

With 2020 being an extremely difficult and disruptive year I think it is appropriate to start the Board report, acknowledging our teaching, support, administration, gardening and canteen staff for their work this year. Adriana along with her leadership team and staff, have been extremely positive, embracing the many changes COVID has and continues to bring to the school community this year. In these difficult times our school values have shone through our staff which have contributed to making our school environment a place our children have felt safe throughout these unsettled times.

The board has continued to oversee the financial management of the school through thorough reporting and evaluation each month. Thank you to Board Treasurer Melinda Carr and School Administrator Lorraine Ryan, for their time in preparing these reports and answering questions. The Board has endorsed the 2021 Annual operating and Capital budgets, which will be presented later in the meeting. Although delayed until term 4, the board also implemented an additional payment option of 'Quickcliq' into the school. This initiative moves our school with the times of cashless payments, in services such as the canteen and uniform shop.

The school canteen operations were reviewed in August and the Board approved an additional 12 months of operating. I take this opportunity to thank our canteen staff and volunteers who continue to assist us to provide this service to the school.

A new Strategic Plan has been endorsed by the board. The Board engaged Caroline Robinson, from the Wheatbelt Business Network, who was instrumental with the engagement of the staff, Board and P&F, throughout the strategic planning process.

Following the Boards Strategic planning session, governance priorities were identified, and the Board has undertaken further education and training on its role in Financial Management, Policy Formulation, Public relations and planning and development. The Board has also been upskilled in a new Delegation of Authority that will be introduced into the School from 2021.

I am confident that Board members now have a good understanding of their role in monitoring, evaluating, and advising the school and look forward to working with our new Strategic Plan, which will guide the future planning for St Mary's.

Thank you to all my fellow Board members for your enthusiasm and at times vigorous conversations. Our board members give their time freely to support the school and I thank them for their commitment. A special thankyou to Wade Roberts and Melissa Davis who finish their terms and Brad Atkinson and Jason Wahlsten who will both withdraw from their positions on the Board at the conclusion of this AGM.

The board also acknowledges their relationships with the Parish and P&F, with positive representation and input from both, in our Board meetings conversations. Thank you to all involved in these important organisations, and to John Jefferys and Daina Sutherland for representing them on our board this year. Thankyou also to Father Andrew for his guidance at our school board meetings.

I again thank all staff and the school community for the year. A special mention to those staff, students and families that are leaving St Marys. Thank you for the part you have played in making St Mary's, a school that we can all be proud of.