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## QASEL Newsletter Edition 6, 2021

### President's Update

#### Welcome to Term 2

I hope all members have had a relaxing Easter vacation. While term 1 didn't exactly end as we had all planned, Term 2 seems to have started as positively as we could have hoped for with schools open, and the general community at "COVID normal" in Queensland.

The first week of term has been a busy one. Day one kicked off with combined association presidents' meetings with Director-General Tony Cook and Deputy Director-General Shannon Cook. During these meetings we discussed:

- The Education General Provision Act
- Scheduling of Policy and Procedure changes for 2021
- School Bank Balances
- Term 1 Greater Brisbane Lockdown
- ACARA review
- Workplace Health and Safety
- Teaching Queensland's Future (TQF)
- Learning and Professional Development
- Support staff wellbeing through investigations
- Temporary to permanent conversions



I also had the opportunity to join the Education Improvement Branch (EIB) team for three days and work shadow the school review at Pimpama State School. Having worked as an internal reviewer in 2017, I was interested to see how the process has evolved and was particularly interested to see the lines of enquiry around inclusive education. My thanks to Anthony Palmer (EIB review chair) and Dave Hartley (Pimpama Principal) for making me feel so welcome.

Work shadowing a school review provides observers with deeper insights into the review process in Queensland and how the National School Improvement Tool can be used to support school improvement in a wide range of contexts. More information about review work shadowing is available on the attached fact sheet.

[EIB Fact Sheet](#)

#### New Gold Business Partner - QTU

I'm pleased to announce that the Queensland Teachers Union (QTU) have come onboard as a gold business partner for the next 12 months, including QASELcon21.

The QTU has been a long-term supporter of our conferences, and their increased and expanded support this year is greatly appreciated. If you know of a corporation or business that might be interested in being a business partner or conference sponsor please let us know.

#### Draft Strategic Plan 2021-2025

As members would be aware, DoE have recently invited your feedback to help shape the Department of Education Strategic Plan 2021-25.

The [Consultation Draft Strategic Plan 2021-25 \(PDF, 5.3MB\)](#) outlines how the department will achieve their vision for a great

future for every Queensland.

The views of staff, stakeholders and customers are essential to deliver the vision for Education, Industrial Relations and Racing. I encourage all members to have their say. See the link below for more details.

<https://qed.qld.gov.au/publications/strategies/strategic-plan/consultation>



## National Rugby League

The National Rugby League (NRL) are currently exploring ways to make rugby league more inclusive and accessible to all. The NRL sees increasing participation in physical activity as important to improve student emotional wellbeing, improve physical and mental health, enhance social skills, increase capacity for learning and potentially a reduction in anti-social behaviour.

The NRL has engaged Patrea Walton to research how an increase in participation of NRL activities such as League Tag, League Touch and Rugby League in QLD schools can occur for all students. I met with Patrea last week and she is keen to receive your feedback to inform this research and if you have time to answer a brief survey here is the link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ZF5SRVS>

The survey takes less than 2 minutes to complete and your help would be greatly appreciated.

## Headspace Meeting- Be You

Last week I had the opportunity to meet with Headspace about the Be You initiative. There are a number of our members' schools involved in this program and we discussed how we could make it most effective for our sector. If your school is already involved I'd love to hear from you about your experiences and reflections. Below is some additional information about the program for those not familiar with it.



*Is your school enjoying the benefits of being a Be You school? Over 1000 schools in Queensland have joined the Be You community and are currently accessing free accredited professional learning, tools and resources, and support from a Be You Consultant. By becoming a Be You school you can help ensure that your learning community is positive, inclusive and resilient. Be You can support your school in being a place where every student, educator and family can achieve their best possible mental health.*

To learn more and start your school's journey visit <https://beyou.edu.au> or call 0455 079 803 to be connected with the Be You Consultant for your school.

## Vale: Lescha Joseph Coory



It is with sadness that we share the news that Lescha Joseph Coory passed away peacefully on 26th March 2021, aged 90 years.

Lescha was a former president of the Queensland Special School Principal's Association, and principal of several special schools across Queensland. He is remembered by colleagues as a kind and caring professional who was not afraid to confront bureaucracy to ensure that the students in his care had every opportunity. He was an inspiration to many leaders that followed.

