

LESER NETWORKS

For Principals of Colleges and Schools,
Directors of Kindergartens & Early Childhood Centres
LESER Office Hours 8.30am – 4.30pm



Lutheran Education
South Eastern Region

NEW SOUTH WALES
TASMANIA
VICTORIA

06 March 2014
No. 04

*LESER Networks is distributed fortnightly
Please ensure that all staff and school councillors receive this communication*

Nine years ago I returned to Victoria, having just been elected Bishop of the District (or 'President' as it was called back then). One of the real joys I soon experienced was travelling to places and people I remember as a kid growing up on a Wimmera farm. Most happy of all has been visiting Dimboola – its congregation and school which was my church home until I left for college.

St Peter's Lutheran School is featured in this edition of Networks. It's still a small school – what else can you expect in a small town like Dimboola – but it still does a vital job. Young people from farms and small towns need good education in the context of the Christian faith and teaching as much as those in big cities. Every child is precious in God's sight, and he certainly wants them all to grow and mature in knowledge, skill, character and above all, Christian faith. *Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord*, Paul writes in Ephesians 6:4.

The church provides schools to help parents with this responsibility, and we're very glad to be able to do this. Lutherans in particular focus on schools as our main service to the community. That's not accidental because God makes himself known to us in words – words telling of his action with his people in history, words which lay out how he has put the world together for our blessing, words which call us to that way and which warn about straying from it, and words which tell us of the Saviour he has provided because of our sin and which forgive us and bring us into his holy family and future. Lutherans have always focused on bringing up each generation to take in these words with appreciation and faith for themselves – not just depending on parents or the church. *Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path*, the Psalmist sings in praise in Psalm 119:106.

Maybe I didn't appreciate it as much as I should have at the time, but I certainly thank God now for my formation at St Peter's congregation and school. Thank you for what you do in your vocation in education. You are serving God's good purposes.

Heavenly Father, give our students the knowledge and wisdom they need for healthy life and service to others. And above all give them knowledge of you in their heads and faith in you in their hearts, for the best and richest blessing of all. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Bishop Greg Pietsch
District President

Lutheran Church of Australia – Victorian District (LCAVD)



LESER REGIONAL NEWS

RETIREMENT OF LYN HUPPATZ

We wish to inform our school communities across the South East Region that **Lyn Huppertz** has effectively finished her time as Principal of St Peters Lutheran School, Dimboola. Lyn's original plan was to take long service leave as from the end of Term 1 this year, and officially retire at the end of Term 1 2015. This would have meant, in practice, that her last day at Dimboola would have been at the end of Term 1 this year. However, serious health issues for Lyn's mother and a very poor medical prognosis in that situation, has meant that Lyn has had to take extended personal leave to take carer's responsibility for her parents, which has, in turn, effectively brought further forward Lyn's departure from Dimboola.

Lyn came to Dimboola as Principal in January 2010 and has served in Lutheran Schools around Australia since 1986. We thank Lyn for her service and involvement with the Dimboola Lutheran School and the South Eastern Region and wish her God's richest blessings in these difficult circumstances as she finalises her time at the school amidst the emotionally draining time of supporting her parents in their failing health.

Interim arrangements for the leadership of Dimboola are currently being put in place. We will continue discussions with the School Council to explore future leadership directions for the school.

Best Wishes

SCHOOLS ASSEMBLY

As I write this section of the newsletter, final preparations are underway for a Schools Assembly meeting to be held on Thursday, 06 March. We are blessed to have **Steven Kroker** (LEA Business Manager) with us at the meeting to facilitate a session on funding methodology. This is a critical discussion for our region as we grapple with a changing Federal funding framework, which will have profound implications for the way systems distribute funding. LESER has taken the approach that this discussion needs to be open and inclusive as we seek to develop a funding distribution model, which is equitable and allows our schools to get maximum benefit from being part of a system.

NATIONAL FOCUS

Last week several meetings and forums were facilitated by Lutheran Education Australia and Lutheran Principals Australia. These meetings were important for the future of Lutheran education in Australia as there are a range of initiatives in funding, leadership and formation emerging, which will greatly influence the Lutheran educational landscape. LEA will provide further details about these initiatives through its fortnightly edition of LEA News, which is included with LESER Networks. LESER is committed to ensuring our regional strategic priorities align with the national agenda and will continue to liaise with the LEA Executive Director and Assistant Directors to ensure we are working in step with the national office.

