



New South Wales Secondary Deputy Principals Association Inc.

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

Illawarra Branch

Newsletter February 2010

(3 Pages)

Hi Folks,

Welcome to the first newsletter of 2010. I hope everyone had a wonderful and well deserved break. Term 1 is already in full swing and like me, you are probably in need of a break with some (relatively) sane people. I am therefore pleased to tell you about our first conference for this year and your opportunity to spend some quality time with your colleagues.

Our upcoming conference will be held on Friday 5th March at the Fraternity Club Fairy Meadow. At this conference we will have the pleasure of hearing from our new regional director Maria Grey-Spence. I believe that Maria has set aside some time to answer questions and issues you may wish to raise.

As you are all well aware, a major focus for the region and state is Aboriginal Education. This is a critical priority for all teachers and schools, and one we really need to be on top of. This session will be a brief outline of the state of the nation with regard to Ab. Ed. Michelle Brook has many years experience as a teacher and consultant. Michelle will outline the requirements and responsibilities of schools. Col Harris from Oak Flats High will present a short report on the initiatives undertaken at his school (including PLPs) to address this issue. Col's approach has been described by many as 'best practice'. You may also have strategies, ideas which are used at your school that would be of interest to others and contributions from participants will be welcomed.

With the increased school leaving age to 17, many schools are attempting to implement programs to help these returning students who would have previously left school. One approach is an 'alternative' non-HSC course, similar to the old Transition Education and PEP courses of the past. Steve Hodgson will talk about the Warrawong model. We will also conduct an 'open forum' where people can discuss other initiatives in dealing with these students. If you are introducing a program, or you have some other strategies, or approaches to supporting these students, we would love to hear from you.

All in all it looks like an excellent, and relevant and informative conference program, so please take the time to attend.

Don Wilkinson, Kem Rakaposki and I will be attending the state DP Association meeting in Sydney on Friday 12th March, so if there are things you

wish Don, Kem or I to raise in that forum, please contact us. State conference this year will be held at the Sydney Hilton in Term 3. Details will be released soon.

On the staffing front, I am happy to welcome Michael Garretson, who has been appointed to Illawarra Sports High. I also understand that there has been a new appointment to Albion Park High. A warm welcome to both of you. Could I also welcome Raechel McCarthy who has been appointed to Figtree High School. I am also pleased to announce that Raechel also nominated for the vacant position on our south coast organising committee, and as she was the only nominee, I am please to declare her elected!

My thanks to Kem Rakaposki, Noela Lewis, Don Wilkinson, Di Trist, Steve Hodgson and Lou Tome and Raechel McCarthy for their organisation of the upcoming conference. Our local co-ordinators are considering several exciting venues for our Term 2 conference this year. It will be another overnighter. Further details will be provided shortly.

Invoices for local association membership will be sent out shortly. The membership fee is unchanged from last year. \$100 will provide you with entry to three local conferences for the year, or if you wish to pay individually the cost will be \$100 per conference and we will invoice you separately. The fee is per deputy principal position, and is NOT TRANSFERABLE between DPs, but it will cover people relieving in your position ie. If there are two DPs in the school it is necessary to pay separately for both positions.

That's about it for now. Hope to see you at the Frat!

Al McInnes
Warilla High

NSW Deputy Principals Association- Fax Reply

ATTENTION: ALAN MCINNES

Warilla High School

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Term 1 Conference Registration

Program for Term 1 Conference

Fraternity Club

Friday 5th March 2010

Program

8.45am - 9.15am	Coffee and Registration
9.15am - 10.30am	Directors Report – Maria Grey-Spence
10.30am - 11.00am	Morning Tea
11.00am - 12.30pm	Aboriginal Education – IPLs and the Oak Flats Experience. Michelle Brook and Col Harris
12.30pm - 1.30pm	Lunch
1.30pm - 2.45pm	The Year 11 Less Able Returners. What can we do? Alternative curriculum and other models. Steve Hodgson – Warrawong HS and input from the floor.
2.45pm - 3.00pm	Evaluation.

Cost – included in your annual fee **OR** \$100 payable on the day. Please make cheques payable to Warilla High School.

- includes lunch, morning tea and venue costs
- please return registration forms to Alan McInnes at Warilla High on the above fax number

I/we will be attending the conference

Name(s) of person(s) attending _____

School _____