



**FEDERATION**  
of Religious Institute  
and Ministerial PJP  
Catholic School Authorities  
in NSW and ACT

Minutes of the Meeting of the Education Policy Committee  
held at Level 5, Polding Centre, 133 Liverpool St, Sydney on 16 August 2019 at 11:30am.

Present: Kitty Guerin – Committee Chair

John Robinson  
Jennie Hickey  
Marea Nicholson  
Anne Wenham  
Jane Curran

In Attendance: - Greg Smith - Executive Officer  
- Br Paul Oakley – Chair of Council – from 12:30pm  
- Danielle Cronin Catholic Schools NSW (CSNSW) – from 12:30pm

Apology: Tony Fitzgerald

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Welcome: Kitty welcomed those present and noted the apology listed above.

Acknowledgement  
of Country: Kitty acknowledged the traditional owners of the land on which the meeting took place and paid respect to the elders, past, present and emerging.

Prayer: Kitty led the meeting in prayer.

Conflicts of Interest: In response to enquiry from the Committee Chair, no person present declared any conflict of interest in relation to any agenda item or other matters relating to the Federation.

Previous Minutes: RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 13 June 2019 be adopted.

Business Arising from  
the Minutes: It was noted that:

- Schools had not yet received advice from the Commonwealth Department of Education of their **revised SES scores** calculated with reference to the direct income measures of parents and carers. Greg advised that he would be presenting an analysis of the impacts of changes to schools' SES upon recurrent funding at the afternoon's principals' forum.
- No further information had been forthcoming from NESA regarding the **NSW curriculum review**.
- Br Paul had arranged a meeting with Bishop Randazzo regarding the development of the **memorandum of understanding** between NSW/ACT Bishops and Federation members, to take place during September 2019.

Principals' Forum: The committee discussed the outcomes expected from the afternoon's principals' forum and Marea suggest that the following be included:

- a) framework of relationships between the parties
- b) actions required by Federation
- c) actions required by CSNSW
- d) actions required by individual College/ PJPs
- e) managed expectations

It was also agreed that the forum may assist in providing a scaffold for relationships for schools and their Canonical authorities, particularly in light of recent and likely future changes in heads of schools. The facilitation of professional development in this space, for principals, governing bodies and business managers by the Federation was also discussed.

#### Commonwealth

Census: In response to concerns raised by some principals relating to data errors in the upload of data by CSNSW, Danielle advised that this had arisen from a processing error by the department and that she would mention this at the afternoon's forum.

State of the System: The Committee discussed the "State of the System – 2019" report prepared by CSNSW, including data on Congregational schools. It was agreed that the authority of CSNSW to publish this data be discussed with them.

Next Meeting: Next scheduled meetings:  
- Friday 13 September 2019 at 9:30am.  
- Friday 25 October 2019 at 9:30am.  
This committee discussed whether there was a need to proceed with the September meeting and it was agreed that this be considered following the afternoon's principals' forum.

#### Other Business:

Read and Confirmed as  
A true and correct record

Chair

Dated

#### **ACTION ITEMS:**

1. Impact of funding changes upon RI/PJP schools  
- Pending advice from Commonwealth – approx. August 2019
2. NSW Curriculum Review  
- Pending NESAs final report to Minister – end of 2019

3. Br Paul Oakley to meet with Bishop Randazzo.
4. Progression of CSNSW Services Offering – Principals' Forum
5. State of the System Report – Greg/Marea
6. 13 September meeting - Committee