



# New South Wales Secondary Deputy Principals Association Inc.

Website: <http://www.nswsdpa.asn.au>

**Newsletter**

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THE NSW SECONDARY DEPUTY PRINCIPALS' ASSOCIATION IS PROUDLY SPONSORED BY



## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Welcome back to the start of another year, especially those starting in a new school or position. I hope that you have all had a restful break and come back refreshed for the challenge of the year ahead.

I'm afraid that by the time you read this newsletter, quite a number of you may feel that the summer holiday is a rapidly fading memory. Perhaps we all owe it to ourselves to take the time to shut the 'open door' and reflect on the fine times we have had in January.

The year promises to be as 'full-on' as all the others, and the role of Deputy Principals in the successful education of NSW students is as critical as ever. The Association aims to support Deputies as much as possible in the achievement of this success. In 2007, we will continue to be guided by the recommendations developed from last year's welfare survey, and to use these as focuses for the year.

There are three ongoing projects that are at or near completion:

- The Role of the Deputy Principal and its Impact on their Work and Teaching – the survey results have been collated and analysed. Recommendations will be made based on this consultation and an Association position articulated.
- Constitution Review – the third draft is now ready for review with the intention of having a final draft for debate at the next State Congress of the Association.
- Merit Selection – the preliminary report on the findings of this survey is now in draft form. Following the release of the final Report, the Association will develop a position and strategies to address recommendations.

Other focuses for 2007 include:

- Ongoing support for regional associations to support DPs in areas of professional learning, welfare support, communication and collegiality;
- Increased membership. Each existing member has a role to play in encouraging all secondary deputies to be active members of the Association;
- Improving communication to DPs on a statewide basis. With the rollout of email access to all teachers and students near completion, this goal should be finally achieved;
- Upgrading and maintaining currency on our website;
- Building a prominent educational voice and developing position statements in strategic area;
- Developing and maintaining professional links with other professional association;
- Maintaining existing and developing new strategic partnership;
- Supporting the Western Sydney Regional Association in hosting the 2007 State Conference at Rosehill on 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> August.

I hope your regional meetings this term are successful and well attended.

Steve Ramsey

#### **REPORT FROM GREGORY PRIOR**

I would like to extend a warm welcome back to all the Association members for what promises to be another challenging and rewarding year in public schools.

I acknowledge the work of the Association and its members for their pivotal leadership role provided in our secondary schools. The Association is acknowledged for its support in building the leadership capacity across the state in our secondary schools by providing a professional organisation which facilitates the development of its members' skills in educational leadership and management whilst providing a collegial support network.

In 2007 our challenge in schools is to build on the previous work that has focused on major policy initiatives including the middle, later years and Aboriginal education. We need to continue to work together to consolidate these areas in our literacy and numeracy plans.

For 2007 our collective challenge is to go deeper and further, and sharpen our focus on student and school improvement.

If we hold the assumption that

“the task of every principal is to ensure that every teacher goes into every lesson with the knowledge, skills, expectations, attitude, technology and resources to teach a good lesson to the specific students in that classroom,” and

“the job of the system is to enable every principal in every school to create those circumstances and sustain them” ..... the Deputy Principal's role is pivotal in ensuring that we develop the capacity of every teacher to focus on the engagement, participation and retention of every student.

We are well positioned to share the learning and successes across our schools and as Director, School and Regional Operations I am looking forward to the interaction and building relationships with the Secondary Deputy Principals Association this coming year.

Gregory Prior  
Director,  
School and Regional Operations

### **EXECUTIVE OFFICERS REPORT**

Welcome back to a fresh and challenging year in education 2007. A special welcome to all the newly appointed Deputy Principals – approximately 70 in total. I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible at the Deputy Principals Induction Program to be held during the Autumn Vacation 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> April. Experienced Deputies are encouraged to contact any new Deputy Principals in nearby schools and welcome them to the role as well as offering appropriate collegial support throughout the year.

I have just received a copy of the preliminary report from Dr. David Smith on the findings of the survey on Merit Selection for the position of Principal in State Secondary Schools. This draft will be reviewed at the State Congress in March with Dr. Smith in attendance and hopefully released as a final report with recommendations before the end of Term 1.

One of the major focuses of your Association for 2007 is to continue with the on-going support for regional/district associations particularly in the areas of welfare and collegiality. My first visit is to Western N.S.W. Regional Association in Dubbo on the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> March.

Congratulations to those Deputies promoted to the position of Principal since our last newsletter in October 2006. I include the most recent list as at 5/02/07:

### **NEW PRINCIPALS**

<b>Family Name</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>School Name</b>	<b>Previous Position</b>	<b>Previous Location</b>
Barnier	Justina	Elizabeth Macarthur High	DPH	Mitchell
Bird	Peter	Taree High	DPH	Alstonville
Jones	Rodney	Gunnedah High	DPH	Orara
Moody	Jennifer	Swansea High	DPH	Glendale Technology
Taylor	Gail	James Meehan High	DPH	James Meehan

Two items I draw to your attention: **Firstly** - Greg. Prior Director, School and Regional Operations is now our Association's D.E.T. contact person. Greg was in attendance at the December State Congress meeting and indicated his strong support for our Association and its role and activities. He can be contacted on 9561-8351. **Secondly** - a reminder of the date and location of **2007 State Conference - 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> August at Rosehill Racecourse**. Information will be forthcoming later this term from Western Sydney Regional Association – hosts for this year's conference

Finally- a reminder to any Deputy who would like to make a contribution to this publication. My email address is [bjlove@zeta.org.au](mailto:bjlove@zeta.org.au) and all contributions are encouraged and welcome.

Have a good year  
Barry Lovegrove