



# New South Wales Secondary Deputy Principals Association Inc.

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

Newsletter Issued:

Monday 8 February 2010

---

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 that the memory of BER and DER are now warm and comforting, and that League Tables are treating you well.

A special welcome to all new Deputies in 2010 – I hope you receive helpful support from your school community. Please remember, that if you do need a hand or advice, don't hesitate to contact another deputy for support.

The State Congress has appointed Margaret McLelland (Georges River College, Penshurst Girls Campus) as the Association's acting second Vice President following the constitutional change at the last AGM. Congratulations Margaret.

The Deputy Principals' Induction Conference will be held in the autumn holidays on 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> April, 2010. It is a very important conference for new DPs and is valuable for any DP appointed in the past 12 months. Please consider attending if you are in this category.

A review of the Executive Officer/Welfare Officer role has resulted in the splitting of the role. The Association believes that there is a demonstrated need for a single Welfare Officer and an Executive Officer. Barry Lovegrove is instantly recognisable and overwhelmingly suited to the role of Welfare Officer and has enthusiastically embraced the opportunity to concentrate on this important role within the Association. This will mean that a number of the tasks previously undertaken by Barry will become the core of the new Executive Officer's role. Expressions of Interest have been called for to fill this position. An outline of the Position Statement for the Executive Officer is available on the website ([www.nswsdpa.asn.au](http://www.nswsdpa.asn.au)).

A Professional Learning Day has been proposed to provide additional opportunities for deputies to expand their professional learning. It is envisaged that such a day is best placed approximately six months away from the Annual Conference and should contain a program of existing and emerging issues. There is quite a deal of new ground to be covered in establishing such an event and so a limited trial will be implemented in March to establish parameters for future days.

**CONTACTS FOR 2010 EXECUTIVE**

Steve Ramsey	President	Ryde Secondary College	<a href="mailto:Stephen.Ramsey@det.nsw.edu.au">Stephen.Ramsey@det.nsw.edu.au</a>
Steve Barnett	Vice President	Kotara HS	<a href="mailto:Stephen.J.Barnett@det.nsw.edu.au">Stephen.J.Barnett@det.nsw.edu.au</a>
Margaret McLelland	Vice President	GRC Penhurst Girls Campus	<a href="mailto:Margaret.Mclelland@det.nsw.edu.au">Margaret.Mclelland@det.nsw.edu.au</a>
Evelyn Hazzard	Secretary	Eagle Vale HS	<a href="mailto:Evelyn.Hazzard@det.nsw.edu.au">Evelyn.Hazzard@det.nsw.edu.au</a>
Noel Morris	Treasurer	St George Girls HS	<a href="mailto:Noel.Morris@det.nsw.edu.au">Noel.Morris@det.nsw.edu.au</a>

## NSWSDPA DATES 2010

11 March	State Congress, Australian Technology Park, 9.00am
12 March	Professional Learning Day, Australian Technology Park, 9.00am
6 June	State Congress, TBA, 9.00am
2-3 September	NSWSDPA Annual Conference, Sydney Hilton
26 November	State Congress, Bridge Street, 9.00am

### The State Congress endorsed the following focuses of the Association for 2010.

- maintain and expand 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;
- conduct a 2009-10 Deputy Principal Welfare Survey;
- 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;
- consolidate and expand communication for DPs on a statewide basis through diverse electronic means;
- upgrade and maintain currency of our website;
- building a prominent educational voice and developing position statements in strategic area;
- maintain and expand professional links with other professional associations;
- maintain existing and develop new strategic partnerships;
- support the Northern Sydney Regional Association in hosting the 2010 State Conference at Sydney Hilton, Sydney on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2010.

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

**Steve Ramsey**  
President

## VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

### Raising the Leaving Age

We are all experiencing the new leaving age legalisation. As an association we are trying to put together a position paper about how schools, the Department and Board of Studies can successfully implement this so aims of this change can be achieved. If you have any suggestions whether at the big picture level or below please forward them to me at [stephen.j.barnett@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:stephen.j.barnett@det.nsw.edu.au) in the next week so they may be considered in our response.

### Welfare Surveys

Our last major welfare survey was in 2007 at the State Conference. As a result of that survey we have been able to address with the department some issues. We still have a long way to go but we need up to date data. So in 2010 we are going to be surveying all Deputies to see how our members are coping and to try to address ongoing and new areas of concern. The previous survey was too big, took a long time to fill out and then far too long to

process. As a result we are breaking the survey up into three separate surveys which will come out over a period of 18 months. They will be sent electronically to all members. Hopefully this will allow quicker processing of the information and hence a quicker response time. When the survey reaches you please complete it ASAP.