QASEL acknowledges his tremendous contribution to the field and sends it deepest sympathies to his family. Attached are some words of remembrance from both Lescha's family and colleagues who remember him. He was no doubt both a true professional and a real character of our field.

Memoriam- Lescha Joseph  
Coory

## South East Region State Councillor EOI

Calling members from the South East Region. A vacancy exists for a member in the South East Region to join QASEL's State Council as a regional rep.

We did not have a nomination for state council from the beginning of this year and Karen Collishaw and Simone Coogan (both members of management committee) have been kindly doubling up in the role. If you're interested or would simply like to know more, send me an email –[president@qasel.org.au](mailto:president@qasel.org.au) .



### ANZAC Day

On behalf of all QASEL members this ANZAC day, I acknowledge those who have passed in service to our nation and reflect on how that service and sacrifice has contributed to what and who we are as a nation today.

They shall grow not old,  
as we that are left grow old;  
Age shall not weary them,  
nor the years condemn.  
At the going down of the sun,  
and in the morning  
We will remember them.

## Sponsors and Business Partners

QASEL wishes to thank and acknowledge our Gold Business Partner



## 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 their 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.



Lorena Clayton is another one of the terrific high-quality speakers you can expect to learn from this conference. Lorena is a Registered Organisational Psychologist with more than 20 years of experience in, bringing "human" to Human Resources in Australia's most recognised businesses. With a passion for creating great workplace cultures and developing leadership capability, Lorena is a sought-after keynote speaker, facilitator and change agent. She works with a broad range of client industries ranging from education, retail, health services, travel, government and financial services, through to mining, engineering, construction and emergency services. Lorena fits the stereotype of the nerdy scientist by holding the dubious distinction of having watched Star Wars 17 times in one weekend. Sad but true.

## *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:

- Peta May - Oxenford State School
- Tracy Williams - Burpengary Meadows State School
- Caroline Kelly - Palmview State Primary School
- Elizabeth White - Chinchilla State School
- Wayne Wilkinson - Mount Ommaney Special School
- Aaron Sheppard - Pine Rivers Special School
- Kerry Tait - Narbethong 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**

- ARD Ways of Working, briefing for associations
- QASEL / QTU meeting
- Daily COVID teleconference updates
- Assistant Director-General State Schools – Performance discussion
- Gay Flynn, FNQ Regional Councillor, online catch up
- Director-General's – Term 2 meeting with association presidents
- Deputy Director-General, People and Executive Services – meeting with association presidents
- Headspace meeting
- School Review Pimpama State School – shadowing
- Strategic Directions Steering Committee
- School visits to Red Hill Special School, Sunnybank Special School

### **Upcoming meetings and events**

- School Transport Assistance meeting
- QCE System Principals' Reference Group (PRG)
- Principal Health & Wellbeing Stakeholder Group meeting
- SBS Credit and Usage Automation Implementation
- PEO – Inclusive Education, State Schools - Disability and Inclusion + EIB meeting
- School visits to Beenleigh Special School, Logan City Special School and Aspley Special School

## **Other Messages**

### **OneSchool Teaching and Learning Training Events**

Registrations are now open for OneSchool [Teaching and Learning](#) training events in Weeks 1-5, Term 2, 2021.

Events include:

- Academic reporting: Managing your Comment Bank
- Creating a Dashboard Cohort in OneSchool
- Creating a Marker Collection
- Creating a Personalised Learning Record
- Exploring Support Provisions
- Exploring the Literacy Continuum
- OneSchool basics for Instrumental Music teachers
- Recording Behaviour in OneSchool
- Reporting on Instrumental Music
- Setting up an Academic Reporting Period
- Tour the Class Dashboard
- Using Excursion Planner in OneSchool
- Utilising Class Groupings and Student Notes

In addition, we're pleased to offer a range of training offerings and self-directed learning resources for 2021.

- Visit the [I&TB Training Services and Resources website](#)\* to find training videos, recorded web conferences, links to help material, supporting resources and links to relevant policy and procedure.
- **Custom training sessions** upon request - please email the [OneSchool Training team](#) for further information.

All web conference sessions will be recorded. If you register for a web conference, a link to it is added to '[My Learning Space - OneChannel - My Programs](#)'. This gives you quick access to all session recordings to view at your convenience.

For information about all OneSchool training, please [visit the Training Services and Resources website](#)\*.

\*NB: This site requires an MIS account to access. MIS accounts can be requested and approved through [iRegister](#).

