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## QASEL Newsletter Edition 4, 2021

### President's Update

#### State Council Meeting

Friday 5 March was the first state council meeting of the year, and my first as QASEL President. It was a busy and productive day, with members from across the state and sectors well represented either in the room or online. Below is a brief overview of the agenda and some of the work completed on the day.

#### Review of QASEL's Vision, Values and Strategic Plan

There was agreement from the group that there was a need to update our existing vision and values statements. Work commenced reviewing the previous documents and distilling the key concepts that will support our refreshed direction. Key themes to be expanded upon included: guidance and support, advocacy, collaboration, supporting professional learning, leadership development, networking, wellbeing and equity.

In the afternoon we mapped out some key activities to support this work such as supporting aspirants, regional based professional learning opportunities, mentoring programs, the development of briefs and position papers and reference groups / sub-committee structures to support consultation.

During term two, I hope to host a series of online workshops to share the progress of the draft vision and values statements and strategic plan as it evolves to ensure that all members have the opportunity to have a say about the work of the association. Keep an eye out in coming newsletters for more information.

#### Consultation

Our middle session was a busy one as we worked collaboratively to provide feedback to DoE on a range of possible policy and procedural changes and updates. Some of these related to recent integrity reforms, routine policy updates and curriculum, teaching and learning resources. Below is a full list of QASEL consultation activities this year to date.

#### Regional Reports

Each regional councillor delivered a regional report to state council about any local issues, trends, opportunities and QASEL activities. I would encourage all members to contact their regional councillor if they would like any information brought to the quarterly state council meeting. Attached is a full list of regional councillors and their contact details as well as the full executive and management team of QASEL.

Notably all state councillors reported how pleased they were to be welcoming so many new members in their area this year.

#### Stakeholder Groups, Portfolio Reports and Other Business

QASEL has strong representation across a range of stakeholder groups and provides valued input into a range of programs, initiatives and events. In the afternoon we had the opportunity to hear from some of our portfolio leaders as they reported on key activities including:

- The Disability Royal Commission
- QASEL conference updates
- Staff Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy
- QCAA K-10 Curriculum Committee
- Emerging Issues from the Principals Collaboration Day
- Resourcing and Leadership Structures





Executives, Management  
and Regional Councillors



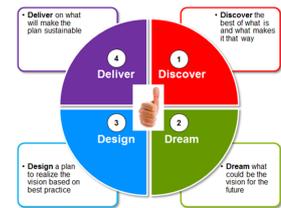
#### Discover

- What gives QASEL life?
- What does it look, sound and feeling when QASEL is at its best?

#### Dream

- What might QASEL be?
- With unlimited time and resources what could QASEL achieve?

#### Appreciative Inquiry Process



## Consultation Examples

One of QASEL's core functions is to provide advocacy for the special education sector. One of the ways we do this is by providing feedback to the department on new or changed policies, procedures, guidelines and resources. This year has been a particularly busy time and your QASEL executive, management and regional councillor teams have provided feedback on a range of issues including the following:

### Policy and Procedure: Integrity Reforms

- Conflict of Interest Policy, Procedure
- Purchasing and Procurement Policy and Procedure
- Sponsorship Policy and Procedure
- Fraud and Corruption Framework
- Recruitment and Selection Procedure
- Corporate Card Procedure
- Gifts and Benefits Policy and Procedure

### Policy and Procedure: Routine

- Records management procedure
- Guideline for obtaining and managing online services consent
- Individual employee grievance policy and procedure
- Behaviour management procedures
- International School Study Tours procedure

### Curriculum Teaching and Learning

- P-12 CARF for 2021
- Providing the Australian Curriculum from 2021
- CP in P-10
- Whole School Approach to Pedagogy
- Assessment in P-10
- Moderation processes in P-10
- Outlining reporting requirements and options across P-10
- Pathways to a successful future
- Senior education and training (SET) planning



## Hurry! Ending Soon -Term 1 New Member Special

There are only a few days left to take advantage of the current Term 1 membership special - join now and pay nothing until 1 July 2021. The deferred payment allows new members to take advantage of all QASEL has to offer without making payments until they receive their scheduled pay rise from 1 July. The special is available by **payroll deduction only for Term 1 only**.

If you know a potential new member please alert them to this opportunity. For more information please email our business manager –

[bm@gasel.org.au](mailto:bm@gasel.org.au) or forward them the three documents below  
Double click here to add content

Membership Application

Payroll Deduction Form

How to Join



### ASEPA

In my conversations around the state, I have noticed that not all members are aware that as a member of QASEL they are also, automatically a member of the Australian Special Education Principals Association (ASEPA).

Established in 1998, ASEPA is the peak national organisation representing school based special education principals and leaders in Australia. ASEPA parallels similar peak bodies such as the Australian Primary Principals Association and the Australian Secondary Principals Association. The unique patterns of education service delivery to students with disabilities and special educational needs requires ASEPA to represent special education

leaders across all sectors of schooling including early intervention, primary and secondary.

