever-shifting educational landscape, while informing members and advocating on their behalf. A good President will foster new ideas and collaborate with all members, the department of education, government and other stakeholders who are interested in or might have an impact on public schools.

For anyone contemplating the role of President the task could seem daunting, with its vast job description and long list of required skills, it would be, without a great support team!

A support team made up of P&C Federation board members, delegates, parents and community members from across the state, willing to collaborate for the betterment of our students and the public education system.

One of my main objectives as President is to increase our capacity for action.

At our Annual General Meeting in August P&C Federation identified a comprehensive list of goals which included:

Real Engagement, Consultation and Communication between parents, schools, communities and the Department of Education.

We wish to ensure parents and carers are fully informed of their rights, roles and responsibilities, are able to communicate their concerns to the appropriate personnel in an appropriate manner and that the proper processes are followed if this happens.

For example, parents should know:

- They can request one of several different scripture options for their child at school
- If they don't wish their child to do scripture at school, they have the option of 'meaningful activities'
- Alternatively their child could learn ethics from specially trained providers from Primary Ethics Australia.

Cutting Red Tape for Community-Funded Purchasing at Schools

This will include an in depth look at the negative consequences for school infrastructure investment resulting from the recent change in policy on capital works projects. We want to examine the review process of the policy and provide input to it.

If you would like to see our full list of goals please contact the office at mail@pandc.org.au

As parents we have the ability to be more vocal about our children's education and the needs of public schools, P&C associations have systems in place for this to happen. With over 750,000 children between us, we are the largest stakeholder in education. It is time we took back the microphone and made some noise!

The Gonski Review articulated a path to ensure every child irrespective of where they live, how much their parents earn, or what their religion, would be guaranteed a world-class education. Pursuing this vision is a fantastic place to start campaigning. Please join me by signing this petition: <http://www.igiveagonski.com.au/savegonski>

SUSIE BOYD
President



Festival of Instrumental Music

2016 P&C Federation Elections

INTRODUCING THE NEW BOARD

Time has quickly passed since the restructure of P&C Federation under the Administrator in 2014 and the Councillors and Delegates elected taking office in January 2015 to start the rebuilding of P&C Federation as a strong representative voice in Public Education have completed their first term of office.

Nominations for (1) Councillor and (2) Delegates within each of the 16 electorates across NSW opened on Wednesday 9 March 2016, with the Returning Officer being NSW Electoral Commission.

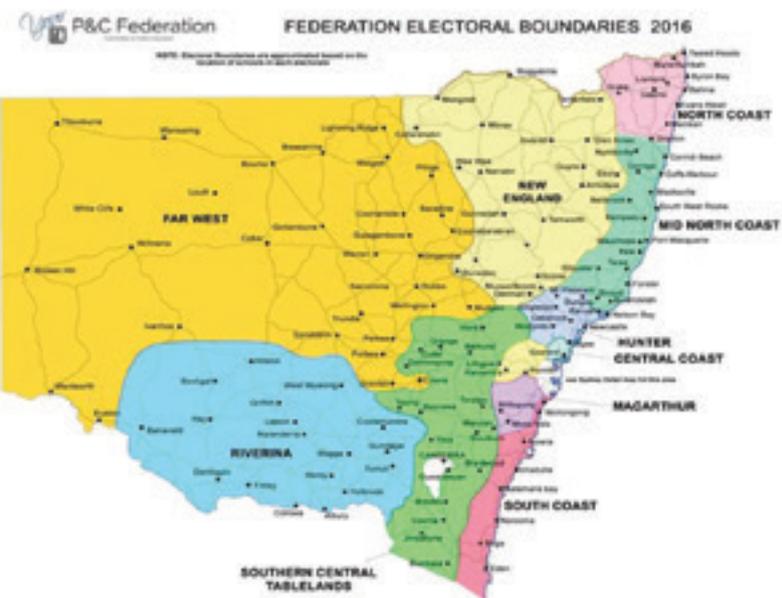
Following the close of nominations on Monday 2 May 2016, 10 positions for Councillor were filled unopposed, 3 Councillor positions went to ballot and 3 Councillor positions were vacant and many delegate positions across the electorates also remained vacant.

Nominations for casual vacancies for Councillors and Delegates opened Wednesday 29 June 2016 and closed Friday 12 August 2016. A ballot for Delegates in the Mid North Coast and Sydney electorates is currently taking place with the outcome to be known Tuesday 18 October 2016.

ELECTORATE	COUNCILLOR
South West Sydney	Susie Boyd – President
Mid North Coast	Joel Matthews – Vice President
North Sydney	Alan Gardiner – Secretary
Southern and Central Tablelands	Bryce Wilson – Executive Member
West Sydney	Natasha Coster – Executive Member
Hunter	Yve Weinmann – Executive Member
Central Coast	Kath Styant – Executive Member
Sydney	Maria Kaivananga
Macarthur	Ray Mosley
Southern Sydney	M.K Singh
North West Sydney	Tim Spencer
North Coast	Terry Timms
Far West	Natalie Walker
New England	Angela Martin
South Coast	Vacant
Riverina	Vacant

THE FOLLOWING DELEGATES ARE ELECTED TO THE ROLE FOR THE 2016 – 2017

Central Coast	Craig Kettle
Central Coast	Nicole Mottlee
Far West	Diane Darcy
Far West	Helen Carpenter
Macarthur	Anna Grocholsky
Macarthur	Melissa Hawkins
Mid North Coast	Tracy Hunt
New England	Rachael Sowden
North Coast	Sharon Bright
North Coast	Lisa Naumovski
North Sydney	Mark Van Kerkwijk
North Sydney	Tracy O'Shanassy
North West Sydney	Lisa Wilmshurst
North West Sydney	Veryan McAllister
Riverina	Jane Patterson
South Coast	Samantha Rudd
Southern & Central Tablelands	Jason Vials
Southern & Central Tablelands	Nathaniel Lozberis
South West Sydney	Rahnuma Alam



P&C FEDERATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2016



The electoral process was completed for the P&C Federation by the end of August. Councillors and Delegates were elected for the coming two years: 2016 – 2018; with councillors forming the board. Delegates joined Councillors on Saturday 27 August 2016 for P&C Federations Annual General Meeting (AGM) which was held at the Department of Education Building, Bridge Street Sydney in the William Wilkins Gallery.

The day started with delegates going through an induction, followed by P&C Federation's newly elected President Susie Boyd opening proceedings.

The Welcome to Country was delivered by Uncle Allen, Gadigal Elder. He shared with us some interesting history regarding his people and shared with us the importance of their

Land that is bordered by the Hawkesbury, Nepean and Georges rivers.

