

with vision and spirit



Summer Newsletter 2012

Trade Training Showcased	02
Archbishop Coleridge Visit	03
Year 7 Funding Approved	03
Spirit of Catholic Education Award	04



Mike Byrne Executive Director
Queensland Catholic Education Commission

From the Executive Director...

2012 has been another busy year for QCEC particularly with the change of government at State level and the ongoing review of school funding being carried out by the Federal government.

QCEC continues to build strong working relationships with the State government and our new Minister John-Paul Langbroek and his Department following the election in March.

In collaboration with the NCEC, we are also engaging closely with the Gillard Government's National Plan for School Improvement proposal, and in particular the development of a new national school funding model. Minister Peter Garrett says he aims to have legislation for the first part of the school improvement plan in place by the end of this year with further detailed legislation in March next year.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank colleagues, principals and parent leaders who continue to advocate for Catholic education at all levels. It is critical that political representatives understand the contribution our schools make to Queensland communities and the resourcing needs they have. Your ongoing work in telling these stories is vital.

I trust 2012 has been a safe and successful year for you. On behalf of my fellow Commission members I offer best wishes for a happy and holy festive season ahead.

Mike Byrne
QCEC Executive Director

Employees Vote on Enterprise Bargaining Agreement

Proposed new Enterprise Bargaining Agreements that include a 2.7% per annum wage increase over the next three years will be put to a ballot of employees in Queensland's Diocesan and Religious Institute Catholic schools on 22 and 23 November.

Queensland Catholic Education Commission Executive Director Mike Byrne says the negotiated wage and non-wage items represented a good package for staff.

"Catholic school employers believe the package is fair and responsible in the current economic climate," he said.

"The wages outcome is also comparable to the state school sector."

Mr Byrne said the proposed agreements follow seven months of negotiations with the Union which were 'robust but carried out in good faith'.

He said all employees will have an opportunity to be informed of the content of the proposed agreements prior to the ballot.

Mr Byrne said the payment of the wage increase will be made from the first full pay period after the receipt of results from a ballot of employees where the majority of those who voted approve the proposed agreements.

Two separate ballot processes will be undertaken, one for the Diocesan schools Agreement and one for the Religious Institute schools Agreement.

There are 292 Catholic schools in Queensland employing more than 17,000 teachers and staff.

The key outcomes of the proposed agreements include:

- 2.7% p/a wage increase (or \$23 per week whichever is higher) over three years

- Back pay to 1 May 2012 (School officers, Services staff, Nurses) or 1 July (Teachers)
- Change to planning, preparation and correction time in primary schools
- Enhancement to job share ratio
- Half pay paid parental leave
- Domestic violence leave - 5 additional days
- Improved flexibility to accessing Long Service Leave
- Cash out of Long Service Leave
- Increase to casual loading from 23% to 25%
- Enhancement to some school officer allowances
- Enhanced severance payments
- Agreement to a new Middle Leadership Structure
- Enhanced rural and remote conditions
- Review of school counsellor/Guidance counsellor positions
- Review of boarding house conditions
- Introduction of a deferred salary scheme
- Enhancements to annualisation of salary provisions.

eb7 Catholic Education
Enterprise Bargaining 2012
For the common good

St Edmund's College Ipswich Showcases School-Based Trade Training

State Assistant Minister for Technical and Further Education Saxon Rice saw the benefits of school-based trade training first hand when she joined QCEC Executive Director Mike Byrne for a visit to St Edmund's College in Ipswich on Wednesday 24 October.

The Assistant Minister toured the College's impressive Trade Training Centre (TTC) opened in 2010 as part of a cluster arrangement with the Ipswich Grammar schools.

College Principal Brendan Lawler and Heads of Department Angela Fergus (Senior Studies) and Joe Gurdon (Industrial Technology and Design) joined with students of St Edmund's to showcase the facilities and speak with the Assistant Minister.

The TTC provides Vocational Education and Training (VET) programs for 277 students in Years 10-12 and a total of 287 students are enrolled in Trade Training programs across Auto (77), Engineering (97) and Construction (113).

QCEC Executive Director Mike Byrne said the Trade Training Centre program was highly valued within Catholic education.

"We believe it is vital that schools are well equipped to provide trade training and vocational education opportunities," he said.

"These facilities and programs support choice in schooling for students undertaking trade related pathways.

