



New South Wales Secondary Deputy Principals Association Inc.

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

Illawarra Branch

Newsletter October 2011
(2 Pages)

Hi Everyone,

I hope everyone had a fantastic and restful break and feels ready for what is always a very busy term 4.

For those of you who made it to the Albury *New Horizons* State Conference I know you will have had a great time. I have heard reports from a few members that the conference was of the highest quality-with excellent speakers and rewarding workshops. We can now all look forward to next year's conference in Coffs Harbour (29th to 31st August). What a great location for a conference!

You will notice I have attached the minutes for the State Association AGM and Steve Ramsay's final president report for those of us who were unable to attend the Albury conference. I am very pleased to hear our State Association will be having a big input into the Board of Studies consultation process for future credentialing and other issues emerging that relate to the New School Leaving Age. I am sure Evelyn Hazzard, our new Association President, will give us an update at our next state meeting.

On the staffing front, congratulations to Kieran Spillane, currently Relieving Principal Illawarra Sports High School, on his appointment to the Principal Position at Oak Flats High School. He will be a wonderful asset to Oak Flats HS and a sad loss from our DP ranks. Kieran will commence the position at the start of next year. Our organising committee recently discussed the regional situation where many new Deputy Principals are entering our region as previous deputies retire or (as in Kieran's case) earn promotion. Our committee is keen to establish a **mentor network** to assist these new Deputy Principals and are asking for volunteers. The role could be as simple as a regular fortnightly phone call to check on how the new Deputy Principal is settling into their school and offering them valuable "local knowledge" of regional support services. If you would like to "sign up" to be one of these mentors, **please call or email me**.

The main item for this newsletter is to tell you about our Term 4 conference and your opportunity to spend some quality time with your Deputy Principal colleagues.

The conference will be held on **Friday 18th November (Week 6)** at the Gerroa Boat Fishermans Club. We have invited Phill Hirst (School Education Director Shellharbour) to introduce us to the new Cultural Awareness Training initiative "*No gaps, no excuses*". Doug Hearne will then lead a group discussion session relating to Aboriginal education where we can share our own schools current strategies to assist Aboriginal students in their learning.

Our second session after morning tea will be led by Kevin Schipp from the Staff Efficiency and Conduct Unit (EPAC). Kevin has been asked to give us advice relating to improvement programs and managing complaints relating to staff

We have also invited Bob Aston School Education Director Batemans Bay Office to talk to the group about the *Local Schools Local Decisions* discussion paper. Bob is leading the regional

consultation process relating to this new proposed change in education which will have an immense impact on how schools operate in the very near future.

Before this session we need to elect a new member for our local organising committee to replace Don Wilkinson who retired Term 2. **If you are interested in nominating yourself for this position please call or email me.**

Our committee believes you will find the conference informative and useful. If you are able to attend, **please fax or email your conference registration form to me at Figtree High School by Monday 7th November Week 5.**

That's about it for now. Enjoy the rest of the term and I hope to see lots of you at our conference.

Take care!

Raechel McCarthy
Figtree High School

NSW Deputy Principals Association- Fax Reply

ATTENTION: RAECHEL MCCARTHY

Figtree High School

FAX – 42716626

DRAFT Term 4 Conference Registration

Friday 18th November (Week 6) 2011

Gerroa Boat Fishermans Club, 68 Crooked River Road

Program

8.30am – 9am	Coffee and Registration
9.00am -10.30am	Aboriginal Education and Cultural Awareness Training Phillip Hirst-School Education Director, Shellharbour Doug Hearne to lead group discussion sessions relating to current successes/school based strategies
10.30am-11.00am	Morning Tea
11.15am – 12.30pm	Improvement programs, conflict resolution and managing complaints relating to staff. Kevin Schipp-EPAC
12.30pm-1.15pm	Lunch
1.15pm-2.45pm	Election of new local organising committee rep <i>Local Schools, Local Decisions</i> discussion paper and consultation process Bob Aston-School Education Director, Batemans Bay
2.45-3pm	Evaluation

Cost – included in your annual fee includes lunch, morning tea and venue costs
- **please return registration forms to Raechel McCarthy at Figtree High on the above fax number or email Raechel by Monday 7th November Week 5.**

I/we will be attending the conference

Name(s) of person(s) attending _____

School: _____

NOTE: the order and timing of speakers may have to be altered depending on speaker schedules

DIRECTIONS TO VENUE: If coming from the north, take the first turn off the highway to Gerringong. Drive through Gerringong on Fern Street and continue south. Fern Street turns into Crooked River Road. Turn left at the top of the hill just before Gerroa at the Carlton sign.