Jason Vials, former President, delivered his final President's report along with P&C Federation's 2015–2016 annual report. Alan Gardiner, former Vice President, presented the financial report.

P&C Federation's guest speaker for the day was Chris Robertson, Principal of Aurora College, NSW Virtual Selective High School. Chris spoke about the Virtual Selective High School from its inception in January 2015 to today with over 160 students enrolled from across NSW.

Aurora College is for students in regional and remote areas and allows them to remain in their own community yet gives them access to other educators across NSW for courses and subjects they may otherwise not have access to. What's more, students engage with other like-minded students across NSW in subjects and courses that link to their career plan. This gives them greater options after High School.

Remote students connect with teachers and other students through a virtual learning

environment. It includes web conferencing and virtual classrooms. Where possible, classes are recorded so the lesson can be accessed at a later time. Students are not limited to the virtual world, twice a year much-anticipated residential camps are run; this gives students a chance to meet up with each other in the real world.

Through technology, innovative programs and partnerships that have been established with schools, TAFE, universities, businesses and employers, students from regional and remote areas now have far more access to career pathways than before, while still remaining in their community.

More information about Aurora College Selective High School can be found at:

<http://www.aurora.nsw.edu.au/>

Following Chris Robertson's presentation it was time to get down to business; both Councillors and Delegates had the opportunity to debate a range of motions presented at the AGM before these were then put to a vote. Proceedings ran smoothly on the day with the AGM ending a little earlier than expected.



Loved by over 3 million Aussie kids!

FUNDRAISING MADE EASY:

A Order online from www.harlequingroup.com.au and raise funds through your uniform shop.

OR

B Set up a **FREE** online e-Store. We'll stock and ship goods directly to parents and post a cheque to your P&C with your fundraising cash-back rebate.

harlequin
school bags

Request your samples:

02 9316-6444

mysample@harlequingroup.com.au



DURAGARDE™
Fabrique

LIFETIME
MANUFACTURER'S WARRANTY

ENDORSED BY AUSTRALIA'S EXPERTS

“Harlequin's Tuff-Packs are very light to wear and include a comfortable ergonomic back panel designed anatomically for spinal support.”



DR TERRY NOTARAS
DC DO
Chiropractor & Osteopath

**Help Aussie kids in
need this Christmas.**


**Barnardos
Gifts for Kids**
CHRISTMAS GIFT APPEAL

**Teach kids the
joy of giving to
those less fortunate
this Christmas.**

Now in it's 10th year, toy appeal Barnardos Gifts for Kids helps bring smiles to thousands of disadvantaged and desperate children throughout Australia.

School plays a vital role in engaging young people with charities, and can play an even greater role in the future.

**Help us reach
18,000
gift donations**

**Contact us today for more information on how
your school can make a difference this year.**

W: giftsforkids.org.au

E: giftsforkids@barnardos.org.au

T: (02) 9218 2337


**Barnardos
Australia**

INTRODUCING MARK SCOTT



SECRETARY, NSW DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Hello to the parents and carers who make up the NSW Federation of Parents and Citizens and thank you for the chance to grace the pages of your journal.

I am delighted to be here leading the NSW Department of Education. I can't think of anything more significant and worthwhile to invest my time in public service.

I started as Secretary on 1 September, so I am learning a lot and getting out to schools and workplaces to meet staff, students and parents. I'm looking forward to working with parents and teachers to create the best learning opportunities for the students in our care.

THE ROLE OF PARENTS AND P&CS

The department and parents share a vision that our schools are learning environments where every child can flourish and be equipped for life's opportunities. I want public education to offer outstanding opportunities for everyone in our care and deliver outstanding outcomes everywhere.

I am planning to spend plenty of time in schools and to make the time to talk with teachers, support staff, principals and parents, to hear directly how the department can best support schools.

Our partnership with the P&C is highly valued, simply because the role of parents in their children's education is critical to their success at school. I know there are literally thousands of P&C volunteers who give up time and lend their expertise to support the work of schools, whether that's fundraising, volunteering in the canteen or for reading groups, providing advice and feedback.

Public education in NSW is world-class because of this strong partnership. Parents support school staff who educate and care for their children, and schools support parents by inspiring a love of lifelong learning in their students.

My sense is that parents are happy with the school their child attends and the more involvement they have in their children's education the more they understand the commitment and professionalism of staff.

But I do think as a public education community we could probably do more to share the stories of our success. I know that remarkable work is being undertaken every day in our public schools, to give the children in our care every opportunity to flourish. New money is being invested, new targeted programs implemented and there is a clear focus on teaching and learning.

The work we do is vital to the future of all these children and those who will follow – and to the future of our communities and our country.

I do hope I get to meet and talk with many of you in the time ahead.

The editors of the P&C Journal asked me to comment on some issues and initiatives. Since I'm still the new kid in school, I will keep my answers brief and we'll continue the conversations later.

ASSESSMENT

I know parents are interested in assessment and the role of NAPLAN. My view is that assessment is really important, because it helps teachers know where they need to focus next for their students, what they need to teach next, and it allows teachers and parents to talk about students' progress.

NAPLAN provides important information to parents, teachers, schools and education systems. It gives teachers the information to confirm their own assessments of student learning and it gives us a snapshot of how we're travelling as an education system.

But NAPLAN is not the be-all and end-all of assessment. Assessments that happen every day in classrooms are probably more important because they are conducted more frequently to monitor learning.

EQUITY: METRO-COUNTRY EDUCATION DIVIDE, TECHNOLOGY ACCESS, FENCING

The gap in education achievement between metropolitan and regional, rural and remote students is a really important equity issue for the economic future of rural and regional areas as our schools contribute to the viability of communities in NSW.

This is a high priority on my radar, as is ensuring the many great initiatives under the Rural and Remote Education Blueprint are successfully implemented. There are many things happening to reduce the metro-country divide in education, with a clear focus on recruiting and retaining quality teachers, a focus on student wellbeing and expanded curriculum access.

It's also important that all students, regardless of where they live, have the same

access to technology. That's why we provide a safe online environment so all students can access technology for learning, including wireless connectivity, videoconferencing, and computer hardware and software. Schools can come up with their own initiatives such as Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) programs but we ask them to have a set of back-up devices at school for those students who don't have their own laptop, for example.

I'm aware that school fencing is an issue for your parents and you want to know how and why certain schools get a new fence and others are still waiting.

I'm told that recommendations for school security fencing are made based on a security risk assessment and analysis of security incidents that have occurred. Schools move up and down this list, depending on their relative levels of risk compared to other schools throughout the state.

Schools at greatest risk are recommended for security fencing, irrespective of their geographical location or the number of student enrolments.

