

ORANA CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

BOARD CHAIR REPORT

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

25TH NOVEMBER 2020

Good evening parents, teachers and other attendees of our Orana school community. I would like to welcome and thank you all for attending the 2020 Annual General Meeting. With the Orana school community's valuable time and input, we can continue to help progress and shape the direction of our school, which is so important to our children's education and wellbeing.

Every year brings with it new rewards and challenges. 2020 brought with it one of our most challenging yet with Covid-19. The impact both personally and as a community has required our daily lives and routines to change. The efforts of both our teachers and students have been nothing other than amazing. We thank the unbelievable efforts of parents in the face of any financial hardship they have faced to continue to support our school and community here at Orana.

In 2021 the Board will continue to focus on what we consider important to our children and school community as a whole. The economy will continue to impact our families and will continue to drive a lot of board decisions. We are always very mindful of the many different circumstances families find themselves in. In addition to the Board's input into the general financial direction of Orana, in particular in 2020 and going forward into 2021 the Board initiatives include:

- The installation of Apple TVs in all classrooms
- The approval for 2021 of Soft Form playground flooring in the Early Years area, improving student safety, improving the ability to play in this space, and improving the general aesthetics
- The approval for 2021 of new flooring in the Kindy rooms
- We will also see through the fifth and final year in 2021 of the property maintenance and painting maintenance contracts

Catholic Education in Western Australia has been incorporated since 1st January 2020. The new company registered as Catholic Education Western Australia Limited (CEWA Ltd) has required changes to how our school and Board function. The School Board continues to play an important role for Orana and in CEWA Ltd in 2021 and beyond. This role is still being fully determined as CEWA Ltd reviews and updates its governance. Current examples of this are:

- that the School Board now becomes the School Advisory Council from 1st January 2021.
- This Council going forward will now endorse school decisions before final approval is made by CEWA Ltd.

I would like to take the time to thank all our teachers and education assistants with their tireless efforts in teaching, guiding and nurturing our beautiful children. Thank you to all support staff in ensuring that our school continues to operate successfully. Thank you to Anne Fissioli our Finance Officer for her constant care for the financial wellbeing of our school, and close interaction with the Finance Committee and the Board.

This year in particular we farewell Emma Bell who goes to Mary's Mount Primary School with our best wishes. Thank you for everything you have done for everyone at Orana over the years. You will be deeply missed.

I would also like to thank my fellow members of the School Board for their efforts and support in 2020. We are losing 2 of our valued board members for 2021 Jeremy Petersen and Paul Coghlan. Thank you for all your inspiration and help during your time on the Board.

In conclusion, our Orana community brings with it many talents, invaluable experience and insight. This helps makes Orana the wonderful place that it is. I encourage everyone to consider for next year and beyond, what skills they could bring to our Board and school community. Our school is richer for your involvement.

Andrew Counsel
Board Chair