## **ASEPA News**

### **Update from the Australian Special Education Principals' Association (ASEPA) and The Coalition of Australian School Principal Associations 'CAP: National & State Associations Launch**

It is with great pleasure that we take this opportunity to introduce you to a new initiative that's been in development for some time, it's called 'Broadcast'.

Broadcast is a digital platform that's been developed exclusively for the newly formed coalition of Australian School Principal Associations 'CAP' and their members. **ASEPA is a proud foundation member of CAP.** Principal Health and Wellbeing is a key priority for ASEPA and this CAP initiative directly supports this.

The aim of Broadcast is to provide school leaders with a united community approach towards personal health and wellbeing, deeper community dialogue and new levels of research across current day issues.

With the complexity of issues and demands faced by school leaders today, a greater emphasis needs to be placed on both understanding needs and providing meaningful support.

We encourage you to register today for this valuable new resource, it's free and simple to join.

Visit here

<https://broadcast.schooltv.me>

*Broadcast will publish and discuss ongoing health related articles, specialist interviews and multiple resources. An annual Survey Series will allow participation and shared results and will complement The Australian Principal Occupational Health, Safety and Wellbeing Study (Prof Phil Riley, Sioau-Mai See, Herb Marsh and Theresa Dicke).*

## **Parent and Community Code of Conduct**

The highly anticipated [Parent and Community Code of Conduct](#) is now available (on OnePortal) for consideration and use by all Queensland state schools.

The Code, which is optional for schools, outlines how parents, carers and visitors should conduct themselves while they're on school grounds, at school activities, and interacting with others in the school community. More than 200 school-based staff have contributed to its development.

Schools are being given time to consider and discuss with their communities how the Code might be used to suit local needs, prior to it being made publicly available on the Department of Education's website.

It supports the department's [Principal Health and Wellbeing Strategy](#) and contributes to schools being safe and respectful workplaces.

To support implementation of the Code, a *Guide for Queensland state schools: Promoting respectful conduct by parents and visitors, and managing difficult or unsafe situations*, has also been developed.

Visit [OnePortal](#) for further information and supporting resources.



## Education Improvement Branch:

### New education insights: learning together to build teaching mastery

The Education Improvement Branch's latest insights paper is now available.

[Learning together to build teaching mastery](#), draws on analysis of recent school reviews and highlights the importance of nurturing a collaborative learning culture for staff to build expertise, and maximise student learning outcomes.

The paper unpacks strategies that schools can consider in supporting collegial engagement, including:

- cultivating a professional learning culture
- collaboratively planning professional learning opportunities
- engaging in classroom coaching and feedback.

A short video outlining the key messages is also available [here](#).

The seventh in a series of reports, this research aims to equip schools with practical considerations to inform school practice and improvement.

## Headspace Training Sessions Available

DoE has facilitated the organisation of several headspace Principal Coaching and Support Service training sessions to be held via Teams (online) during Term 2. School leaders who would like to participate can register through the Eventbrite links in the flyer attached.

Headspace Training Flyer

## Principal Hotline & Principal Complex Matters Referral Team

The department's *Principal Hotline & Principal Complex Matters Referral Team (PCMRT) pilots* have reopened for service to principals within the Darling Downs South West and North Coast for an extended period throughout Term 2.

Principals from DDSW and NC are able to access the services between 7am–5pm, Monday to Friday via direct call on **1800 313 042** or by sending an email to [PrincipalComplexMatter@ged.qld.gov.au](mailto:PrincipalComplexMatter@ged.qld.gov.au).

Principals and Regional Office Staff have engaged with the pilot for support with matters such as:

- general policy, such as access and support
- Family Law Court matters
- enrolment and absenteeism issues
- conflict resolution and mediation support.

The team have developed a comprehensive subject matter expert database ensuring that enquiries are submitted to the most qualified person to provide the best response.

Increasingly, principals are contacting the Principal Hotline to engage the services of the expert Dispute Mediator, Peter Johnstone, for early intervention in developing strategies for managing difficult clients, conflict resolution and mediation support. To further enhance support and training in this area, a series of professional development sessions for school leaders will also be offered throughout Term 2.

To stay up-to-date with the latest news about the pilots and the broader Principal Health and Wellbeing Strategy, [subscribe now](#) to the principal e-newsletter or visit [OnePortal](#) for more information.