### **Maintaining your Welfare**

Well, we are back at school and of course we have all hit the ground sprinting and we may already be starting to feel the pressure of our job. (Are the numbers going to hold? Is the timetable going to work? Programs for new staff? Whinging staff? Etc)

Right from the start we must look at maintaining our own welfare. If we start to go under then it affects the running of the school, the morale of the school and hence we go into a downward spiral as this brings added pressure onto you. But more importantly it affects those who are nearest and dearest to us.

I went to a seminar several years ago about maintaining your personal welfare. One of the ideas that I took out of that seminar which has been a great help to me is “**Maintaining a separation between work and home**”. Not always easy, particularly if you have young children, but here are 5 suggestions from the seminar that I have found to have worked.

1. Try to complete all your work at work. This does mean doing long hours at school but when you go home you are home and you are able to switch off. This maintains a clear separation between work and family.
2. Of course there will be times when you have to take work home but try to make this the exception not the rule. So when have to take work home put it away in area of the house where you are not constantly noticing it. We all know that when we see that work sitting there we all go into thinking “That’s got to be done”. You start thinking about it and immediately your guilty about not having it done and your stress levels start to rise
3. Have clothes for work only. When you get home change into the old daggies. It is surprising how well this simple thing works. Apparently your mind associates what you are wearing with the mindset for work or relaxing. I suppose it is just like Pavlov’s Dog.
4. Have someone to debrief to about your days work. When you get home grab a coffee or tea and sit down with your partner and for five minutes let go about your day. You just need someone to listen. Then go and change into your daggies.
5. Have an interest totally away from school such as sport, your children’s activities or even a regular coffee or drink with your wife, husband, partner, lover, friend or even all of them or maybe go to the movies regularly. It needs to be something whereby we will not be talking or thinking about school. We need to just switch off.

I hope these ideas help and have a great year.

PS If you have any practical ideas about maintaining your wellbeing please email them to me at [Stephen.J.Barnett@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:Stephen.J.Barnett@det.nsw.edu.au) so I can include them in future newsletters.

**Stephen Barnett**  
**Vice President**

## **EXECUTIVE OFFICER’S REPORT**

Welcome back everyone. Roll on 2010. A special welcome to newly appointed Deputy Principals for 2010. There are approximately 60 in total and I look forward to meeting with as many as possible at the **Deputy Principals Induction Program** to be held in Bridge Street on 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> April, the second week of Term 1 vacations.

Congratulations to those Deputies promoted to the position of Principals since our Term 4 Newsletter last year. I include all lists up to the 5<sup>th</sup> February 2010.

<b>Surname</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>School Name</b>	<b>Pos Level</b>	<b>Date Commenced</b>	<b>Previous School</b>	<b>Previous Pos Level</b>
----------------	-------------------	--------------------	------------------	-----------------------	------------------------	---------------------------

Charles	Christopher	Auburn Girls High	PH2	27/01/2010	Asquith Girls High	DPH
Cluff	Gail	Macarthur Girls High	PH1	27/01/2010	CEO	
Hudson	Donald	Bulahdelah Central	PH2	16/11/2009	Belmont High	DPH
Miller	Barry	Narrabeen Sports High	PH2	27/01/2010	Byron Bay High	PH2
Steer	Phillip	Ballina High	PH2	27/01/2010	Warialda High	PH2
Nicholson	Michelle	Wilcannia Central	<b>Unfortunately information not available at time of printing.</b>			
Kearns	Patricia	Coffs Harbour				
Burgess	Joanne	Guyra Central				
Foord	Maxwell	Airds High				

**The Academy Fellowship Program** for Deputy Principals is once again available this year. The application form can be found on the Association Website with all details and the closing date. Our two recipients for 2009 cannot speak highly enough of the value of the fellowship program for their projects.

**The 2010 state Conference Organising Committee** is making great progress with planning for this important event. **The venue** is the **Sydney Hilton** and the dates are **2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> September**.

An important part of my role is the support of Deputy Principals around NSW. Please do not hesitate to contact me on any issue at all. My contact details are Home: 4368 6134. Mobile: 0425 840 746. Email: [bjlove@zeta.org.au](mailto:bjlove@zeta.org.au) All the best for 2010.

**Barry Lovegrove**  
**Executive Officer**

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

I hope that 2010 the school year has begun well for you.

In 2009 the Principal Liaison Officers were involved in an interesting project that I'd like to share with you.

#### **Rural Outcomes Project**

In 2009 72 rural schools were identified by EMSAD with performance well above the trend line on graphs of all primary and secondary schools (school community educational advantage was also taken into account). Of these six secondary schools, two central schools and six primary schools were chosen for case studies to share why they appear to be doing so well in terms of student outcomes.

