

Minutes of the Meeting of the Education Policy Committee held on Zoom on 4 May 2020 at 9:30am.

Present: Kitty Guerin – Committee Chair

Jennie Hickey, John Robinson, Marea Nicholson, Tony Fitzgerald, Craig Wattam, Sue Lennox, Lee McMaster

In Attendance: Michael McDonald

Apologies: Nil

Welcome: Kitty welcomed those present.

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: Michael 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 6 April 2020 be adopted.

Business Arising from the Minutes: Nil

Items of Discussion

1. Catholic Schools NSW. Danielle Cronin attended the meeting for the first 45 minutes. In that time, she provided updates on

a. COVID 19. Key points included:

- No practical examinations will be held for the HSC
- HSC timetable due on 15 May 2020
- CSSA trials delayed by two weeks

b. Reporting Requirements

- Decision on reporting awaiting meeting of Education Ministers. Schools are likely to have flexible reporting in Semester 1. Business as usual for the August Census.

c. Boarding Schools.

- The AHPPC has issued Guidelines for Boarding Schools and the NSW has issued Guidelines for its Boarding Schools.

d. Job Keeper

- Unlikely to be accessible by Schools because of recurrent funding.

e. Government early payment of recurrent grants

- Some RI and PJP schools will access the early payment.

2. State of the System

- CSNSW willing to engage with the Federation about the content of the State of the System report.
- Appendices relating to a School Authority is possible.
- Concern expressed about the use of RI/PJP material – sometimes it is presented in with all schools and in other cases it is separated out. Consistency is important in the use of the data set.
- The Report is not a public report.
- The Presentation of NAPLAN is another area to include the Federation during the preparation of the Report.

3. School Assessment

- Requiring clarity on what components will be externally marked. How will diaries be marked when works will not be available? Tony Fitzgerald to follow up.

4. Liability and insurance issues

- The problem of managing staff return to school to minimise risk. EO to seek to organise a meeting of EPC with CCER as a first step and then with Principals. Consultation with staff is important. Lee to circulate the St Gregory's College safe work document.

5 State of the System

- The Report is outside the CSNSW Mandate. No right to include RI/PJP in the Report as CSNSW is not responsible for those school authorities.
- The full report should come to the Federation, School Authorities and Principals. For the Federation Council Meeting.

6. EA

- Concern with the conduct of the negotiations and inclusion of Principals
- Concern moving to align with the Systems
- EO to set up a meeting of EPC with CCER.

7 Better Smarter Regulation

- CSNSW is doing work on Regulation as it affects Schools.
- The federation should make a response.
- Nominations were made to join a working group – Business Manager St Patrick's College and three retired principals. Members to check availability of suggested names and let EO know.

Next meeting 12 June 2020

The meeting concluded 11.15 a.m.