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3 April 2019

## From the President



Dear QASEL members

Welcome to our end of Term 1 2019 newsletter.

### COMMUNICATIONS:

Schoolzine is supporting us to produce this newsletter. Also, however a small self-elected committee (or 'dobbed' by Roselynn!) and I have also been exploring faster and more 'newsflash' like ways to communicate more regularly rather than just standard emails from me e.g. broadcast emails, a QASEL discussion list etc. Some of these options have been discussed at EMC/State Council level and will hopefully support us moving forward post QASELCON19- which will keep us all busy in Term 2!

As is the nature of the busy-ness of Term 1, including the recent biennial Principals' conference, this is the only official QASEL newsletter to be circulated this year to date.... In case you thought you missed one! Can I take this opportunity to thank Jamie Mullen our new PT BM who supports the work of QASEL, the President and any communications documentation, such as this newsletter, for her work and swift grasping of the QASEL genre!

### CLARIFICATION:

I am now writing this statement of clarification, due to the number of queries I continue to receive from QASEL members. After my tenure of more than four years as current President of QASEL, I still receive numerous queries from not only QASEL members, but also other education community members about the status and reason for the continuing circulation of TGIF-Thank God It's Friday which includes messages and jokes each week by the immediate past president. This occurred during the previous presidency and continues to occur weekly.

For your information and clarification purposes this is NOT a QASEL publication. It is produced by an individual by choice and received therefore by choice. I have informed those who are receiving this and do not wish to, both for some time and recently, that they should contact Ches Hargreaves directly on [charg6@eq.edu.au](mailto:charg6@eq.edu.au) to unsubscribe or be removed from the TGIF circulation. Thanks Ches!

### FURTHER PRESIDENT UPDATES:

During Term 1 2019, I have continued to be involved in a number of reviews, forums, stakeholder reference groups, working parties, DG,DDG, ADG led initiatives, committees etc.

I have met with the Minister, the DG. DDGs, a range of ADGs 1-1 and a range of Regional Directors on behalf of QASEL and you as members.

Some examples of initiatives I am currently involved in on your behalf are the following;

Strategic Directions Committee- chaired by the DG in response to the IPS review, considerable work and approvals have occurred during Term 1 particularly in relation to recruitment and selection/HR processes. These positive changes will impact schools positively into the future. A renewed Leadership Framework draft is currently being considered for ALL employees i.e. corporate and schools. More details when further information is available into Term 2.

Teaching Queensland's Future Executive Stakeholder Reference Group-Principal Health and Wellbeing Strategy- this work continues and the current focus is the partnership with Professor Phil Riley, formed by the Department of Education and coordinated under the TQF program. Principals will be surveyed and interviewed and also have opportunities to attend Focus Groups during Term 2 ...watch this space! An exciting tangible and real initiative supported at the highest level by our Minister and Dept to make a difference to the wellbeing of our Principals.

Evaluation Review Committee- the ongoing growth of our Special Schools has resulted in the ERC recommending the rebanding/upgrading of a number of Special Schools as from 01/01/2019.I have had the pleasure of informing some happy Principals personally to date. I will continue to contact those directly affected in early Term 2, if not before the end of the week... Once formally approved at ADGHR level, paperwork to each of you this applies to will be received early Term 2. A great outcome! However, QASEL will aim to develop with the D of E and QTU a position to address this unprecedented growth through the PPCR and EB9 moving forward.

Rural and Remote Stakeholders Reference Group- this work continues and QASEL is working directly with the Dept, the four rural and remote Centre's for Learning and Wellbeing (CLAWs), HR and the Council of ( University) Deans of Education to formulate a futures focused strategy to fill teacher and leader positions across the state into 2020 and beyond. Another watch this space!

Senior Assessment and Tertiary Entrance Principals Reference Group- this work continues and the decision has been made to do so into 2020 at this stage. I am proud to be able to 'ask the difficult questions' of Secondary Principal colleagues around our students living with disability in Years 11 and 12.

Too many others to detail here, Next update! Please contact me if any queries about any content

## FYI:

## RESEARCH:

### Research into mentoring practices in Special Schools

PhD candidate and Department of Education Deputy Principal Simone Coogan will this year be collecting data for her study on mentoring in special schools. Her three phase study involves surveying and then interviewing Special School Principals on how they build and sustain a culture of mentoring to develop their staff to meet their contextual needs. Since opening the Teacher Education Centre of Excellence in Special Education (TECESE) and serving as its inaugural Head of Mentoring, Simone has held an interest in mentoring practices in special education. Her Masters thesis examined the development of the formal mentoring program used within the TECESE. Her current study delves further into mentoring, investigating the process of mentoring, its purpose and impact, how principals build and sustain a mentoring culture, and what knowledge and understanding is considered unique within mentoring processes in special education. Simone is greatly looking forward to working with principals and ultimately giving voice to special school leaders through her research. She will also be facilitating a workshop at the upcoming QASEL Conference on what we know from the literature about mentoring in special education and how we can leverage known practices in our schools.

