

School Board Report

The year started with the school welcoming Jonnine to our community and we all started the transition that is inevitable with a new person at the helm. It has been said to me by another principal that it takes a good three years for a school community to really settle into the pace and style of a new principal. Jonnine has brought a new energy to the school and as we come to the end of the school year I would hope that Jonnine has felt welcomed by us all.

And for Jonnine, the year started with a flurry because of a dodgy roof that required some significant rectification. The staff and students again showed their powers of adaptation by coping with the restricted playground and varied classroom arrangements. The new roof not only impacted the school at an operational level but has also given some extra considerations for our capital development planning as the cost of the roof was substantial.

The Board have methodically worked through the process of capital development planning and all being well; the results of the planning will be evident in the coming year.

The changing of the guard within the Board has continued this year... in addition to the four Board members who left last year, Kerrie Pace left us at the beginning of the year due to other commitments and I have come to the end of my six years on the Board and as such will be relieved of my duties in around 10 minutes or so.

Kerrie came onto the Board at the beginning of 2010 and in her time on the Board has always been a fantastic contributor in all aspects. Her thoughtful contribution, humour and down-to-earth approach were always appreciated.

While the Board is relatively young in its membership, there is no doubt that we are all blessed to have a talented group to help guide the school in the future and what is a new era. It seems everyone is busy these days and it makes the commitment shown by the Board and other parent groups and volunteers within the school all the more appreciated. That said, it is, in my opinion, really important that parents are continued to be called on for meaningful participation in many different aspects of the school – it's sometimes easier, more efficient and more controllable for everyone to bypass parent involvement, but it is really powerful when there is genuine community engagement.

For me, the last six years on the Board have been really enjoyable and I've appreciated the opportunity to be able to participate and contribute to the development of the school. It has also

been a time of development for me personally and as people would know it resulted in the creation of the nature playspace business – which would not have happened if I had not been in engaged in such a meaningful way in the development of the school, through my involvement with the Board.