



MEL MARIA
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Catholic School Advisory Council ACM 2022



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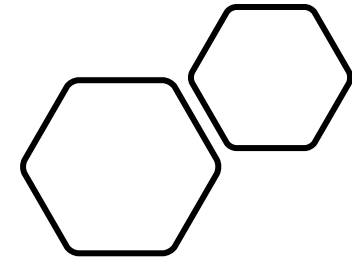
2022 School Advisory Council

Chair Report

Mr Campbell Brown

CATHOLIC SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL

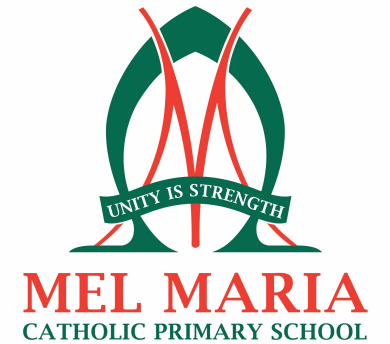
TERMS OF REFERENCE



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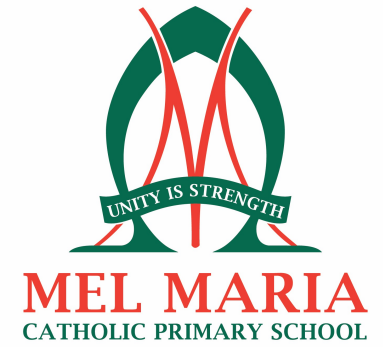


Authority:

CECWA has established Advisory Councils to provide a local and contextual advisory function for all Principals, enabling the skills and expertise of Catholic school communities to be included within school decision-making processes.

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Function:

The Advisory Council is established to support the Principal to fulfil their responsibilities in leading the Catholic Identity, Education, Community and Stewardship functions of the Catholic School in pursuit of CEWA's vision to be Christ-centred and child-focused.

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The Advisory Council must carry out the following functions:

- (a) support planning for the present and future operation of the Catholic school;
- (b) provide membership, at the Principal's request, on selection panels for the employment of staff to the Catholic School in accordance with the relevant CECWA Policies and Executive Directives;
- (c) provide membership on the panel that recommends the appointment of a principal in accordance with the relevant CECWA Policy and Executive Directives;

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- d) in consultation with the Principal, communicate about the Catholic School and about Catholic education to persons and organisations in the School Community;
- (e) endorse the Catholic School's annual budget before submission to CECWA for approval; and
- (f) advise the Principal on school financial matters such as performance against budget, sustainability, and capital and recurrent planning

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Advisory Council membership conditions are:

- (a) a commitment and desire to promote Catholic education and give service to the Catholic School Community;
- (b) a commitment to the safety, wellbeing and pastoral care of all students and staff;
- (c) an ability to work cooperatively and constructively with the Principal, school leadership team and all other members of the Advisory Council;
- (d) the possession of skills, competencies and experience that are reflective of, relevant and beneficial to the Catholic School Community; and(e) a sufficiency of time to devote to Advisory Council duties

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- In collaboration with CEWA, implemented a financial framework to support the viability of the School
- Transitional phase. Minor capital works (\$2M) scheduled for 2023
- Projected budget deficit in 2023, driven by significant increase in employee benefits
- School fees to remain unchanged
- 2.5% decrease in State funding, 13% increase in Federal funding
- Maintain consistent number of teachers and education assistants – to assist in delivery of high quality, integrated learning programs for students and support for families
- Fee collection rate - on target to have collection rate greater than 90% for 2022 fees

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LOOKING FORWARD

The 2023 budget recognises the transitional stage of implementing longer term strategies.

2023 Financial Strategies:

- Increase enrolments
- Continual improvement in fee collection
- Equity and improved stewardship over curriculum spend
- Reduction in IT leasing and maintenance costs
- Review of significant contracts
- Minor capital development commencing on both campuses



22 November 2022

To the Mel Maria Catholic Primary School Community

On 24 August Principal Paul Hille, with the full support of Catholic Education Western Australia Limited (CEWA), announced a long-term plan for Mel Maria Catholic Primary School that will see the Pater Noster Campus becoming an Early Childhood Campus and St Joseph's Pignatelli Campus being established as a specialised Middle to Upper Years campus.

At the community evening and in subsequent communications, parents were advised that the transition to the new model for the school would commence in 2024, and that further engagement with the school community would be essential to ensure the practical and operational needs of families were addressed for the model to come into effect.

Over the weeks that followed parent workshops facilitated for CEWA by Imageseven allowed the voice of the school community to be impartially captured and honoured. I thank parents who participated in these sessions for providing valuable feedback and information, as well as for sharing your concerns about the practicalities for your families.

While the majority of families are excited and supportive of the new model, CEWA and the school's leadership team recognise that the announcement was met with disappointment by some in the school community.



In listening to the school community, we are particularly aware that the pace of change will be problematic for some families, and that some parents would prefer more time to learn about the model and understand how it will benefit their children.

Consequently, Mr Hille and his leadership team have worked closely with CEWA to consider how these concerns can be addressed, while ensuring that the wellbeing and learning of students remains at the centre of all decisions.

While there are some implications of the decision that will be addressed in the short term, I write to advise that CEWA's Executive and the leadership team of Mel Maria Catholic Primary School have determined that the introduction of the new model will be delayed until the start of the 2025 school year.

The revised timeline will provide opportunities for parents to participate in information sessions and allow further engagement about the practical and operational needs of families that need to be considered from 2025.

Should the delay have implications for your family, I encourage you to contact the school leadership team directly to discuss your concerns.



CATHOLIC EDUCATION
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CATHOLIC EDUCATION

I wish to assure you that CEWA remains fully committed to supporting the Mel Maria Catholic Primary School community through this time of transition, and to ensuring that the school continues to provide an engaging Christ-centred and child-focused learning environment where all students can be supported to discover their potential.

Yours sincerely

Dr Debra Sayce
Executive Director

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