



Minutes of the Meeting of the Education Policy Committee

held on Zoom on 11 February 2022 at 9:30am.

Present: Kitty Guerin – Committee Chair Jennie Hickey, Marea Nicholson, Stephen Dwyer, Vittoria Lavorato, Joe Zavone

In Attendance: Michael McDonald

Apologies: Tony Fitzgerald, Sr Margaret Ghosn, Sue Lennox, John Robinson.

Welcome: Kitty welcomed those present and acknowledged the apologies.

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

Prayer: New Year 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 19 November 2021 was adopted.

Business Arising from the Minutes: Replacement for two committees, time, and nomination process. To be discussed with CSNSW.

Items Discussed

New Principals – St Joseph’s Hunters Hill, St Edmund’s Wahroonga, Acting Principal St Gregory’s.

ACT Report – EA approved. CER helpful in finalising the Agreement. All else stable.

Community Grant \$11.2m for post Covid Welfare. Application extended to 17 February from 11 February. Timeline difficult given circumstances at the start of the school year. Schools can’t prioritise this opportunity. Discuss with CSNSW about strategies to voice concern about wellbeing for students and timeline.

CSNSW –

- Return to School. Agreed to support extension of RAT beyond the initial 4 weeks. CEO top advance that position with DOE Secretary.
- HSC Reporting. Reporting is underway. Is there a better way to report HSC results? CSNSW to release a paper later today.
- Religious Freedom. CSNSW position for Catholic Schools to operate consistent with values without legislative interference.
- Curriculum NESA. Feedback will be sought on 3 – 10 English/Maths syllabus. CSNSW will keep the Federation and RI/PJP Schools informed. Other courses being reviewed – Aboriginal Languages. Challenges for teachers to be involved in the review – timeline and resources.
- School Registration. – Single authority. Where's the dividend for Catholic sector? CSNSW will decide in the next 6-8 weeks about the proposal and move to the next step in consultation. Implementation in 2023.
- Funding opportunity. 1-2 weeks turnaround. CSNSW not apply for Community Grants only recurrent targeted money. Supports writing to local MPs about the funding and its timeline.

Principals Briefing. Jennie, Stephen and Kitty to work on the Agenda.

CSNSW School Regulation Reform Expert Working Group-School Registration & Accreditation Lee MacMaster. Lee is a member of the Working Group. NESA has a view that Registration and Accreditation should be done with less contact with the array of Catholic agencies and is considering making CSNSW the contact and authority for Registration and Accreditation in the Catholic sector. This will; become an issue for RI/ PJP schools. Seek a replacement on the Working Group.

1. NESA Secondary Principals Advisory Panel: 7-12 curriculum reform matters Lee MacMaster. Suggested changes include a Stage 6 investigative project. EPC needs to be aware of proposed changes and implications for staff and timetable. Keep on the Agenda. Seek a position on the Panel.
2. HSC Special Consideration Kitty Guerin. The basi for Special consideration is specific. Applies to LGA's of concern. Need to target students disadvantaged. The use of the word *groups* is not clear.

3. CER Pricing 2022 Ian Yard-Smith was present. CER has developed a fee for service model of funding. The basic fee is determined by the number of employees and will provide access to a certain number of hours of support. Additional fees will apply for work beyond the basic fee. Letters to Principals about the model and follow up discussions will take place over the next few months.
4. CBGA Kevin Morrison. Government has required the CBGA, which operates within CSNSW, to place all schools be on the same level. CSNSW is developing the capacity to make assessments. Two rounds of applications in March and September. This approach now gives the possibility of capital grants on an equitable basis.
5. ROSA and Catholic Studies This matter is going to Diocesan Directors for discussion.
6. ACT Report – No report
7. CORMSAA Noted Report.
8. Council Strategic Planning. Surveys have been distributed and work continues on the plan.

9 Other Business Replacement for Lee MacMaster. Consider a standalone school. Agreed to invite Sister Margaret Ghosn.

Best wishes to all and thank you for the work of the Chair and Members for the work of the year.

10 Close of Meeting

Education Policy Committee Dates 2022 commencing at 9.30 a.m.

11 February

1 April

27 May

29 July

9 September

14 October

18 November

Principals' Briefings commencing at 10.00 a.m.

1 April 2022

9 September 2022

