

Greater Western Deputy Principal Association

Term 4 Conference Cobar 13 – 14th October 2005 Conference Minutes

This term's conference featured five workshop sessions at Cobar High School. The conference was well attended with DPs travelling from Orange, Broken Hill, Dubbo, Gilgandra, Coonabarabran, Brewarrina, Bourke, Nyngan, Baradine and Cobar. Apologies came from Coolah and Wellington.

The local association meeting was held as the last session of the conference.

Workshops

New Merit Selection workshop – presenter Michael Cronk SED Warrumbungles

An informative training session in the new Merit Selection procedures supported by a powerpoint and handout. The workshop extended to cover discussion about applying for positions.

Support for DPs – presenter - Barry Lovegrove Support Officer State Deputy principals Association

An informative outline of the role and responsibilities of this position and the opportunity for Barry to respond to various questions was the focus of this session. As it was his first visit to Cobar Barry was impressed with the extent of Regional support for the local association.

Directions for Western NSW – discussion led by Carole McDiarmid Regional Director Western NSW

An outline of the directions for western NSW was given followed by an informative question and answer session. Close attention was given to the Middle Schools initiatives, the reading Bug's travels and the improvements in literacy in the region.

Using and Analysing Data for school improvement – presented by Leo Tyndall

A lesson in EDOD and the Results Analysis Package that provided valuable insight into the usefulness of the information that can be extracted from this data. Questions and answers extended the scope of this workshop but allowed for a fuller understanding of the material. Useful handouts for evaluating a curriculum area and recognising and evaluating student achievement were issued.

Local association meeting.

Minutes are included on a separate page.

The conference at Cobar continued the practice of district schools hosting the conference and showcasing their local school. At Cobar a tour of the school was conducted by students who proved to be excellent ambassadors showing great knowledge and clear pride in their school. The local tourist association provided a guide who conducted a fascinating tour of Cobar and information about the extent of the mining industry in the area.

Sue Francisco Cobar HS Deputy Principal proved to be an excellent organiser and host. Thank you and congratulations on the success of the conference.



□ CONFERENCE TABLE: Deputy principals from Dubbo, Broken Hill, Nyngan, Gilgandra, Baradine, Coonabarabran, Orange and Bourke attended last week's two day conference hosted by the Cobar High School's Sue Francisco.

Deputy principals share ideas

Public high and central schools across the Western NSW region will find long-term benefits from a conference of deputy principals hosted by Cobar High School last week.

Western NSW Regional Director, Carole McDiarmid said the conference strengthened the networks between deputy principals across the west.

"The deputy principals attending the conference develop strong bonds and are always willing to help their colleagues," Mrs McDiarmid said.

"By meeting regularly at this conference, the deputy principals feel more comfortable sharing their successes and ideas that work for them, as well as seeking advice, when needed.

"One of the real strengths of our public education system in Western NSW Region and across the State, is the strong network of support from colleagues in schools and specialists based in region and in central offices."

Mrs McDiarmid joined the deputy principals, who came from as far afield as Broken Hill, Bourke and Orange, for dinner and a tour of Cobar's mining industry led by tourist officer, John Martin.

Mrs McDiarmid praised the work of Cobar High School deputy principal, Sue Francisco, who coordinated this year's conference.