## It's Dangerous to be a boy

### QASELCON19

QASELCON19 PEOPLE PURPOSE PASSION 19-21 JUNE BRISBANE HILTON! The biggest professional learning event for 2019! Register now! The QASELCON19 committee is working hard to make this the biggest and best yet! Register now!

<http://www.cvent.com/events/qaselcon19/event-summary-b5643ecf7fe54099b9ce1b725cc16f04.aspx>

### Conference Update

The 2019 Conference planning is well underway with Keynotes Simon Dowling and Barry Carpenter locked in. The 2019 Conference is being supported by the Disability and Inclusion branch in the form of a subsidised registration for HOSSES and Deputy Principals Inclusion. This has seen the 2019 Registrations will exceed those of previous years. To date we have nearly 300 people attending each day.

It is anticipated the full program will be available early in Term 2. Nicole Finch has been collecting a number of EOI's to present and a small group from the committee will meet after the Easter vacation to determine the presentations for this year.

The Conference Dinner looks to be a fabulous evening with our usual 'Ric Day Tonight' segment and entertainment provided

by the band Hamilton, who performed at this year's Principals Conference.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the Conference.

**Andrew Thompson**  
**Conference Convenor**

## SCHOOLS UPDATES:

Thanks to Erin King Rockhampton Special School and her team for the following wonderful school news!



### Rockhampton Special School – Implementation of Languages 2019



This year, Rockhampton Special School has implemented Auslan as part of our Languages curriculum. One of our highly experienced teachers who has previously taught the subject at a different school, created a contextualised framework and has been working with a variety of students across the school to implement the program.

The goals for the program are to provide learners with the opportunities for engagement with the Deaf community and insight into its rich cultural heritage and an opportunity for students to develop intercultural capabilities, understanding and respect for others, appreciation of diversity and openness to different perspectives and experiences.

The program is delivered through the two learning sequences of the Australian Curriculum and the content is delivered through two interrelated strands: Communication and Understanding.

So far this year, we have seen great success with the program as students are making improvements with their communication through the use of Auslan and we have observed a marked increase in the informal interactions between many of our students.



Please remember ...this is the QASEL newsletter not the President's newsletter... Please don't hesitate to send in any contributions for upcoming editions of the QASEL newsletter next term and beyond!

Thank you again to those of you who have welcomed me to your schools and regions to date during Term 1 2019...

I will be undertaking visits planned for Term 2 before and after QASELCON19 and would welcome further invitations to your school so as to terms 2,3 and 4 2019! I cannot believe how swiftly this year has gone.

Thank you for your support again this term. I so enjoy working with you to ensure we have a voice in the education sphere!

Happy holidays! You deserve them!

**Warmest regards**  
**Roselynn Anderson**  
**President**  
**Queensland Association of Special Education Leaders**



## Items for Information

### Summer in the Forest Brisbane Premier

This might be of interest to those living in the South East part of the State

**L'Arche Brisbane invites you to a special Premier Q & A Screening of SUMMER IN THE FOREST Monday 13 May 2019 from 6.00pm- 8.30pm Cineplex Balmoral, 168 Oxford Street, Bulimba 4171**

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/summer-in-the-forest-premier-q-a-screening-presented-by-larche-brisbane-tickets-59305402054>

Described as "An extraordinarily tender documentary" (NY Times), the film will touch your heart deeply and remind you of what it truly means to be human. All are welcome, with complimentary drinks and nibbles provided from 6pm. The film

screening will commence by 6.45pm and be followed by a live Q & A, where you will be introduced to members of the Brisbane L'Arche community. Ticket sales at \$25 per head will support the ongoing work of L'Arche in Brisbane.

### International Congress on Education of the Deaf

This is the link to save the date information for the ICED OF Brisbane 2020

<https://2020iced.cmail20.com/t/ViewEmail/y/E8DFD07B0D77A>

### Photo Gallery



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## Schoolzine



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Schoolzine has been an industry leader in digital school communications for 12 years. They are dedicated to customer service, product development and understanding the school

landscape that keeps them at the top of the industry. Schoolzine's Parent Engagement Platform consists of 3 packages, an eNewsletter, Mobile App and Website offering. Purchased separately or together, they guarantee each package will make engaging with parents easy and even enjoyable for a school of any size. Schoolzine addresses the need for media-rich, interactive content that engages parents.