It was pleasing to note the high level of representation from our region at last week's meetings. It is vital that LESER has a voice at the national level so we applaud the willingness of the following regional staff and principals to contribute to some key committees. Our representatives are as follows:

Lutheran Principals Australia Executive Committee:
LEA Leadership Working Party:
LEA Formation Working Party:
LEA Business Managers Working Party:

Michael Kleidon, Sharon Kotzur
Neville Grieger
Liz Pietsch, Cain McDonald
Graeme Huf

LESER REGIONAL NEWS (CONT'D)

COMMUNICATION GUIDELINES

Last week we distributed our revised Communication Guidelines to Principals, Business Managers and School Chairs. High quality communication, both internally and externally with strategic partners, is always at the heart of highly effective organizations. The Lutheran Education Office is a support organization, which seeks to serve its member schools and early childhood centres by assisting them as they strive for excellence in their educational and spiritual tasks.

It is important to note that because the Lutheran Education Office acts as a go-between, or agent, for a number of government authorities and reporting groups, some of the items listed are expectations rather than simply guidelines. Information that we seek in our communication requests is often critical for us to fulfil our compliance and accountability requirements on your behalf across our region. We acknowledge that communication between the regional office and schools must be constantly under review, as we seek to improve the information flow, and welcome suggestions for further improvement in our communication practices.

ENTERPRISE BARGAINING AGREEMENT

We welcome the news that the new enterprise agreement has received overwhelming endorsement by the staff of Lutheran schools in Victoria. This is wonderful news for the region as we look forward to improved salary and conditions for all staff in our schools. This process has taken place over 10 months, which has been quite arduous for the representatives and has involved enormous time and effort to bring the agreement to where it is today. Special thanks go to the employee representatives **Celeste Cameron** and **Ruth Wickson** for their commitment and professionalism throughout the process.



Thanks also go to the employer representatives **Cain McDonald, Graeme Huf** and **Lester Kerber** for their diligence through what has been a very lengthy process. We also acknowledge the guidance and support to LESER from **Kerri Knopp** (Independent Schools Victoria Director, Strategic Relations). Integral to this process was also the Independent Education Union and their officers **Kristen Wischer, Marit Clayton** and **Michael Rooney**. These people have been vital to this process and we thank them for their contribution to our region. While the nature of this process is adversarial, we are blessed that the negotiations have certainly been held in good faith. We look forward to the agreement progressing to the next step in the process which is presentation at the Fair Work Commission for approval.

Paul Weinert

Director

paul.weinert@leser.lutheran.edu.au

STAFF CONFERENCES 2014

Due to the geographical spread of our schools across three states of Australia, the Regional Hub Groups – Western, Central and Riverina are important forums through which our school leaders can connect on a more regular basis. Last year in these forums, we discussed the possibility of planning a staff conference. While one conference for the whole region at some point may be a possibility, there was a very strong feeling that it would be much more cost effective and achievable for our staff to gather together in three separate regional gatherings.

Accordingly, three dates have now been locked in place as follows:

Riverina Regional Conference

At St Paul's College, Walla Walla FRIDAY, 15 AUGUST
(Henty, Jindera, Wagga Wagga, Walla Walla, Wodonga)

Western Regional Conference

At Holy Trinity Lutheran School, Horsham FRIDAY, 22 AUGUST
(Dimboola, Nhill, Hamilton, Horsham, Mildura, Portland, Tarrington)

Central Conference

At Luther College, MONDAY, 06 OCTOBER
(Croydon (x2), Geelong (x2), Hobart, Pakenham, Sunshine, Tarneit)

It is intended that these be whole of staff conferences. The scheduled conference days will therefore be school closure days for the school communities involved in each particular conference, making it possible for everyone to attend. With that in mind, the programs for the conference days will be designed to have relevance for all staff. Lutheran Education South East Region has allocated a substantial amount of money in the budget to offset the direct cost to schools.

In planning these days, our school leaders have been strong in the view that it is important for us to come together to celebrate our common heritage, to connect with our colleagues in other schools and be reaffirmed and encouraged in our roles of bringing the good news of Jesus to young people and families in our communities.