#### **The schools involve are:**

Bunnaloo PS	Forbes North PS	Kempsey South PS
Narrandera PS	Narrabri PS	Quaama PS
Coonabarabran HS	Coonamble HS	Dorrigo HS
Glen Innes HS	Mudgee HS	The Henri Lawson HS
Bonalbo CS	Manilla CS	

These schools were visited by a team during November-December. The following information was gathered because it appeared that all schools identified are doing great things in similar areas:

#### **Whole School Practices:**

Relationships  
Leadership  
Welfare/Learning Links  
Transition programs  
Data analysis  
Planning for the future

#### **Classroom Practices:**

Consistency in responses to student behaviour  
Quality teaching  
Teacher-student relationships  
Constructive feedback  
Reading  
Teacher professional learning  
Cultural knowledge

Connectedness to student interests and values

The results of this research are being developed into presentations and workshops that will be made available throughout 2010. Principal Liaison Officers are also able to provide further details of the project.

**Debbie Hockings**  
**Director, School and Regional Operations**

## **WEBSITE**


The website now has a live **BLOG**, thanks to Darcy Moore and his Academy Scholarship. Check it out, it has some interesting "stuff" and you can add new threads if you have interests, concerns and professional learning issues that are not being addressed. Darcy has many people who follow his writings (note replies from all over) and now thanks to Darcy, the Association can help with the communication battle that we all experience through the blog on a variety of topics. Let us know if you have an idea. The website has been updated continuously over 2009 and this will be the same for 2010. Please keep checking for changes, as this is our main form of communication. Soon there will be more information about the conference and other professional learning activities.

**Miriam Wride**  
**Website Manager**

## **ACADEMY PHOTOGRAPHY**

As the NSW SDPA Business Partner for the past five years, Academy is more than just a school photographer. Looking for Student Attendance Management Systems, Yearbook production and printing, SMS messaging to parents or general printing needs, including end of year school reports, prospectuses, letterheads, envelopes, brochures, flyers etc. let us quote. You'll be surprised how much time and money we can save you.

**Vladimir Ostashkevich**  
**National Marketing Manager**  
**Academy Photography**  
**Academy Attendance Systems**  
**PH: 1800 816 224**  
**Mob: 0412 847137**  
**Email: [vladimir@academyphoto.com.au](mailto:vladimir@academyphoto.com.au)**  
**Web: [www.academyphoto.com.au](http://www.academyphoto.com.au)**



*Every Day Counts*  
**WEB BASED** Roll Marking  
**PERIOD BY PERIOD**  
+ **STUDENT ATTENDANCE SOLUTION**

The Academy Attendance Management Solution provides a module for Web Based Roll Marking.

The Web Based Roll Marking Module allows the school the flexibility of an electronic paperless roll marking system.

**Functionality includes but is not limited to:**

- Early departure handling
- Cover note recording pre-entered known absences
- Parent authorisation
- Late arrival tracking
- Excursion handling
- Roll call class scanning
- Mail merge facility for letters to parents
- Authority to leave school passes

**call 1800 816 224**  
**FOR A NO OBLIGATION DEMONSTRATION**

- Increase Data Accuracy - Real time!
- Provide duty of care more effectively
- Reduce teacher and administration time
- Increase student learning time
- Flexible approach
- Include uniform infringement, curriculum issues
- Other applications based on your school's needs
- Option student card swiping
- Biometric attendance

*30 years experience working with schools*

# 2010 CONFERENCE REPORT

## *Catalysts* *MAKING IT HAPPEN*

*Sydney Hilton 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> September*

Planning is in full swing for the 2010 conference. The theme for the 2010 conference presents deputy principals as *catalysts* within the school and identifies deputies as a leading agent for change in schools.

The Organising Team is currently focussed on selecting and securing keynote speakers and workshop presenters. An invitation to all deputies who would like to present a workshop will soon be sent through the DET webmail. Please consider the great range of successful programs and strategies that you employ in your school and elect to share them with us all. Also, if you know a good presenter, please let us know.

The conference will be at the **Sydney Hilton** starting with a '**Sponsors Reception**' on **Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> September at 6.00pm** followed by a buffet meal and the ideal opportunity to catch up with colleagues in a friendly and relaxing atmosphere. The conference will officially open on Thursday morning with a full two day program strategically punctuated by a fabulous conference dinner. Remember that the Annual Conference is the premier opportunity for professional learning, collegiality and networking. Put it on the calendar - don't miss it.

**See you at the Hilton.**

**Sydney North Region Organising Team**