SCHOOL FACILITIES

P&Cs often contribute to school facilities and effectively invest in local schools. This commitment is greatly appreciated and is another way that P&Cs add value, literally, to our schools.

We have recently updated policy in this area so that schools and their communities can be more involved in the management of low-risk capital works and we'll be communicating this update to schools and their P&Cs in Term 4.

Thank you for the opportunity to communicate directly with parents and I look forward to hearing from you or meeting your children as I get around the state listening and learning.



Images: Mark Scott with Year 1 students at Bidwill Public School. Preschool children at Bidwill Public School show the Secretary how to make mud pies.

PREMIER'S TEACHER SCHOLARSHIPS



TEACHERS EMBARK ON STUDY SCHOLARSHIPS

A group of teachers from school and TAFE institutes across the state are about to commence valuable study projects thanks to the 2016 NSW Premier's Teacher Scholarships.

From 338 applicants (118 in the 'Creativity and Innovation' category alone), twenty-one teachers were selected to receive this year's fourteen scholarship areas.

Each will receive \$10 – 15,000 to pursue their areas of research. They will benefit by learning cutting-edge education practices, studying new teaching methods

and expanding their professional networks, all of which will greatly benefit both their own schools and others upon their return.

"There is a wide area of study interest selected by recipients and it is pleasing that six teachers have chosen to focus on STEM [Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics] education," said NSW Minister for Education Adrian Piccoli.

"This extra experience can really add to a teacher's skill set and, ultimately, our students are the major benefactors."

At the reception on 23 August, the scholars had the opportunity to meet sponsor representatives, with whom they will have

regular contact during their 5-week study tours, reporting on progress and findings during their study tours to locations as diverse as Singapore, Japan, China, the US and the UK.

For more information on Premier's Teacher Scholarships and to view teacher recipient testimonials, visit:

<http://www.dec.nsw.gov.au/what-we-offer/awards-scholarships-and-grants/scholarships/premier-s-teacher-scholarships>

THE FULL LIST OF SCHOLARS, THEIR SCHOOLS, AND THE SCHOLARSHIP RECEIVED:

TEACHER	SCHOOL / OFFICE	SCHOLARSHIP RECEIVED
Ms Robyn Zelvis	Illawarra Sports High School	Premier's Anika Foundation Youth Depression Awareness Scholarships
Ms Stephanie Dunn	St Patrick's College	Premier's Anika Foundation Youth Depression Awareness Scholarships
Ms Catherine Kropman	St Stanislaus' College, Bathurst	Premier's Australian Association of Special Education NSW Chapter Research to Practice Special Education Scholarship
Ms Rosemary Di Mattia	Croydon Public School	Premier's Commonwealth Bank Leadership Scholarship
Mr Matt Scott	Canobolas Rural Technology High School, Orange	Premier's Copyright Agency Creativity and Innovation Scholarship
Ms Melissa Grahovac	Colyton High School	Premier's Creative Arts Scholarship
Mrs Laure Hislop	KU Killara Park	Premier's Early Childhood Education Scholarship
Ms Narcisa Nozica	Blakehurst High School	Premier's English Teachers Association English Scholarship
Mrs Nicola Chaffey	Narranga Public School, Coffs Harbour	Premier's First State Super Financial Literacy Scholarship
Miss Tricia d'Apice	Royal Institute for Deaf and Blind Children: Teleschool, North Rocks	Premier's IOOF Centre for Educational and Medical Research Itinerant Support Teacher (Vision) Scholarship
Miss Kathleen McDonough	Kincumber High School	Premier's HTA History Scholarships
Mr Jonathon Dallimore	Smiths Hill High School, Wollongong	Premier's HTA History Scholarships
Mrs Julie Vuong	Arthur Phillip High School	Premier's Kingold Chinese Language Teacher Scholarship
Mrs Louise Rogers	Bidwill Public School	Premier's Mathematical Association of NSW Mathematics Scholarship
Ms Leith Thompson	Burwood Girls High School	Premier's Reserve Bank of Australia Economics Scholarship
Mr John O'Neill	Carroll College, Broulee	Premier's Samsung Technology in Rural and Remote Education Scholarship
Miss Kayleen Milner	TAFE NSW – Sydney Institute	Premier's TAFE NSW Scholarships
Mr Todd Packer	TAFE NSW – Sydney Institute	Premier's TAFE NSW Scholarships
Mrs Kerry Wallace-Massone	Heathcote High School	Premier's Teachers Mutual Bank New and Emerging Technologies Scholarship
Mrs Angela D'Angelo	Marist Catholic College Penshurst	Premier's University of Sydney Mathematics Scholarship
Mrs Tracey Holloway	Singleton High School	Premier's Vocational Education Scholarship

HECKENBERG PUBLIC SCHOOL THANKS LIFE MEMBER ALMA HUNT



Heckenberg Public School celebrated their 50th year in 2015; what a way to also celebrate an amazing lady, Alma Hunt!

On 25 July 2016, Alma Hunt was interviewed by the year 6 leaders of 2016; Isla-Rose Reynolds, Adam Farah, Mya Toukan and Adrian Solaty.

Q: Can you tell us a bit about yourself?

A: I was born in the Women's Hospital in Crown Street Sydney. I have three children; Robert John, Cathy Adele and Tracy Leanne. They all went to Heckenberg Public School. Now I have seven grandchildren.

Q: How long have you been a part of our school and wider community?

A: I have been in the area since 1965.

Q: When you first started, how many years did you think you'd be working as part of our P&C?

A: It all started in 1965. I wanted to be a part of it for as long as I could. I loved the atmosphere and the people and I'm still a life member.

Q: What was your position in the P&C?

A: I was President or Treasurer at different times. I loved having the responsibility and delegating things around the members and committee.

Q: What was your favourite fundraiser?

A: I loved the school fete.

Q: What was your favourite NRL team?

A: Bulldogs, of course!



MONA HAMED

Secretary of the Heckenberg Public School P&C Association



In 1965, Alma joined the Heckenberg P&C and this is what was happening that year:

- The Rolling Stones complete their first tour of Australia
- Cosmonaut Alexey Leonov becomes the first person to walk in space.
- The first Australian combat forces are sent to South Vietnam
- The first compact disc and cordless phone is invented in the US
- The Beatles perform the first stadium concert in the history of music, playing before 55,600 people at Shea Stadium in New York City.
- Prime Minister Winston Churchill dies in London
- U.S. President Lyndon B. Johnson signs the Voting Rights Act of 1965 into law, guaranteeing voting rights for African-Americans
- Digital Equipment Corporation launches the first successful commercial minicomputer

“Heckenberg P&C Association held a welcome morning tea for new parents and honoured Life Member Alma Hunt for her 50 years of contribution. New parents and current P&C members attended the morning tea and the beautiful cake was organised by one of our P&C executives.”