PRINCIPALS' RETREAT 2014

The 2014 Principals' Retreat has been scheduled for Wednesday, 04 June (5.00 pm) through to lunch time on Friday, 06 June. The retreat will again be held at the Champion Retreat Centre in Kew. While the format will be similar to 2013, the content will be totally different from last year. A registration form will be available in the next action memo or can be downloaded via the link on the [home page on our web site](#). In the meantime we encourage you to reserve a place in your calendar for this important spiritual growth opportunity. The estimated full cost of the retreat, including facilities hire, accommodation and all meals will be in the vicinity of \$240 per person.

Neville Grieger
Assistant Director

neville.grieger@leser.lutheran.edu.au

LAKESIDE LUTHERAN COLLEGE BUSINESS MANAGER APPOINTMENT

Congratulations

LESER joins with Principal David Spike and the Lakeside Lutheran College community in announcing the appointment of Mr Chris McMillian as their Business Manager. Chris will commence in this role next week.

LESER also wishes to acknowledge the support provided by Mr Paul Gargett in the business management of the College this year and the services of Mrs Kathy Edgar who will conclude her time at Lakeside on Thursday, 24 April.

Graeme Huf

Business Manager

businessmanager@leser.lutheran.edu.au

LESER EQUIP MODULES 2014



Modules 3-4 are for teachers who have completed **BOTH** Modules 1 & 2. Please choose a date for **each** of Modules 3-4:



Module 3	Quality Hotel, Tullamarine	Friday, 14 March
	Quality Hotel, Tullamarine	Friday, 28 March
	Riverina (Victory Lutheran College, Wodonga)	Friday, 21 March
Module 4	Quality Hotel, Tullamarine	Friday, 16 May
	Quality Hotel, Tullamarine	Tuesday, 27 May
	Riverina (venue TBA)	Friday, 30 May

If you wish to register, please do not hesitate to contact me

BEGINNING TEACHERS' DAY – MONDAY, 19 MAY

Due to a clash with NAPLAN testing, we need to change the date for the BEGINNING TEACHERS' DAY. The new date is now **Monday, 19 May**. This day is for recently graduated teachers who are teaching in Lutheran schools for the first time. It is not only for Christian Studies teachers. Details of the day and how to register will be included in the next Newsletter.

Liz Pietsch

Education Officer

liz.pietsch@leser.education.edu.au

ALWS AWARENESS WEEK

AWARENESS WEEK IS 10 – 14 MARCH 2014

It doesn't need to be a week, and it can be whenever suits you best ... but Awareness Week provides your school with a whole range of resources to inspire, inform and equip your students to be active and aware about justice and development. Awareness Week caters for all year levels, linking in to a range of subject curriculum, focusing on a number of Australia-relevant countries.

To enable schools to easily make concrete links with the National Curriculum, the theme for Awareness Week 2013 will focus **Village Life** with a focus on **Cambodia**.

All Awareness Week materials are easily downloadable from our **website**: www.alws.org.au.

The Awareness Week materials include: Resources on Cambodia, development and justice issues relating to Cambodia, photos with questions, teaching ideas and resources and Photo Stories and Power Points. These materials are suitable for Chapels, Assemblies, curriculum classes (e.g. Christian Studies, Geography, History, English, Science), or for special learning opportunities for Awareness Week. If you would like help with how to use any of these resources, please don't hesitate to contact ALWS.



AWARENESS DAYS 2014

ALWS are offering many Awareness Days around Australia in 2014.

Awareness Day is designed to challenge school leaders and students interested in social justice issues in ways that they can make a difference in this world. Awareness Days have whole group and small group activities, guest speakers, workshops, audio visual presentations, food and culture used to inform and challenge students about injustice in the world and what we can do to help.

The students who attend Awareness Day return to their schools fired-up for the work that can and is being done in the developing world. They often take a lead in service learning activities within the school.

Please click on this link to see the schedule for planned Awareness days in your area

<http://www.alws.org.au/schools.html>

Liz Pietsch
Education Officer
liz.pietsch@leser.education.edu.au

“THE SPOTLIGHT”

ST PETER’S LUTHERAN SCHOOL – DIMBOOLA



At the beginning of 2014, St Peter’s Lutheran School was visited by representatives of Resource Smart AusiVic, which is a Victorian Government initiative that helps schools benefit from embedding sustainability in everything they do.

