



# New South Wales Secondary Deputy Principals Association Inc.

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

Newsletter

Issued: 15<sup>th</sup> February 2008

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THE NSW SECONDARY DEPUTY PRINCIPALS' ASSOCIATION IS PROUDLY SPONSORED BY



## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Welcome back to you all at the start of another year. I hope the five week break has recharged everyone for an exciting new year. For those of you starting in a new school or position, I hope that you have the opportunity to settle in rather than be 'thrust in' – if you need a hand or advice, please don't hesitate to contact another deputy for support. Remembering where the 'off' button (that put you into holiday mode last December) is, is an important strategy in dealing with the year ahead as things start to escalate. The role of Deputy Principals in the successful education of NSW students continues to be as critical as ever. The Association aims to support Deputies as much as possible in the achievement of this success. In 2008, we will be guided by the recommendations developed from the latest welfare survey, and to combine these with our focuses for the year.

### **Focuses for 2008 include:**

- Develop and maintain a Fellowship Program for members of the Association.
- Improve advocacy through improved membership survey methods.
- Strengthen our relationship with the DET at State, Regional and SEG level so that the views of the Association are included in decisions of policy development and implementation.
- 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 partnerships.
- Supporting the Sydney Regional Association in hosting the 2008 State Conference at Star City on 4 and 5, September.

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

**Steve Ramsey**

## **DIRECTOR, SCHOOL AND REGIONAL OPERATIONS**

The year has got off to a busy start for all of us. Congratulations to your colleagues who have commenced this year in new schools after gaining appointment for the first time as Principals. Also congratulations to your members who have taken up their first appointment as a Deputy Principal and to experienced Deputies who may be starting in a new school.

As you are no doubt aware, both the formal and informal networks, local, region and state level, are extremely important for the collegial support and advice that is available to assist you in the ever increasing complexities of your role. I encourage you to quickly become part of these groups and to never hesitate to seek appropriate advice when required. The job is too complex to ever think we can do it alone.

This year, as always, is shaping up to be a very busy one. It is probably a good time to remind ourselves that it isn't the hard work that hurts us, it is negative work.

One of the immediate challenges is being able to provide clear and factual information to all staff about the proposed staffing procedures.

The NSW Department of Education and Training is the largest schooling system and employer of teachers in Australia and the department has a responsibility to make sure each class is taught by a qualified teacher.

We take this responsibility very seriously. Our proposed amendments to the procedures we use to staff schools acknowledge our responsibility. But they also acknowledge that every student, every school and every teacher is different, and that as a result many school communities and Principals want to take part in selecting the most appropriate teacher for a particular position for their school.

There are some key facts worth focusing on:

- Only 3% of classroom teacher positions are currently available to all teachers;
- Over 21,000 fully qualified teachers are seeking permanent employment in our schools;
- A recent vacancy at Brewarrina Central School attracted 31 applicants; there are many more examples;
- The 162 most remote and isolated schools will retain incentive transfer status;

- The new arrangements will provide the best of both worlds for all schools with expanded choices available to schools; and
- Expanded choices will benefit existing teachers to plan effective career paths.

Feedback from the school communities and Principals who have been able to select their own teachers has been very positive. To assist you and the teachers at your school to understand the proposal we have prepared a three page summary which compares the current procedures with the proposed changes.

I seek your assistance and ask that when you have discussions with colleagues that you use the information on the summary to discuss the facts. To assist you in your discussions on this matter I also remind you of the availability on the intranet of questions and answers which can be found using the following link:

[A Questions and Answers \(Q&A\) paper has been prepared with detailed information about specific issues.](#)

I look forward to working with you again this year.

**Greg Prior**

### **EXECUTIVE OFFICERS REPORT**

As I write, it would appear the year 2008 is now well underway in most schools with new enrolments almost complete and students and staff accepting that the holidays have long since passed.

More than 70 new Deputy's have been appointed for 2008 and I look forward to meeting with as many as possible at the **Deputy Principals' Induction Program** to be held in **Bridge Street on the 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> April** during the Term 1 vacation.

Experienced Deputy Principals are encouraged to contact any new Deputy Principal in schools nearby and welcome them, making them aware of the collegial support available, the regional/district meeting dates and ensuring that they are invited to attend.

Dr. David Smith is well down the track with his analysis of the data from the Welfare Survey completed by more than 400 participants at the 2007 State Conference at Rosehill. He will present a draft of his findings at the State Congress Meeting in March and this should be hopefully released as a final report with recommendations before the end of Term 1.

**Congratulations** to those Deputies promoted to the position of Principal since our October Newsletter last year. I include all the lists up till 5/02/08:

<b>Family Name</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>School Name</b>	<b>Previous Position</b>	<b>Previous Location</b>
Bathgate	Jeanne	Baulkham Hills High Hay War Memorial	PH2	Hawkesbury High
Billing	Raymond	High	PC4	Oaklands Central
Begnell	Joseph	Doonside Tech. High	DPH	Colyton High

		Nth Beaches Mackellar		
Del Gallo	Christine	Girls Campus	PH1	Castle Hill High
Dolstra	Janice	Narrandera High	DPH	Airds High
Ferris	Jane	Asquith Girls High	DPH	Hornsby Girls High
Koob	Jacqueline	Concord High	DPH	Kellyville High
McConville	Mark	Toronto High	DPH	Narara Valley High
Mitchell	Bradley	Sir Joseph Banks High	DPH	Lurnea High
Norris	Patricia	Baradine Central	PP5	Mallawa Public
Reece	Phillip	Mount Annan High	PH2	Goulburn High
Ross	Gail	Katoomba High	DPH	Orange High
		Bankstown Senior		
Rufo	Aldo	College	DPH	Lambton High
		Glendale Technology		
Rumley	Lynne	High	PH2	Wyong Technology High
		Wyong Technology		Moree Sec College
Scott	Stuart	High	PH2	Carol Avenue Campus
Seto	Kathleen	Fairvale High	DPH	Canley Vale High
		Georges River		Georges River Penshurst
Spittles	Carol	Hurstville Boys Campus	PH2	Girls Campus

**NEW** \*\*\*\*\* I draw your attention to the **Fellowship Program** available to Deputy Principals commencing 2008. The application form will soon be available on the Association Website with all details and closing date included. [www.nswsdpa.asn.au](http://www.nswsdpa.asn.au)

The 2008 State Conference Organising Committee is well underway with planning for this prestigious annual event. **The venue is the Star City Conference Centre and the all important dates are the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> September.**

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 most welcome.

Best wishes for 2008.

**Barry Lovegrove**

#### **ACADEMY PHOTOGRAPHY – NSW DPC BUSINESS PARTNERSHIP**

Academy Photography/Attendance is proud to continue its support for the next 3 years with the NSW Secondary Deputy Principals Association. The new deal worth \$100,000 shows our commitment to the Association. After 30 years in the school photography business, Academy Photography has changed the face of the industry in providing the latest technologies to schools, not only for photography, but with our Student Attendance System, SMS Parent Alert, Biometric Attendance and Year books Online. More importantly Academy does not rely on any third party products as everything is done in house, giving the schools peace of mind in dealing with the one company. In order for Academy to maintain this support we need to be introducing new business. Please call Academy Photography on 1800 816 224 and ask for Vladimir to show you the benefits of using Academy Photography/Attendance Systems.

**Vladimir Ostashkevich**

**Reminder about the Conference**

4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> September, 2008

“Connect @ Star City”