THANK YOU MRS HUNT

50 YEARS

On behalf of Heckenberg Public School, we would like to thank Alma Hunt for her time and service that she so generously dedicated to our school and community. We are so pleased that we can share Alma's story and give her the state-wide recognition that we, at Heckenberg Public School P&C, know she deserves.

ASK ABOUT OUR HIGH DENSITY SHADECLOTH IN A RANGE OF MODERN COLOURS



Create a premium quality shade feature at a competitive price and increase opportunities for outdoor learning

PROVIDES:

- A pleasant and inviting atmosphere for lessons, functions and community gatherings
- Very high UV protection and water resistant
- The breathable canopy allows LIGHT & AIR IN and NOISE OUT

PERFECT FOR:

- Sports Courts and Assembly areas
- Fixed play equipment
- Open Play spaces

Designed by an independent structural engineer to comply with the Building Code of Australia, you can be sure your SUN SHADE structure or sails will be durable and long lasting – built for your specific site conditions.



PO Box 287 Avalon NSW 2107
Tel: 1300 78 44 81
www.sunshade.com.au



FESTIVAL OF INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

A program of four concerts featuring the musicianship and achievements of 4,500 students from more than 400 public schools across the state, the Festival of Instrumental Music was, as always, a highlight of the year.

The Festival provides students and teachers with challenging and accessible learning opportunities.

The Combined Recorder Ensemble has been a feature of this concert series for many years. The recorder is a highly-accessible instrument, with a significant and extensive repertoire, some of which was showcased in the show.

The Combined String Ensemble fosters string playing in public schools and provides

students with the opportunity to rehearse, workshop and perform large-scale string works in a prestigious venue.

This year, the annual concert series at Sydney Opera House featured music by Vaughan Williams, Beethoven and Vivaldi, as well as new works from talented composers Stephen Chin and Wendy Ireland. *Pagodas by the Heavenly Lake* and *Mala Rain* were both commissioned by The Arts Unit for this Festival.

Again this year, our generous sponsors, Teachers Mutual Bank, announced three 'Teachers Mutual Bank Performing Arts Teacher Recognition Awards'.

The awards acknowledge the important contribution teachers make to the performing arts.

In appreciation of their commitment to their students and to the Festival, awards were made to:

Vikki Armour – Uki and Murwillumbah Public Schools

Karen Morrow – Chester Hill North, Fairfield West, Gorokan, Greenacre, Mannering Park, Point Clare, Ettalong and Valley View Public Schools, among others

Sarah Wijngaarden – Cumberland High School and Meadowbank and West Ryde Public Schools).

For more information on The Arts Unit's various music initiatives, visit: <https://www.artsunit.nsw.edu.au/music/music>



Sarah Wijngaarden



Karen Morrow



Vikki Armour



STUDENTS, SCHOOLS AND TEACHERS THE WINNERS FROM MUSIC PROGRAM



Tribute to Edna McGill (nee Cameron) OAM

Former P&C Federation Life Member

On reflecting on my memories of Edna's role in Public Education I realised that I had only known her from a period when she was a member of Federation's Council – it was evident from what I'd heard that there was much more to Edna's contribution to Public Education and it began long before our first encounter jointly rallying against the absurd funding cuts instigated by the then state Minister Terry Metherall

In order to do justice to Edna's contribution I had a conversation with a former Federation President, Shirley Berg to fill in the earlier times. Shirley and Edna first met when Shirley was the President of the Federation of Infants School Clubs and Edna was the General Secretary of the Federation of P&C Associations. This was a period where parents and teachers worked together to persuade Governments, both State and Federal, to find funds to overcome the severe difficulties facing government schools throughout the nation. Not much has changed.

History showed that the Commonwealth Government which controlled the distribution of the tax dollars had to become involved and that Section 16 of the Australian Constitution could be the vehicle to allow for Federal funding to be made available to overcome some of the problems faced by State Governments in providing for their schools such basic needs as accommodation and resources. When the "Defence of Government Schools", a new political party was formed Edna McGill became one of the first candidates (for Heathcote) to contest the Federal election under their banner.

Edna's role as General Secretary demanded working closely with then President, Totti Cohen AM OBE, and Shirley recalls that the then administration was very effective and that she worked well with both staff and members. But in the 1970's personalities within the organisation began to have changes to how things were done and after a particularly torrid Executive meeting Edna tendered her resignation.

Edna continued to serve her community. She had been the Secretary of the Heathcote Progress Association for an extended period, active in the Heathcote Bush Fire Brigade, and grounded in public education through the Parents and Citizens Associations of primary and secondary schools in the Heathcote area.

She later become a Councillor for the Federation and continued to execute Federation's policy wherever and whenever she could.

When my husband David and I first joined Council in 1988 Edna was a representative of the Metropolitan East region, at that time a strongly represented region. She was grounded in her local high school, District and Regional Council. Passionate in her beliefs and well versed in the topics of the day and always at the cutting edge, pushing the boundaries both internally with P&C policy and taking an active role in shaping and changing our society.

At this time she was a current member of the Executive. Rich and rigorous debate on the floor of council was a little daunting at first to us and we were forever thankful for the words of explanation and encouragement that she gave. This was so typical of Edna, always conscious of her role in nurturing and grooming the next generation either as a mentor or simply offering helpful advice. On a personal note she even shared an apartment with us at one of our first Annual Conferences – acknowledging "you have little kiddies; it's my shout – we need you young parents in the fight"

What I admired about Edna was that she was gracious in debate always prepared to acknowledge an intelligent argument even when it didn't agree with her point of view.

Edna was a passionate advocate for equity and social justice. She was a strong supporter of the Disadvantaged Schools Program and represented the Federation on many occasions.

This extended to where she made her greatest contribution – in multiculturalism.

Here through her roles within P&C Federation she supported multicultural education, the education of indigenous students and anti-racism programs. Edna was involved in community languages from the inception of the Board of Community Languages.

Edna was a strong contributor to the Ethnic Communities Council of NSW, firstly as a Federation representative, then as Chair and Treasurer.

In 1986 Edna McGill was awarded The Order of Australia Medal for a lifetime contribution she had made over many years campaigning for public education and the community. This well-deserved honour marked her dedication of time, effort and self-given over many years for the causes she cared so much about.

In 2004 Edna received the inaugural Meritorious Service to Public Education Award for "more than 40 years of association with public education through the P&C, working on curriculum committees and contributing to multicultural, indigenous and anti-racism programs".

I was fortunate to have a coffee with Edna in 2009 in Melbourne long after she had left Federation and as my Federation presidency was coming to a close. She was still very much focussed on the future directions of education and keen to share advice as we reflected on where we had come from. It was a long coffee, we missed a whole session of the conference – it was a moment with Edna I will treasure always.