Each state and territory is represented. ASEPA is QASEL's national body and is represented through QASEL membership at the Board and National Council level.

In addition to your regular QASEL newsletter, members will receive a quarterly ASEPA newsletter. If you'd like to know more, I'd encourage you to check out the ASEPA website [asepa.edu.au](http://asepa.edu.au) . Attached to this newsletter is also a short summary of ASEPA's work from the national President and CEO Matthew Johnson.

[ASEPA Factsheet](#)

### Hummingbird House

I recently had the opportunity to visit Hummingbird House at Chermide and meet with Elham, (Family Support Manager) and Paul (Community Development worker). Hummingbird House is Queensland's only children's hospice. They provide short break stays, family support services, creative therapies, and care at the end of life, for children with life-limiting conditions and their families.

During our meeting we discussed ways that their team can connect with schools to work together and provide the best possible support to students and their families. I'd be very interested to hear from any principals or school leaders that have worked with the team at Hummingbird House before, to see if we can explore ways to strengthen the partnership.



### Welcome Charlie

Congratulations to Erin King (our North Queensland regional councillor) on the arrival of beautiful baby Charlie. Erin is currently on maternity leave but still staying closely connected to QASEL's work. I'm looking forward to meeting with her (and possibly Charlie) for a coffee when I visit Rockhampton later this week. (FYI – Charlie won't have coffee, just Erin and I)



## QASELcon21

**Building Collaboration, Confidence and Creativity.  
Wednesday 16 – Friday 18 June, Hilton Brisbane.**

**Registrations now open!**

**Register Now!**

### Spotlight on a Speaker

QASELcon21, *Building Collaboration, Confidence and Creativity*, is your opportunity to access high quality professional learning that supports your leadership development and the education of students with disability across Queensland.

Your fellow delegates are special education leaders and decision makers who like you value this annual opportunity to network, expand your professional learning and connect with new and not so new friends.

Our theme, *Building Collaboration, Confidence and Creativity* will be brought to life through the many keynote and concurrent sessions across three days.

Perhaps one of our most exciting and innovative presenters is Dr Simon Breakspear, a researcher, advisor and speaker on educational leadership, policy and change. He is a Research Fellow at the Gonski Institute at UNSW, where he leads the education data lab. Over the last decade his speaking and leadership development work has given him the opportunity to work with over 100,000 educators across 10 countries.



Simon develops frameworks and tools that make evidence-based ideas actionable and easy to understand. His Improvers Collective program enables school leadership teams across Australia to effectively implement for impact within their unique educational context. Simon's innovative approach to teacher professional learning, Teaching Sprints, is used by thousands of educators across the planet to enhance their expertise and engage with relevant research evidence.

*Building Collaboration, Confidence and Creativity*



Wednesday 16 – Friday 18 June

Hilton, Brisbane

**New and Returning Members**

On behalf of QASEL I'd like to welcome the following new and returning members;

- Aaron Morgan - Pine Rivers Special School
- Heidi Stanton-Cook - Bundaberg State High School
- Hannah Gutke - Withcott State School
- Shauna St George - Nursery Road State Special School
- Yu Ra Pak - Western Suburbs State Special School
- Michael Curtis - Mount Ommaney Special School
- Minna Berry - Kuluin State School
- Shan Braithwaite - Beenleigh Special School
- Katherine Eldridge- Beenleigh Special School
- Kali Harris- Goodna Special School

We look forward to linking, leading and learning with you.

## President's Diary

If you have any thoughts or feedback on any recent or upcoming events in the president's diary please don't hesitate to send me an email. Your feedback is always welcome.

### Meetings and events in recent weeks

- ICT Reference Group Meeting
- Hummingbird House Meeting
- ADG Education Improvement Branch Meeting
- Respectful Relationships Education Advisory Group
- QASEL State Council Meeting
- Headspace 2021 Education Stakeholder Roundtable
- DDG People and Executive Services – Combined Associations Meeting
- DDG State Schooling Quarterly Meeting

### Upcoming meetings and events

- Minister Grace Grace Quarterly Meeting
- ADG Finance and CFO
- Rockhampton to Brisbane Road Trip – Week 8
- QCE Principals Reference Group
- Director-General Quarterly Meeting
- Rural and Remote Stakeholders Reference Group Meeting
- ADG Infrastructure Service Branch – Combined Associations Meeting
- Digital Learning Project Board Meeting

## Other Messages

### Showcase Awards for Excellence in Schools

Nominate now for the Showcase Awards

Take your school's outstanding program or initiative to the next level. Submissions are open for the Showcase Awards for Excellence in Schools recognising dedicated teachers, principals, leadership teams and school communities that are making a significant difference for students. There are 10 award categories and \$314,000 worth of development grants available. All Queensland state schools are able to enter, with nominations closing 7 May 2021.

Find out more at [www.showcase.education.qld.gov.au](http://www.showcase.education.qld.gov.au)