Schools enter into a program to help minimize waste, save energy and water, promote biodiversity and reduce greenhouse emissions. There are five modules to complete to achieve a 5-star sustainability rating. The program encourages students to do the ground work of finding out things like how much water the school currently uses, where it is used and how they can reduce that use. It is incorporated into their classwork with activities, such as, using their math skills to work out water usage etc.

St Peter’s Lutheran School currently has a solar system, veggie garden, tanks to collect rain water and a pen of chooks. The junior class raised the chooks and learnt first-hand about life cycles and they feed the food scraps from recess and lunch to the chooks as well. So we are already a few steps closer to completing the modules and achieving a 5-star rating in sustainability.

More information about the project can be found at: <http://www.resourcesmartschools.vic.gov.au/>



ISV – PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DATES

Independent Schools Victoria have Professional Development seminars and can be found on their website at:

<http://www.is.vic.edu.au/services/professional-learning/calendar/index.shtml>

These are the seminars being conducted March seminars for your information.

MARCH

7 Friday

Feuerstein Instrumental Enrichment Module Three (Day Five of Five)

[Learning Difficulties, Including Dyslexia – Core Skills for all Staff](#) (Bendigo Location)

The Reggio Emilia Philosophy – Designing Purposeful Projects (Day Two of Two)

11 Tuesday

[Drawn into Visual and Multimodal Texts in Years 4 to 6](#)

Southern Cross Program 1 (Day One of Four)

12 Wednesday

CHC51308 Diploma of Education Support (Day Three of Twelve)

Southern Cross Program 1 (Day Two of Four)

[Strategic Planning for Principals](#) (Day One of Four)

13 Thursday

[From Strategy to Action - Cohort 1](#) (Day One of Four)

[Learning Difficulties, Including Dyslexia – Core Skills for all Staff](#)

[Processes for Learning](#) (Day One of Two)

Southern Cross Program 2 (Day One of Four)

[Strategic Planning for Principals](#) (Day Two of Four)

14 Friday

[From Strategy to Action - Cohort 1](#) (Day Two of Four)

[Interpreting the DSM-V](#)

[Learning Difficulties, Including Dyslexia – Core Skills for all Staff](#) (Western Victoria Location TBA)

[Processes for Learning](#) (Day Two of Two)

Southern Cross Program 2 (Day Two of Four)

[The Health of the Registered Training Organisation](#)

17 Monday

[Feuerstein Instrumental Enrichment Basic One](#) (Day One of Five)

Southern Cross Program 1 (Day Three of Four)

[TAE10 Certificate IV Training and Education \(For Teachers\)](#) (Day One of Six)

[The Australian Curriculum for Non- Mathematics Trained Teachers of Mathematics](#) (Day One of Three)

18 Tuesday

Feuerstein Instrumental Enrichment Basic One (Day Two of Five)

Southern Cross Program 1 (Day Four of Four)

[The Australian Curriculum for Non- Mathematics Trained Teachers of Mathematics](#) (Day Two of Three)

19 Wednesday

Feuerstein Instrumental Enrichment Basic One (Day Three of Five)

[From Strategy to Action - Cohort 2](#) (Day One of Four)

[Learning Difficulties, Including Dyslexia – Core Skills for all Staff](#)

Southern Cross Program 2 (Day Three of Four)

20 Thursday

[Implementing the ATPDF - Utilising Student Voice](#) (Day One of Two)

Feuerstein Instrumental Enrichment Basic One (Day Four of Five)

From Strategy to Action - Cohort 2 (Day Two of Four)

Southern Cross Program 2 (Day Four of Four)

[Strategic Planning for School Leaders](#) (Day One of Two)

[Unpacking 'Belonging, Being and Becoming' in the Light of Current Early Learning Perspectives](#) (Day One of Two)

21 Friday

Implementing the ATPDF - Utilising Student Voice (Day Two of Two)

Feuerstein Instrumental Enrichment Basic One (Day Five of Five)

[Learning Difficulties, Including Dyslexia – Core Skills for all Staff](#) (Horsham Location)

Unpacking 'Belonging, Being and Becoming' in the Light of Current Early Learning Perspectives (Day Two of Two)

24 Monday

[Enhancing Literacy Skills, Critical Thinking and Shared Inquiry in the Early and Lower Primary Years with Junior Great Books](#) (Day One of Two)

[Geography in the Australian Curriculum](#)

[Preschool Assistants – The Role Defined and Developed](#)