I am sure that many of you that knew Edna will recall those particular moments where she made an impact on what you now do. Thank you Edna.

DIANNE GIBLIN AM

(with thanks to Shirley Berg AM)





In late August Edna McGill completed her life's journey peacefully at home in the company of her beloved son Peter and Number 1 playmate Julie.

Edna was a passionate advocate for public education, multi-culturalism and equality of opportunity. She was former Office Manager of Heathcote High School, General Secretary P&C Federation and Chair and Treasurer of the NSW Ethnic Communities Council. She was also passionate about Clan Cameron – her paternal Great Grandparents arrived in Sydney from Scotland in 1853.

Born in 1927, Edna's early life was marked by the tumult of the Great Depression and World War 2 and the death in 1943 of her father Wal. It was an era when few women were allowed to attend university and Edna was forced to leave St George Girl's High school during the War to work for Munitions. It can only be imaged what would have happened had Edna been afforded the opportunity to go to university – she would certainly have made an amazing educator such were her later passions.

In 1947 Edna married Les McGill who she had met at the New Theatre. In 1948 they bought 2 acres bordering the Royal National Park in Heathcote and Les built a house with the help of family and friends. Son Peter was born in 1955 and daughter Fiona in 1956.

Heathcote was a tight knit community on Sydney's southern outskirts and residents worked hard to ensure community resources were adequate whether it was for schools, roads, water, sewerage or the volunteer fire brigade. Edna and Les were always involved in community activity.

In November 1958 the Heathcote High School Committee was formed. The

Committee worked with the Education Department, Council, builders, bus companies, Railways, uniform suppliers etc. on the development of Heathcote High School. Edna was Publicity Officer and a member of the Uniform and Canteen Committees.

For many years she was employed as Office Manager. Every year Edna hand made a new frock for the School's Annual P&C Ball. When the School staged musicals Edna's lounge room turned into a costume making workshop.

“Throughout my 25 years of association with the school I have played a number of roles – various offices in the P&C and the canteen, as well as being a member of the ancillary staff – before, during and after my children were enrolled. These positions brought me into contact with many people, dedicated and concerned about the welfare and future of students and about the impact of the school in the community.

I remain proud of having had these contacts and I am proud of my family's association with Heathcote High School.”
EDNA MCGILL – HEATHCOTE HIGH SCHOOL, SILVER JUBILEE 1984

In 1971 Edna stood for Parliament as candidate for DOGS (Defence of Government Schools) against Rex Jackson. She received a creditable 8% of the primary vote.

Following Les' death in 1972 and Peter and Fiona leaving home in the late 70's, Edna turned her attention to the broader community. It was during this period she

was associated with the P&C Federation as General Secretary, Councillor, Publicity Officer and Life Member. She represented Federation on countless Government committees.

Not content with the equivalent of three careers Edna went on to become Chair and Treasurer of the NSW Ethnic Communities Council and worked voluntarily for the Council well into her 80's.

Advocacy for the community was almost genetic – Great Uncle Angus Cameron was the first trade unionist elected to the NSW Parliament in 1874; father Wal was a union leader and a founder of Canterbury Bankstown Rugby League team; mother Marj was involved in the Combined Pensioners Association; brother Ron ran the Bankers Association; husband Les McGill was one-time President of the Postal Workers and son Peter was briefly President of the Theatrical Employees Association.

Edna was awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia in 1986 for services to education and the community. In 2004 Edna received the inaugural Meritorious Service to Public Education Award for *“more than 40 years of association with public education through the P&C, working on curriculum committees and contributing to multicultural, indigenous and anti racism programs.”*

As Edna's life ended the kookaburra laughed on cue to herald the end of an amazing journey.

PETER M^oGILL
19Sep16, Bayview



team elite

AUSTRALIA'S LEADING SCHOOL SWIM CAP SUPPLIER

Team Elite is Australia's leading swimming cap supplier - if your school needs printed or plain swim caps - contact us for complimentary artwork and prices. We supply latex, flat silicone, seamless silicone and dome RaceCaps in all colours and great print. All printed caps are manufactured overseas, so typical delivery period is four weeks - so plan ahead.

Contact us now for your design and quote.
info@elitemerchandise.com.au



Team Elite are Swim Cap Suppliers to Swimming New South Wales

TEAM ELITE ALSO SUPPLY
 TEAM UNIFORM | MEDALS | TOWELS | BAGS & OTHER EQUIPMENT



Phone us today!
07 3151 0383
www.elitemerchandise.com.au

KEY DATES

October 2016

Labour Day: Monday, 3 October P/H

Term 4 for students Starts: Monday, 10 October 2016

World Teachers Day: Friday 28 October 2016

HSC Examinations (written) begin: Thursday 13 October 2016

November 2016

HSC Examinations finish: Friday 4 November 2016

Remembrance Day: Friday 11 November 2016

Schools Spectacular: Friday 25 and Saturday 26 November 2016

December 2016

Term 4 for students Ends: Friday, 16 December 2016

HSC results released: Thursday 15 December 2016

January 2017

Contract Driver public Liability Insurance renewal due:

Sunday 1 January 2017

Term 1 for students starts: Monday, 30 January 2017

February 2017

Student Injury Insurance renewal due

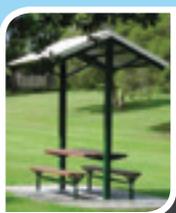
March 2017

P&C Day Wednesday 1 March 2017

Selective High School placement test: Thursday 9 March 2017



Providing safety, comfort and style wherever people gather







Emerdyn for your School's furniture, fittings and facilities

p. 1800 980 008 m. 02 9534 1314 f. 02 9534 5298 e. sales@emerdyn.com.au www.emerdyn.com.au

HEALTHY HAROLD CONNECTS WITH PARENTS AND CHILDREN AT DHARRUK COMMUNITY EXPO

Connecting families to their community was the aim of this year's Dharruk Community Expo, held at Dawson Public School this August.

More than 25 local organisations attended the expo to showcase the services they offer, including Life Education NSW and Healthy Harold the giraffe.

The afternoon included entertainment, a BBQ and games and activities for families.

This was the third year that Healthy Harold attended the event.

With Harold's State headquarters located at nearby Colyton, the Life Education team have a long-standing connection to Dawson Public School.

For the past 12 years, students from the school have been attending the Life Education programs, learning about topics including healthy lifestyles, food choices, cyber safety, and how our bodies can be affected by drugs.

This year, Harold, along with educator Janet, joined the festivities in Life Education's new promo van, complete with its plasma touch screen and packed with information and activities to showcase the preventative health programs it delivers to primary schools across the state.

