

With a relatively new board, we commenced the year with the goal of establishing a good understanding of the School budget and our responsibilities. The accrual finance system used by the school, was new to many of us and I thank Lorraine for her patience with our many questions.

With a deficit budget in place for 2019, we have had to manage our expenditure very carefully, to ensure we could maintain our wholesome learning environment. We managed this by ensuring the expenditure decisions, under our control, were informed decisions. Although another deficit budget has had to be adopted for 2020, we have this year reviewed our Fee Collection policy, our future predicted enrolment data, and completed our own Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats analysis of the school. The board also moved to analyse our per capita expenditure in the first quarter of 2020, and review the structure in which the monthly finance reporting is presented to the board. This, demonstrates that the Board is focused in ensuring we are in an informed position to make the financial decision that we need to.

The Board is also entrusted with the duty of planning, to meet the present and future needs of the students. This year, in planning for the future, preliminary drawings for our School Capital Development plan were reviewed, along with the modification of our 12 month and 10-year Building and Maintenance plan. This planning assists us to determine items that need to be replaced now and those needing to be included into the future budget. Our Concept drawings for future development allows the school to be ready to source funding when and if made available.

The school canteen nears the end of its first year with a School Appointed Canteen Co-ordinator. The Board reviewed this position at the last meeting and has agreed to fund it for a further 12 months. This position, along with its processes will continue to be evaluated each year to ensure this service meets the needs of our school community.

At St Marys we are extremely lucky to have such wonderful teaching staff, who each year go beyond the call to ensure our children are supported. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our wonderful teaching, support, administration, gardening and canteen staff for their hard work. I would also like to thank Adriana and her Leadership team for their contribution in leading the staff and for their guidance at our Board meetings.

We have been privileged once again to have a very active and dedicated P&F. With no exception this year, President Meg Gethin and her committee have worked hard to provide fundraising events to fund valuable resources for our school. The P&F events continue to reinforce our strong school community, as does the many volunteers that donate many hours to assist our school. We thank you all for your contribution and look forward to your ongoing support in 2020.

We are also very grateful for the contributions that Father Andrew has provided to the Board, school and community this year. We welcome Father Andrew's hands-on approach. I am not sure if everyone noticed, but it was Father on his hands and knees pulling out sprinklers on the oval a few months back, so thank you father for your involvement at the school.

The school board connected with the school community this year with a focus on board representatives attending a variety of celebrations the school hosted. Thank you to Secretary

Melissa Davis, Treasurer Melinda Carr, Brad Anderson, Vanessa McGinnis, Wade Roberts, Daina Sutherland and John Jefferys for your time and contribution, not only at our meetings, but for ensuring the Board was represented at these school events.

Lastly to our students of the Year 6 graduating class, staff, parents, families and board members that are leaving the St Marys community this year. St Mary's is a wonderful school that we can all be proud of and I thank you for the part you have played in that.