TAE10 Certificate IV Training and Education (For Teachers) (Day Two of Six)

25 Tuesday

Enhancing Literacy Skills, Critical Thinking and Shared Inquiry in the Early and Lower Primary Years with Junior Great Books (Day Two of Two)

[Screencasting – Creating Video Tutorials: Blended Learning and Staying Relevant in the 21st Century](#)

26 Wednesday

CHC51308 Diploma of Education Support (Day Four of Twelve)

[Dance and Drama in the Australian Curriculum for Primary Generalist Teachers](#)

[Learning Difficulties, Including Dyslexia – Core Skills for all Staff](#)

Strategic Planning for School Leaders (Day Two of Two)

27 Thursday

Effectively Using Classroom Observation (Day Two of Five)

[Enhancing Literacy Skills, Critical Thinking and Shared Inquiry in the Upper Primary and Middle Years with Junior Great Books](#) (Day One of Two)

[Numeracy / Mathematics Coordinators' Network](#)

[Sustaining Positive Discipline in Schools for Primary and Secondary Classroom Teachers](#)

28 Friday

CHC50113 Diploma of Children's Services (Early Childhood Education and Care) (Day Two of Ten)

Enhancing Literacy Skills, Critical Thinking and Shared Inquiry in the Upper Primary and Middle Years with Junior Great Books (Day Two of Two)

[Learning Difficulties, Including Dyslexia – Core Skills for all Staff](#) (Warragul Location)

Survival Guide 101 for the New Individual Needs Teacher (Day Two of Two)

LESER CALENDAR DATES – 2014

LESER Office re-opens	13 January	
LESER Planning Days (Office Closed)	20 – 21 January	
Australia Day Holiday	27 January	
Christian Studies Leaders – Western Hub	14 February	TBC
Western Hub Meeting	17 February	TBC
Equip Module 1 – Melbourne	21 February	Quality Hotel, Tullamarine
Christian Studies Leaders – Central Hub	25 February	TBC
College Of Directors	25 – 27 February	LEA – Adelaide
LEA Working Parties	25 – 28 February	LEA - Adelaide
BLEA	27 – 28 February	LEA - Adelaide
Early Childhood Retreat	27 Feb – 1 March	
Equip Module 1 - Riverina	3 March	TBC
Christian Studies Leaders – Riverina	4 March	TBC
LESER Principals' Day	6 March	Quality Hotel, Tullamarine
LESER Planning Day (Office Closed)	7 March	
Labour Day Holiday Vic/Tas	10 March	
ALWS Awareness Week	10 – 14 March	
Equip Module 3 – Melbourne	14 & 28 March	Quality Hotel, Tullamarine
LESER Staff Training Days (office closed)	18 – 19 March	
Equip Module 3 – Riverina	21 March	Victory Lutheran College, Wodonga
LESER Business Managers' Day	28 March	Quality Hotel, Tullamarine
Good Friday	18 April	
Easter Monday	21 April	
ANZAC Day	25 April	
LPA Day	30 April	
National Lutheran Schools Week	5 – 9 May	
LEA Working Parties	5 – 9 May	Brisbane
LESER Beginning Teachers Day	13 May	TBC
Equip Module 4 – Melbourne	16 & 27 May	Quality Hotel, Tullamarine
College of Directors	20 – 21 May	Brisbane
Equip Module 4 – Riverina	30 May	TBC
Principals' Retreat	4 – 6 June	TBC
Queen's Birthday Holiday	9 June	
BLEA	19 – 20 June	
Germany Tour	5 – 18 July	
Equip Module 2 – Melbourne	24 July	Quality Hotel, Tullamarine
Equip Module 5 – Melbourne	25 July	Quality Hotel, Tullamarine
LESER Principals' Day	1 August	Quality Hotel, Tullamarine
LEA Working Parties	4 – 8 August	Adelaide
College of Directors	5 – 6 August	LSA
Riverina Hub Conference	15 August	St Paul's College, Walla Walla
Western Hub Conference	22 August	Holy Trinity Lutheran School, Horsham
National Lutheran Principals Conference	24 – 27 August	Alice Springs
Equip Module 2 – Riverina	27 August	
Equip Module 5 – Riverina	28 August	
Christian Studies Leaders – Riverina	29 August	TBC
BLEA	4 – 5 September	Adelaide
LESER Schools Assembly (TBC)	6 September	Quality Hotel Melbourne Airport
LCA District Convention	3 – 5 October (TBC)	Good News Lutheran College, Tarneit
Labour Day NSW	6 October	
Central Hub Conference	6 October	Luther College
Equip Module 6 – Melbourne	10 October	Quality Hotel, Tullamarine
Equip Module 6 – Riverina	17 October	TBC
LESER Business Managers' Day	17 October	Quality Hotel, Tullamarine
Christian Studies Leaders – Western Hub	24 October	
Melbourne Cup Day	4 November	
College of Directors	11 – 12 November	Adelaide
LESER Principals' Day	14 November	Quality Hotel, Tullamarine
LESER Office Closes	19 December	