Janet said children enjoyed participating in learning activities about the human body,

including colouring in and a 'match up' game teaching anatomy and body systems.

"We really look forward to attending the Dharruk Community Expo. Harold is always a big hit with the kids. It is also a great way for parents and families to meet us and learn more about what their children see, as well as connect with our range of parent resources," Janet said.

"Now, more than ever, a whole community approach is pivotal in helping children understand and respond to potential risks to their safety and wellbeing in the online world including cyberbullying, inappropriate contact and decision making in relation to photo sharing."

Dawson Public School Principal, Belinda Davies, said the event was a great opportunity to link families to local services.

"Our Dharruk Community Expo, which has now been running for four years, is a popular and accessible way for local families to connect to a range of community organisations, including support agencies, local sporting groups, and health promotion organisations," Ms Davies said.

"We value the support of our local community. Through this event, parents can share in their children's school experiences. It is also a great way for local organisations to link with each other, to find ways to best support the local community."

Each year Life Education visits thousands of schools nationwide and is involved in many community events.

Life Education supports families by helping children learn to make healthy and safe choices through tips and strategies, facts and articles.

Parents play a vital role in their children's health and wellbeing both directly and through supporting services like Life Education, which enhances school-based drug and health programs.

To find out how you can get involved with Life Education, how to advocate for Life Education to visit your school, and connect with free online resources, visit <http://www.lifeeducation.org.au/parents>.





A SCHOOL COMMUNITY UNITES

Brookvale Public School's "Suspended Lunch Scheme"

A concept that is spreading worldwide called "suspended coffee" was the inspiration for P&C president Charlie Sedanayasa. The Suspended coffee concept is being implemented around the world in coffee shops and cafes where people can donate money to shout a coffee for someone in need.

After one harrowing week Charlie found herself with no food in the fridge to send to school with her son, luckily she was able to gather together enough money for the Daily Special. It was a realization that families for a variety of reasons in school communities may be going through difficulties and their children may be attending school without food for the day. Charlie knew how important it was for her child to have food at school in order to concentrate and learn and she wanted to help these children and families.

Charlie's idea was to transform this concept from suspended coffee to suspended lunch and with the support and assistance of school Principal Bev Maunder, teachers and office staff at Brookvale Public School the Suspended Lunch scheme was established in November 2015.

The scheme works by any parent or community member donating \$7.50 for one lunch to staff at the office, which is placed in a trust fund specifically for the Suspended Lunch Scheme and is not used for any other purpose. As canteens are usually run separately in schools and staffed by volunteers this setup seems to work well. Parents can discretely let the office know that

their child needs lunch and the suspended lunch scheme ensures there is money for that child to get food for that day: recess, lunch, a drink and a crunch and sip snack.

There has been overwhelming support of the "Suspended Lunch Scheme", the school has had people walk in off the street to donate and find out if they can help as well as donations and support from businesses. Since the schemes inception the school with a student population of 250, has provided 15 – 20 lunches each week with nearly \$6000 in donations raised as well as fresh food and \$3000 worth of vouchers donated by Coles.

When Charlie established the scheme in November 2015 she didn't realise how it would grow beyond her own school. Brookvale Public School is also helping set up a similar scheme with a sister school Lethbridge Park Public School in western Sydney and have helped kick start their scheme by extending their community spirit further and sharing the fresh food and some vouchers Coles had donated.

On a larger scale, Charlie has been committed to getting the scheme out to other schools around Australia. Over 200

schools have shown interest, in part due to a segment on television show Sunrise. It is truly a revolution that changes the lives of everyone involved; the students who now get a lunch each day and the donors too.

Charlie says "Brookvale Public School parents are looking out for other families in their School Community, it has united our School Community, and helped people in our wider community understand that times can be tough and children do go to school without food."

Interested? Why not have a look at their Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/SuspendedLunches/?fref=ts>



State-Wide Forums Continue

Express, Engage & Enlighten

P&C Federation's journey continues delivering "Express, Engage and Enlighten" forums to it's members.

In June a further 4 forums were held in the electorates of Sydney, North Sydney, South West Sydney and Southern Sydney.

In the Sydney electorate an evening forum was held with Enfield Public School P&C Association hosting and providing a lovely supper. At the forum there were 7 P&Cs represented by attendees. Guest speaker Kate Jonas delivered a presentation on Working with Children Checks (WWCC) which helped clear up some questions people had, Kate herself is a parent and also an active member of her P&C.

South West Sydney electorate was next on the list and Dalmeny Public School was the venue, where their wonderful student leaders did a terrific job escorting attendees to the forum in the school hall.

There was a healthy turn out with 9 P&Cs represented, with lots of questions and discussions had during the forum which continued into the break with P&Cs sharing experiences while enjoying lunch that was provided by Dalmeny Public School P&C Association.

The day wasn't over as we headed north to the North Sydney electorate for a forum in Frenchs Forest at The Forest High School. P&Cs were well represented at this forum with representatives from 17 P&Cs in attendance.

Southern Sydney electorate was to have the final forum in June, where Caringbah North Public School was the venue for the day. While the numbers were small this made way for plenty of questions and interaction from those who attended the Caringbah North Public School P&C Association canteen staff provided a wonderful lunch.

During July there were no forums, giving us a chance to catchup in the office and recharge before heading off in the first week of August for a 4 day marathon presenting

another 5 forums. This trip would cover 1892 kilometres with over 20 hours of travel time spent on the road.

Heading off to the Riverina electorate the first stop was West Wyalong, where West Wyalong Public School P&C Association hosted P&C Federation. We were warmly greeted with the P&C providing a delicious homemade pumpkin soup and slices to be enjoyed. Many attendees travelled for more than an hour to attend the forum. One attendee bringing members of her P&C after previously attending another forum, finding it to be so informative and helpful, she felt it was worthwhile that more members of her P&C also gain knowledge from the forum.

The following morning bright and early we were on the road to Hay War Memorial High School, arriving on a cool windy morning and the Hay War Memorial High School P&C Association and their canteen staff did a wonderful job looking after us. While the majority of those attending were local, some P&C members had travelled almost 2 hours to attend as they were keen to gather what information they could to benefit their P&C.

Continuing P&C Federation forums in the Riverina, it was off to Berrigan. Berrigan Public School was our host, with the P&C already so busy it was the wonderful school admin staff that provided supper for the forum. It was a small group of attendees who said that they weren't sure whether it would be worth attending but feedback at the end was that they were glad they did as there is so much to know.

It was now time to travel to the Southern and Central Tablelands electorate, at one stage we had to follow a truck through two flooded causeways, we arrived safely at Jerrabomberra Public School which was the venue for that evening's forum. Bandu Catering which specialises in Australian Native Cuisine provided supper along some delightful home baking from the P&C.

