

# Deputy Principals Meeting

Illawarra South East Region

March 2009



# NSW NAPLAN Results

- ◆ In terms of mean scores at or above minimum standard and % students achieving the highest band NSW ranked in top 3 for all areas of testing at all year levels (except for Yr 9 writing mean score).
- ◆ NSW was ranked first:
  - ◆ % in the highest band - Yr3 writing and spelling, Yrs 5, 7 and 9 spelling and numeracy
  - ◆ % at or above minimum standard – Yr 3 writing, spelling and numeracy, Yr 5 writing and spelling, Yr 9 spelling and numeracy
- ◆ In mean scores for Yrs 3, 5 and 7 spelling and Yr 3 writing.

# What Counts DVD

- ◆ The DVD focuses on numeracy and on ALL teachers as teachers of numeracy.
- ◆ Teachers, a principal and a regional consultant share aspects of their practice and reflect upon what they do to make a difference to their students' learning.
- ◆ Students from Bondi Beach PS, Cecil Hills HS and Armidale HS also share what they believe makes a good lesson when they are learning about numeracy.
- ◆ The DVD emphasises the value of reflection and discussion of teaching practices through: a Lesson Study approach, Teacher Mentoring and, sharing expertise in a Community of Schools.

# What Counts DVD ctd.

- ✦ The resource package is designed to promote discussion and reflection on teaching practice and the development of strategies to make a difference for students.
- ✦ This should be available to all schools and we ask that you use it in staff professional development exercises.

# Key Office of Schools Messages

◆ Reflect

◆ Refine

◆ Refocus



# Aboriginal Education

- ◆ Cultural Awareness Training for all Staff
- ◆ New Aboriginal education Policy
- ◆ SRA funds distributed
- ◆ PLPs to be encouraged
- ◆ New numeracy initiative operated by Equity and Aboriginal Education portfolios
- ◆ Top indigenous and non indigenous students in the state for HSC Aboriginal Studies.
- ◆ 125 ATSI students in Year 12 – lets keep them!!

# Digital Revolution

- ◆ This is coming to a theatre near you and will be the biggest single change that we have seen in our schools for some time primarily because it is all about teachers in classrooms and their teaching pedagogy and Gen Y students in classrooms with their preferred learning styles.

# Digital Revolution ctd

- ◆ All schools will be wirelessed
- ◆ All students will be provided with 'devices' in the next 4 years
- ◆ Significant funds will be provided for professional development
- ◆ In April wirelessing schools will begin
- ◆ In June trials will commence along with professional development
- ◆ In August the rollout will commence
- ◆ We have been told that staff will get their own!!
- ◆ Schools involved will be upgraded from 2mb (or 10mb if that is what you are at the moment) to 50 mb

# ELAPS and Leave

- ◆ Could you please encourage all your staff to start using ELAPS – it is quicker and more efficient. On the same subject apparently there are over 400,000 days of teacher unexplained absences. Can you please have someone in your school do a check and follow it up. Cynical people may believe some are rorting the system and using up funds that we could happily use elsewhere.

# Wood Report

- ◆ The Special Commission of Inquiry into Child Protection Services in New South Wales was established on 14 November 2007. The New South Wales Governor commissioned the Hon James Wood AO QC to conduct an inquiry to determine what changes within the child protection system are required to cope with future levels of demand once the current reforms to that system are completed.

# Wood Report ctd

- ◆ The Report of the Special Commission of Inquiry into Child Protection Services in NSW was provided to the Governor on 24 November 2008 and was released by the Government on the same day. The NSW Government welcomes the Report and will release an action plan in response in March 2009, aimed at reshaping the child protection system in NSW and making children safe.

# Wood Report ctd

- ◆ co-ordinate the Government's action plan. As part of its work, the Department of Premier and Cabinet is leading an interagency Implementation Unit comprised of agencies concerned with the child protection system in NSW and the Wood Report's Recommendations. There will be changes to the guidelines DET follows when reporting risk of harm. I will advise you of these changes when they are finalised. The recommendations can be accessed at
- ◆ [http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/publications/news/stories/special\\_commission\\_of\\_inquiry\\_into\\_child\\_protection\\_services\\_in\\_new\\_south\\_wales](http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/publications/news/stories/special_commission_of_inquiry_into_child_protection_services_in_new_south_wales)

# Regional Results

- ◆ In general primary school results are at state average when socio ec factors are introduced.
- ◆ In general both performance and value added drop off in both senior and junior secondary when socio economic factors are taken into account.
- ◆ The significant drop off is for middle and upper bands students from Years 5 to 7.
- ◆ Numeracy is the most significant area for underperformance.

# Engagement and Retention Attendance

- ✦ Single biggest issue in the Region.
- ✦ Region is well below state average for apparent retention.
- ✦ Particular emphasis is being placed on Engagement.
- ✦ Schools whose attendance levels are below state average are meant to have an attendance plan developed with the HSLOs

# HSC Teachers

- ✦ Schools are required to provide to their SEDs information regarding support for teachers who do not have head teachers or who are in their first year of teaching the HSC.

# Syllabus Awareness

1. Are all secondary schools confident that their teachers know and understand their syllabus documents?
2. Can they produce a copy of their syllabus?
3. Have all faculties got programs and a program review schedule?
4. Can all staff program?
5. How are programs registered in a productive manner?

# Suspension and Expulsion

- ◆ Suspension and expulsion rates continue to rise.
- ◆ ATSI suspension rates have risen after an initial fall in the past two years.
- ◆ Some SEG schools seek to bring students back early while others do not.
- ◆ 17 of the top 20 suspending schools are high schools.
- ◆ Greater emphasis will be placed on ensuring that proper procedures (including post suspension plans) are followed.