FROM THE LEA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR [STEPHEN RUDOLPH]

**Long serving Board
Director retires**

When the Board for Lutheran Education Australia met late February 2014, Mrs Ann Mitchell announced her intention to resign as a Director of Lutheran Education Australia Ltd.

Ann has served Lutheran education for more than 25 years, commencing in 1989 as Special Needs teacher at Trinity Lutheran Primary School, Southport Queensland. In 1993 she moved into a leadership role as Deputy Principal of the primary school and from mid-2002, following the amalgamation of Trinity Lutheran College and Trinity Lutheran Primary School, Ann was appointed as Head of College for the combined college.

Ann's service to Lutheran education broadened in 2000 following her election at General Synod as a member of the Board for Lutheran Schools, now known as the Board of Directors, Lutheran Education Australia Ltd. In October 2001 Ann was elected as Chairman of the Board and served continuously in that capacity until February 2014.

Ann's service was acknowledged by LEA and the Board through the presentation of an LEA Service Award ([see the full citation](#)).

LEA is grateful to Ann for her service as well as her courageous and honest leadership which enabled her to take on many challenges; she has led Lutheran education and in doing so, has been a shining example to future leaders.

**New Board Chairman
elected**

At its meeting in late February 2014, the Board for Lutheran Education Australia elected Dr Neville Highett as its new Chairman following the resignation of Mrs Ann Mitchell.

Dr Highett was appointed to the Board by General Church Council when a vacancy arose in 2012, and is well known and highly respected within Lutheran education circles.

Dr Highett's career in education commenced in 1964. He has served as a primary school teacher, secondary school teacher, subject senior, principal, Inspector of Schools, and Principal Education Officer. He has worked in both the government and independent school sectors in Queensland, New South Wales, South Australia, and internationally from 2000 to 2013. Neville served on the Australian Council for Educational Leaders and was ACEL President from 2008 – 2010.

His service in Lutheran education commenced in 1999 when he accepted a four year contract as Principal of Immanuel College, a school that he and all of his children had attended. While at Immanuel College, Dr Highett developed a process for the 360 degree evaluation of the principal, the College Council and for the evaluation of each individual Council member. This process has generated a high degree of interest across the independent school sector.

In 2004 he was asked to work on an AusAID project in Papua New Guinea (PNG) to develop a system of performance indicators associated with work on the National Education Plan 2005-2014. In 2005, he led a team of PNG directors to review the

school inspection system. The review report was accepted and he then was a short-term advisor (5 months per year, 2006 - 2011) in Papua New Guinea. The team restructured all of the teacher appraisal processes and developed the national school improvement strategy now successfully implemented in 9000+ of the 10,500 schools in the country. The work in PNG required five months of input each year and hence review work in Australia diminished during this time. This has now become a major focus since 2011 along with a school improvement project with Lutheran schools in Indonesia.

Dr Highett brings to his role as Board Chairman a wealth of experience in education and particularly educational leadership as outlined in [his CV](#).

Exploring future leadership for Lutheran schools

During 2013 LEA commissioned Dr Philip Hughes and the Christian Research Association (CRA) to undertake a study of *Exploring future leadership for Lutheran schools*. All teachers, directors and principals in Australian Lutheran early childhood centres, schools and colleges, as well as Lutheran regional and national office leaders were invited to participate. At the February 2014 joint BLEA / CoD meeting, the CRA report was received. Rev Dr Mark Worthing has provided a summary of this report. It will be sent in the coming days to survey recipients and is also available on the LEA website at: <http://www.lutheran.edu.au/school-professionals/leadership/exploring-future-leadership-in-lutheran-schools/>

LEA is developing and strengthening leadership development strategies and programs as a result of the CRA survey. More details will be reported via LEA News in the future.