On the final day of this 4 day adventure we headed to the South Coast electorate where Batemans Bay was our port of call and Batemans Bay Public School was the place to be. A productive day was had before travelling to our final destination, Nowra Public School where the Nowra Public School P&C Association looked after us. There were 5 local P&Cs with multiple members in attendance and while the evening went a bit longer than expected, the feedback was positive about how much information was provided.

A week later Central Coast electorate was to hold their first forum, which was held at Central Coast Leagues Club, Gosford followed by a second on September 1 at Wyong Leagues Club.

During the delivery of these forums one of the biggest things that has stood out as far as feedback is that many P&C members have been thrilled to meet face to face with P&C Federation having the opportunity to chat in person, a large number of members especially in rural areas, that have been involved in P&C for a long time have said they don't remember having anyone come out from P&C Federation before and feel it is fantastic that the time has been taken to do so and share information and knowledge.

Feedback has also been positive regarding the information shared as many that attended said that their P&C did things a certain way because that's just how it has always been done. They now take back what they have learnt to their P&C and they can progressively put things in place to ensure consistency with what is happening in their P&C. Many attendees suggested that single topic information sessions would be good as it can be difficult to take so much information in at once.

Remember if there is a question or something you are not sure about regarding your P&C you can email P&C Federation at mail@pandc.org.au or call 1300 885 982



INSURANCE AND MEMBERSHIP Q&A'S

MEMBERSHIP AND INSURANCE WHEN IS IT DUE?

A. The 2016 membership renewal for P&C Associations was due on the 1 August 2016. P&C Association Membership and Insurances expires on the 31 July 2017. *'Your Association maintains membership by way of paying the affiliation as suitable according to your student population.'*

DO I WAIT FOR AN INVOICE TO BE ISSUED?

A. No. P&C Federation does not issue invoices. Once you have completed the online membership and insurance renewal form submission you will get an automatic response to your email with payment details. To purchase a policy from P&C Federation all you have to do is complete the 2016-2017 Member Renewal Form; <http://pandc.org.au/index.php/insurance/forms/insurance-renewal-form-august-2016-to-july-2017> payment can be done in a number of ways.

HOW & WHEN DO I RECEIVE RENEWAL NOTICES?

A. Information on renewals will be sent via emails at the end of June. P&C Federation issues notice of renewal to every P&C Association in New South Wales. Your P&C Association Secretary should look out for an email that will have your P&C Association's renewal documents for the 2016 – 2017 periods.

There is a form available online that members are invited to complete (<http://pandc.org.au/index.php/members/member-register-update>) to ensure P&C Federation has the most current contact details.

WHO DETERMINES ON PURCHASING MEMBERSHIP (AFFILIATION) AND INSURANCE?

A. Membership (affiliation) and Insurance fees payable to the P&C Federation shall be determined by the P&C Members at a properly constituted meeting of the P&C Association.

All P&C Associations should choose the membership (affiliation) based on their students population.

Your membership with P&C Federation allows you to access many member services as well as the optional Insurance covers P&C Federation offers.

DOES MEMBERSHIP (AFFILIATION) INCLUDE PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE?

A. Yes. Membership (Affiliation) with P&C Federation entitles an association to \$50 million Public Liability Insurance.

CAN THE MEMBERSHIP COST BE SEPARATED FROM THE COST OF THE PUBLIC LIABILITY COVER?

A. No. The membership fee is a package. This arrangement has been in place for many years. It provides some P&C Associations with the only form of insurance they are likely to have and they don't need to do anything else other than renew their membership.

IS AN INCORPORATED P&C ASSOCIATION REQUIRED TO HAVE PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE COVER?

A. Yes. An incorporated P&C Association that is incorporated under the Parents and Citizens Associations Incorporation Act 1976 No 50 must effect and maintain approved Public Liability Insurance, unless the association is covered by such insurance affected and maintained by the Federation of Parents and Citizens' Associations of New South Wales. In this section "approved public liability insurance" means public liability insurance.

WHAT DOES PUBLIC LIABILITY COVER?

A. Legal Liability to Third Parties for death, bodily injury or loss or damage to property as a result of an accident in connection with any organised activities of the P&C Association but excluding the negligence of the Department of Education.

It is also possible for a civil action to be commenced by any person against a member of a P&C Association. If it can be demonstrated that the person being sued was acting in good faith & legal action resulted from an accident which occurred in relation to a legitimate P&C Association activity, the P&C Federation's Public Liability policy will respond.

IF OUR P&C ASSOCIATION IS AN INCORPORATED ASSOCIATION, DO WE HAVE TO MAINTAIN OUR MEMBERSHIP WITH P&C FEDERATION?

A. Yes. It is a requirement to maintain your Membership (Affiliation). This is a condition under the Federation of Parents and Citizens Association Incorporation Act 1976 No 50 Part 3 clause 17. Payment of Membership is required to maintain Incorporation.

DOES P&C FEDERATION PRO RATA INSURANCE?

A. No. P&C Federation does not pro-rata premiums.

CAN INSURANCE COVER BE PURCHASED OR INCREASED THROUGHOUT THE YEAR?

A. Yes. However the full premium is payable, as P&C Federation does not pro-rata premiums.

CAN A P&C ASSOCIATION PURCHASE INSURANCE ELSEWHERE?

A. Yes. The P&C Federation cannot and does not direct P&C Associations in relation to insurance. P&C Associations can seek insurance elsewhere, including for Public Liability, however, this would, would not result in a reduction of the membership fee or removal from the Cover.

Our membership benefits are clearly defined. Apart from the insurance benefit members have the opportunity to be part of the peak body which represents the voice of parents and carers in the NSW Public Education system.

ARE THERE INSURANCE OPTIONS IF A P&C ASSOCIATION RUNS MULTIPLE SERVICES I.E. CANTEEN, OOSH OR UNIFORM SHOP?

A. Have you considered looking at our tailored Insurance Packages that provide the extra levels of cover needed for these activities?

IF A P&C ASSOCIATION HAS EMPLOYEES, DO THEY NEED WORKERS COMPENSATION INSURANCE FOR THEIR EMPLOYEES AND CAN P&C FEDERATION SUPPLY THAT INSURANCE?

A. P&C Federation does not offer Workers Compensation insurance; All P&C Associations who employ staff (i.e. pay wages) are required by law to purchase Workers Compensation insurance. For more information contact WorkCover on 13 10 50.

ARE P&C ASSOCIATION ACTIVITIES AND ASSETS COVERED UNDER THE SCHOOL INSURANCE?