"Students are provided with industry standard opportunities in their trade of choice while still benefiting from the broader learning environment of the Catholic school including its faith and values, pastoral care, personal development, leadership and extra-curricula opportunities."

Mr Byrne said Ms Rice had been appreciative of the opportunity to experience a Trade Training Centre in operation as she continues to learn about her new portfolio.

"I sincerely thank Brendan Lawler and the St Edmund's College community for facilitating this important opportunity," he said.



QCEC Executive Director Mike Byrne, State Assistant Minister for Technical and Further Education Saxon Rice, St Edmund's College Principal Brendan Lawler with students



St Edmund's College State of the Art Trade Training Centre

Extra \$400 million for Trade Training Centres Nationally

On 25 October the Federal Government announced that an extra \$400 million will be made available for Trade Training Centres (TTCs) in schools in Round Five of the national program.

Round Five will be split into two phases of \$200 million. Phase 1 will open on November 30, 2012 and Phase 2 will open in August 2013.

The top five areas of enrolment in TTCs nationally for 2011 were:

- Mechanical and industrial engineering and technology
- Food and hospitality
- Building
- Automotive engineering and technology
- Agriculture

Senator Jacinta Collins discusses Gonski Review with Catholic Sector Leaders



Senator Jacinta Collins (right) with Carmel Nash Executive Director, Federation of Parents and Friends Associations, David Hutton Executive Director, Brisbane Catholic Education and Mike Byrne, QCEC Executive Director

Federal Parliamentary Secretary for School Education and Workplace Relations Senator Jacinta Collins visited Queensland on 7/8 November for a series of meetings and school visits aimed at identifying key Catholic sector concerns around Federal funding and policy issues.

Senator Collins met with Most Reverend Mark Coleridge, Archbishop of Brisbane, Mike Byrne, QCEC Executive Director, David Hutton, Executive Director, Brisbane Catholic Education and Carmel Nash, Executive Director, Federation of Parents and Friends Associations particularly to discuss the direction of the government review of school funding.

The Senator also visited St James College, Spring Hill, St Mark's school, Inala and St Michael's school, Palm Island and met with staff of the Townsville Catholic Education Office during her two day visit.

Archbishop Coleridge Meets with QCEC

Archbishop Mark Coleridge met with the Queensland Catholic Education Commission for the first time on 23 October.

The Archbishop engaged in discussion on a number of issues currently on the State and Federal education agendas and was presented with a crucifix by QCEC Chair Professor Peter Sheehan, to commemorate his installation as Archbishop of Brisbane.

"I was a teacher before I was a Bishop and I have always felt comfortable in schools and among educators," Archbishop Coleridge told Commission members.

"The wisdom of this group is fundamental to the ongoing success of the wonderful enterprise that is Catholic education.

"The efficient administration of the system is important, but the role of the Commission is also to 'see more'.

"Our Catholic schools are a unique achievement and present a wonderful opportunity to reach out to those who are not part of the community of faith.

"I thank you for this gift and I will display it in my new office in the Francis Rush Centre. I will keep QCEC in my prayers whenever I look at it," Archbishop Coleridge said.

QCEC Executive Director Mike Byrne said Commission members were delighted that the Archbishop was able to join them.

"We look forward to Archbishop Coleridge's ongoing leadership, support and advice," he said.



Archbishop Mark Coleridge, QCEC Deputy Chair Dr Lee-Anne Perry, QCEC Executive Director Mike Byrne, QCEC Chair Professor Peter Sheehan with the crucifix presented to the Archbishop



From left: Archbishop Mark Coleridge, QCEC Chair Professor Peter Sheehan, Rockhampton Diocesan Director of Catholic Education Leesa Jeffcoat, Rockhampton Diocesan Education Councillor Coral Way, Cairns Diocesan Director of Catholic Education Br Paul Hough