FROM THE LEA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: LEADERSHIP [SHANE PATERSON]

ACEL membership

Our corporate subscription will be paid this week. Please ignore any reminder notices that you may be receiving.

Leadership framework

Next week a small group will meet in Brisbane to begin the process of reviewing our current Leadership framework. Over the last few weeks principal input has been sought during the workshops facilitated by Dawn Lang and this information will be useful in the review process. It is essential that any revised document is meaningful and practical to leaders in our schools; therefore your input will be called for in the coming months as we continue and move forward with any revisions. Thank you for your input to this point

2014 Principals Conference – Alice Springs

Planning for this exciting event is continuing with it promising to be a conference with a difference. You are encouraged to return your registration as soon as possible. Any questions can be directed to me

LEA CANBERRA CONNECTIONS

Release of My School 2014 [5 March 2014]

My School 2014 has been released today (Wednesday, 5 March 2014) by the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA). The 2014 update of data on the My School website (www.myschool.edu.au) provides the opportunity for educators, parents and the wider community to view updated information on all schools across Australia, and to make comparisons between them. My School presents a detailed profile on all schools including results from the National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN). ACARA's Chair, Professor Barry McGaw, believes My School provides an opportunity for everyone to learn more about Australian schools and for Australian schools to learn more from each other. [Read the full media release](#)

International Student Survey 2014 – schools
[3 March 2014]

A request has been received from the Director, International Research and Analysis Unit, Australian Government Department of Education, seeking support for, and assistance in, conducting the *International Student Survey 2014* for the schools sector in Australia. The survey will seek participation of international school students across government and non-government schools. The student population from which a survey sample will be drawn will comprise international school students in year 11 or 12 and who are 16 or above years of age. The international students of 16 and 17 years of age will be able to participate in the survey only if they have written consent from a parent/guardian to participate in the survey.

A previous survey of international students was undertaken in 2010 and 2012. The *International Student Survey 2014* will investigate students' satisfaction with the experience of studying and living in Australia and identify any changes in the issues from those identified in the 2012 survey. It is proposed to conduct the field work component of the survey in April-June 2014. The survey findings will be made available to relevant state and territory government agencies, relevant private sector organisations and all schools that participate in the survey.

Participation in the survey is completely voluntary. All responses will be handled under the appropriate privacy conditions. The outcome of the survey will be incorporated into a national report. Neither the schools nor participating students will be identified in any form in the report. A brief institution specific report will be provided to each participating schools with 5 or more completed responses by the survey contractor and without being shared with the department.

Sweeney Research Pty Ltd on behalf of the department will be conducting the survey and will contact schools with five or more international student enrolments to provide a detailed methodology and discuss the process for the conduct of survey in due course. Your support to conduct the survey would be greatly appreciated.

If you have any questions about the survey, please do not hesitate to contact either me on 02 6240 9948 or email: steve.nerlich@education.gov.au or contact Adeline Ong on 03 9699 8466 or email: adeline.ong@sweeneyresearch.com.au.

ACARA March Update [Read the latest ACARA Update](#)

Update from the Minister for Education
[28 February 2014]
Improved teacher education will put Students First
[19 February 2014]

[Read the latest update](#) from The Hon Christopher Pyne MP, Minister for Education

A group of eminent higher education and school experts will advise the Australian Government on improving teacher education. Minister for Education, the Hon Christopher Pyne MP, said Australian Catholic University Vice-Chancellor, Professor Greg Craven, will chair the eight-member Teacher Education Ministerial Advisory Group. "Lifting the quality, professionalism and status of the teaching profession is at the heart of the Government's Students First platform," Mr Pyne said.

[Read the full media release](#) [Read the Terms of Reference](#)

AITSL February 2014 The latest AIRSL e-newsletter includes information on:

e-news

- 5 inspiring tips to start the school year
- 2014 AITSL stakeholder engagement survey
- Teacher toolkit launch
- Travel and study opportunities for leaders
- PL series: Leading schools with increased autonomy
- School leadership clearinghouse
- AITSL's 360 degree reflection tool
- The essential guide to professional learning series
- Certification and assessor training
- Student voice

[Read the full e-newsletter](#)