A. No. The NSW Department of Education (DOE) is a self-insurer via the NSW Treasury Managed Fund. The cover only applies to DOE activities. It does not pick up P&C Association activities either at the school level or the P&C Federation level. P&C Associations would need to have their own insurance cover to address their activities.

WHERE DO WE GO FOR MORE INFORMATION ON P&C FEDERATION'S INSURANCE POLICIES?

A. Information on P&C Federation insurance policies is available on our (P&C Federation) website <http://pandc.org.au/index.php/insurance/policies-and-schedules>

Or Contact P&C Federation's office on 1300 885 982 or email insurance@pandc.org.au.

facebook
www.fb.com/parkequip



- Playgrounds
- School Seating
- Shade Structures
- Tiered Seating
- Safety Surfacing
- COLAS
- Picnic Tables
- Covered Walkways



PH 02 9725 5604

www.parkequip.com.au

NSW Agent for Steel, Post & Rail

Unit 2, 19 Tarlington Place
Smithfield NSW 2164
info@parkequip.com.au

**Local Government
PROCUREMENT
APPROVED CONTRACTOR**



PARKEQUIP
park & play solutions



WANT OF CONFIDENCE MOTIONS

WHAT IS A WANT OF CONFIDENCE MOTION?

A want of confidence motion (often called a no confidence motion) can be moved against individuals who have been elected to positions of responsibility within the association, such as office bearers and executive committee members. The purpose of the motion is to seek the removal of anyone elected to such a position of responsibility on justified grounds.

Justified grounds for a want of confidence motion must relate to the fitness of the person to hold office and will generally only be made out if the person is consistently failing to perform his or her obligations or consistently making decisions which are not in the association's best interests. In some cases isolated incidents, which for example could include offensive behaviour or misappropriation of association funds, could justify a motion of want of confidence but it is expected (and hoped) those occasions will be rare.

Want of confidence motions are, by necessity, proposed, discussed, lost or carried in public and they inevitably involve considerable stress and trauma for all parties. They are the very last resort and all P&C Associations with concerns about an individual's or a committee's consistent failure to meet their responsibilities or make decisions in the association's interest should explore their concerns directly with the office bearer concerned or committee convenor, ideally through informal conversation in the first instance.

ARE THERE ANY IMPORTANT PROCEDURAL STEPS TO BEAR IN MIND WHEN MOVING A WANT OF CONFIDENCE MOTION?

At least seven days' clear notice of a proposal to move a want of confidence motion must be given to all financial members and those affected by the motion should be given adequate time, during debate, to put their position and arguments and to produce any relevant evidence. Those affected are also permitted to vote on the want of confidence motion.

IS THERE A FORMAT TO PROPOSE A WANT OF CONFIDENCE MOTION?

Want of confidence motions are generally moved in the following form:

- That *[name of individual]* holding the position of *[name of office]* does not possess the confidence of the *[name of school]* School P&C Association *[if directed at an individual]*, or
- That the committee does not enjoy the confidence of the *[name of school]* School P&C Association *[if directed at an entire executive committee]*.

WHAT HAPPENS IF THE MOTION IS SUCCESSFUL?

If a want of confidence motion is supported by a majority vote, the individual or individuals to whom it is directed should immediately tender their resignations from the position/s in question. If the resignations are not tendered the association can declare the position/s in question vacant and subsequently call for new elections. Elections to fill vacant positions can only occur at the same meeting if noted on the agenda or at an annual general meeting.

CAN A WANT OF CONFIDENCE MOTION BE MOVED AGAINST ORDINARY MEMBERS?

A want of confidence motion cannot be moved against an ordinary member in that capacity. The right to be a member of a P&C Association is prescribed in its Constitution. Basic membership cannot be denied through the passage of a want of confidence motion.

WHAT SHOULD WE CONSIDER WHEN PROPOSING A WANT OF CONFIDENCE MOTION?

A want of confidence motion must generally be justified in terms of a demonstrated track-record of failing to fulfil the specific responsibilities of a particular position. The motion must not defame an individual, must avoid denigrating or belittling an individual and must not be based on irrelevant, personally malicious or insubstantial grounds. As a rule, a want of confidence motion can only be justified by clearly identifying a consistent failure on the part of the individual or committee to meet the responsibilities of the position in question.

Remember – the repeated use of want of confidence motions targeted at a particular individual or group and without regard to the association's best interests may itself justify a want of confidence motion against the person engaging in any such behaviour.

This memo has been prepared with the assistance of Hicksons Lawyers. It is intended as a summary and as a general guide only. It may not provide a complete answer to any question or issue you have concerning its contents.

If you require further information or clarification contact P&C Federation's Member Services Team
mail@pandc.org.au or 1300 885 982

AUSTRALIAN SCHOOLS PLUS

Connecting funding opportunities with our public schools across NSW!



During Term 3 Australian Schools Plus School Relations Coordinator Beth Gibbins and P&C Federation Far West Councillor Natalie Walker organised a trial for regional and rural P&C's to access a workshop to support projects that P&C's, along with their school community needed funding for. With support from the Department of Education and local public schools to utilize their video conferencing resources, the workshop was able to be delivered to the Far West and North Coast electorates.

Host schools The Henry Lawson High School, Banora Point High School and Forbes High School opened their doors to support local P&C's and provide the opportunity to participate in the Fundraise Yourself workshop. P&C's, along with schools were provided on the day with information and support to assist them in developing their projects and getting them ready to register with Australian Schools Plus.

Supporting regional, rural and remote P&C's is important and finding ways of overcoming some of the challenges such as geographical distance and travel can be

difficult. However with the success of the trial across two electorates P&C Federation Councillor Natalie Walker feels confident that with the continued support from the Department of Education, local public schools and Principals and organizations like Australian Schools Plus more opportunities for workshops to help fund our public schools and provide support to our P&C members could be just around the corner. Especially for our regional, rural and remote P&C's!

If your P&C or school is interested in hosting a workshop or would like more information contact P&C Federation at

mail@pandc.org.au or contact Beth Gibbins (Schools Plus) at **gibbins@schoolsplus.org.au**.

You can check out Australian Schools Plus website for more information about their Fundraise Yourself Platform as well at **www.schoolsplus.org.au**.

NATALIE WALKER

Schools Plus 

*Clothing
Aussie kids
for over 90 years*

Proudly an
Australian owned
family company

SCHOOL UNIFORMS MADE EASY



Colour consistency
year after year



Fast shipping



Free Delivery
Australia Wide



Free school logo
set up



Huge
Stock Levels



Quality Assured



We love
our customers



Extended Credit

LWRTM
Wear Quality



1300 LW Reid
(1300 59 7343)



care@lwreid.com.au

LW REIDTM
For one and all.



SHOP ONLINE
ANYTIME
www.lwreid.com.au