Minister Approves Funding for Round 1 of Catholic Sector Year 7 Building Program

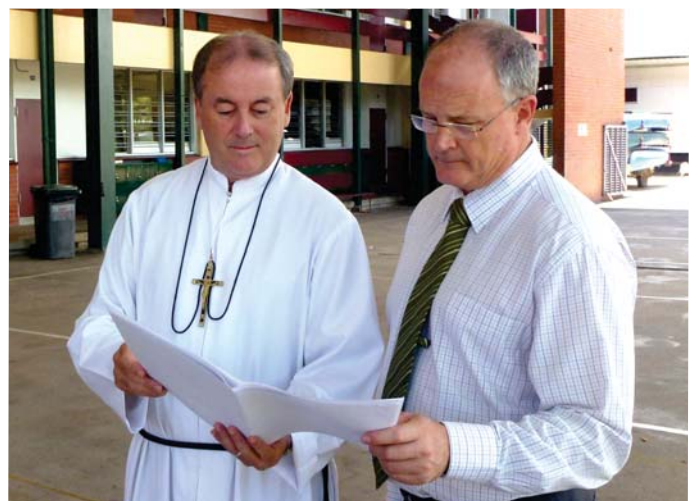
Building projects to accommodate Year 7 in secondary schools from 2015 are set to commence in 15 Catholic secondary Colleges over the coming months following approval of Round 1 of the Queensland Government's Flying Start Capital Assistance Scheme. Minister for Education Training and Employment John-Paul Langbroek wrote to the 15 College principals confirming a total of \$26million in grants in September.

The 15 Catholic Colleges to receive the Round 1 funding are:

- St Stephen's Catholic College, Mareeba
- Emmaus College, Rockhampton
- Assumption College, Warwick
- Marymount College, Burleigh Waters
- St Ursula's College, Toowoomba
- Ignatius Park College, Townsville
- Gilroy Santa Maria College, Ingham
- Shalom College, Bundaberg
- Our Lady's College, Annerley
- Mount Alvernia College, Kedron
- The Cathedral College, Rockhampton
- Padua College, Kedron
- Mt St Michael's College, Ashgrove

- St Augustine's College, Cairns
- Lourdes Hill College, Hawthorne

A further 40 Catholic Colleges have applied for funding in Round two of the program in November 2012 with the remaining 30 Colleges eligible to apply for funding in Round 3 in May 2013.



St Augustine's College, Cairns Principal Br Bill Sullivan with Deputy Principal (Academic) John Doolan look over the plans for buildings to accommodate Year 7 from 2015

Art Competition to Mark 50th Anniversary of CRAqld

2013 marks the 50th anniversary of Catholic Religious Australia, Queensland (CRAqld). To help mark the celebrations, CRAqld is inviting Senior Students (Years 10, 11 and 12) in Catholic schools around Queensland to participate in an Art Competition.

CRAqld is requesting expressions of interest be sent to craql@bigpond.com by Friday 16 November.

CRAqld is made up of a committed group of representatives of the 49 religious congregations based in Queensland. CRAqld members work together to provide service in areas such as social justice, education, governance, health, community outreach and parish/diocesan ministries.

For more information about the art competition please visit <http://www.qcec.catholic.edu.au/competitions>

Spirit of Catholic Education Award Presented in Emerald



Spirit of Catholic Education Award recipient Sophie Basford with students from Marist College Emerald

QCEC Executive Director Mike Byrne visited Emerald on 30 October to present a 2012 Spirit of Catholic Education Award to Sophie Basford from Marist College.

Sophie received the award for leading the College's Science Department in an exemplary manner with 'energy, optimism and always striving for excellence' since 2005. She had been unable to attend the official presentation ceremony in Brisbane during Catholic Education Week in July.

While in Emerald, Mr Byrne inspected the site of Emerald's new Catholic school St Brigid's that is planned to open in 2015. He also met with Marist College Principal Marie Martin, St Patrick's School Principal Max Martin and their student leaders, Diocese of Rockhampton Assistant to the Director Schools (Western Region) Ross Jones, Parish Priest Father Stephen Hanly and Emerald Deputy Mayor Councillor Paul Bell.



From left: Ross Jones, Diocese of Rockhampton Assistant to the Director, Western Schools, Marist College Principal Marie Martin, Sophie Basford, QCEC Executive Director Mike Byrne, College Board representative Jim Brennan and Emerald Parish Priest Fr Stephen Hanly

DATE CLAIMER

**CATHOLIC
EDUCATION WEEK**

21-27 JULY 2013

The theme for the celebrations is

***Making a difference
...inspired by Jesus***

From the Editor

Many thanks to all who contributed to this edition of "With Vision and Spirit". Please forward any suggestions and/or feedback to:

Gerard Delaney

gerardd@qcec.catholic.edu.au

Queensland Catholic Education Commission

GPO Box 2441 Brisbane 4001

Ph: (07) 3336 9350 Fax: (07) 3229 0907



www.qcec.catholic.edu.au