



MOUNT HAWTHORN PRIMARY SCHOOLS BOARD: ANNUAL PUBLIC REPORT

17 AUGUST 2022

Context

The Mount Hawthorn Primary Schools Board Terms of Reference (version 2022) stipulates the preparation of an annual report to advise the school community of the performance of the Board in relation to its functions subsequent to the previous public meeting. This report is to be presented to Board members and the school community at the annual public meeting and has been prepared by the MHPS Principal, Leon Wilson, and the Schools Board Chair, Katharine Nash.

Principal Transition

Following a long and successful tenure as principal, Mr Dale Mackesey, farewelled Mount Hawthorn Primary School at the end of 2021. Mr Shayne Harris was appointed as interim principal for Term 1, 2022 whilst the process to select a new substantive principal took place. Mr Leon Wilson, previously Assistant Director of Education at North Metropolitan Education Office, commenced as principal of Mount Hawthorn PS on 9 May, 2021.

Public School Review

The school hosted Mr Rohan Smith, Director, Public School Accountability, and Mr Gary Crocetta, Principal, Mount Pleasant Primary School, for a validation visit as part of the public school review cycle in September, 2021. The school received 28 commendations, 13 recommendations and a three-year return. The full report can be found on [our website](#).

Business Plan 2022-25

The school's public school review report was integral to informing our new business plan, scheduled for completion by the end of Term 3, 2022. Two clear priorities will be set around the following:

- Student achievement and progress (specifically, to ensure our achievement targets aim to meet or exceed the achievement of like schools)
- Teaching quality (focusing on whole-school, evidence-based teaching and learning)

The school aims to maintain our distinctive breadth of student opportunities whilst enhancing student outcomes through whole school, evidence-based teaching practices. We aim to continue to prioritise social and emotional well-being, differentiated learning and collaborative community partnerships to support all students.

Student Achievement and Progress

The Board has been informed that student achievement as measured by NAPLAN standardised testing in the last five testing years has not exceeded “like” schools in any subject area or year group. The Board supports the priority to improve student outcomes as measured by performance relative to like schools with the target: *Students’ achievement in NAPLAN Reading, Writing, Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation, and Numeracy is above WA Like Schools (based on ICSEA).*

Teacher professional learning

In support of prioritising teaching quality, the school is partnering with [Shaping Minds](#) in Semester 2, 2022 and 2023 to better equip teachers to combine *the science of learning with the art of teaching* by providing evidence-based professional learning, instructional coaching, curriculum expertise, and customised teaching resources. The endorsement for this professional learning from staff was clear with 26 teachers submitting EOIs for 4 available places, which involves 4 full day workshops and spaced coaching sessions in their classrooms. In addition, the school is funding 21 teaching staff to participate in a short course through ECU, *The Science of Reading: Translating research to classroom practice*. The dedication of staff to improving their craft and thus positively impact student outcomes is apparent given that this course is run outside of school hours over three Saturdays.

Partnerships with Parents

A focus of the school is to work with the Schools Board and P&C to re-engage with our community following two years of restrictions related to COVID-19. Ensuring parents are connected with the school and their child’s learning is a priority. Open Classrooms and progress conferences have been promoted to increase dialogue and collaboration between teachers and parents. The resumption of assemblies, cultural and social events at school to build connectivity amongst the community has been recently prioritised. The quality and accessibility of general school communications will be improved with the implementation of the highly functional Compass communication app in Term 4. The Board supports these measures to enhance partnerships and communication between teachers, parents and the school community.

Leadership Structure

Our public school review report identified scope to improve the way our leadership team is arranged. The school engaged with respected education consultant, Mr Paul Meacock, to facilitate the review during Semester 1, 2022. Following significant consultation, including teacher and parent feedback, leadership portfolios have been realigned for Semester 2, 2023 and are reflected below:

14 Associate Principal 1.0FTE Kindy and Pre-primary Specialist Teachers					Level 3 (0.8FTE) Year 1 and 2					Level 3 (0.8FTE) Year 3 and 4					Level 3 (0.8FTE) Year 5 and 6				
Lorena Rock					Perisse Pitskas and Bree Rempel					Louise Swain and Cherrie Fletcher					Jen Meyer and Cairie Spencer				
M	T	W	Th	F	M	T	W	Th	F	M	T	W	Th	F	M	T	W	Th	F

The new structure responds to the overwhelming feedback from teachers requesting increased consistency and clarity in accountability and points of contact. This model honours the agreed scheduling of aspirant leaders until the end of 2022. Thereafter, the school will look to appoint a full-time deputy principal to complement the existing substantive deputies in 2023.

Student Numbers

In Term 3, we commenced planning for the 2023 academic year. Projected student numbers for 2023 are shown below:

	K	PP	Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3	Yr 4	Yr 5	Yr 6	Total
2019	100	124	119	113	114	115	95	98	878
2020	99	109	127	116	115	115	116	97	894
2021	119	114	110	125	115	111	110	116	920
2022	118	122	111	111	128	115	110	107	922
2023	120	120	120	114	114	126	115	113	942

Given that our largest cohort, current Year 3 students, transitions to Year 4 in 2023, it's likely that we will fall within all industrial requirements by operating 38 classes. This will assist our school budget, which has been stretched with the operation of 39 classes in 2022.

Financial Summary

The school is in a sound financial position:

- At 30 June, 2022, the budgeted income for the school year was \$8,906,644 and budgeted expenditure was \$8,669,188. Subsequently, the school's projected variance is \$237,456. This positive variance provides scope to respond to in year staffing requirements and additional professional development.
- Regarding expenditure, 89.5% was budgeted for salaries and 10.5% for goods and services. This allocation is consistent with prior years.
- The school's reserves balance is \$227,746. These monies are earmarked for capital projects, including IT enhancements.
- The school is well positioned to meet the Department's 96% minimum expenditure requirement for the year.

Operational financial statements are attached to the minutes of this meeting.

General Board Business

In the period of this annual report, the following general Board business was conducted:

- The Board was advised of MHPS Principal Dale Mackesey's departure and supported the appointments of interim principal Shayne Harris and substantive principal Leon Wilson.
- The Board was advised of the retirement of MHESC Principal Alison Hardman effective from 2023.
- The Board took part in reviewing the school's objectives, priorities and general policy directions, as well as evaluating the schools' performance relative to objectives and the planning of funding arrangements.
- Charges and contributions were approved for the provision of materials, services and facilities for MHPS and MHESC students. The Board approved the recommendation of a Chromebook as the preferred *Bring Your Own Device* from 2023.
- Costs for participation in optional components of the schools' education programs were approved for MHPS and MHESC students.
- The Board noted the MHPS and MHESC Funding Agreements, Annual Reports and school policies.
- The Board noted the MHPS and MHESC Development Days for 2022.

- The Board approved an update to the MHPS Uniform Policy such that the “My Story” shirts can be worn thrice weekly.
- The Board established the *Mount Hawthorn Primary Schools Board Award* to honour values and virtues in a graduating student and awarded the inaugural recipient in 2021.
- The Board’s Commendation Scheme recognised 10 community members for meritorious service to the school.
- Governance of the MHPS, Maylands, Jolimont, Kyilla Music Committee was transferred from the MHPS P&C to the Schools Board.
- Board members Julia Wilcox and Belinda Owen were appointed as parent representatives of the Board.
- The Board promoted the school in the community through attendance at events, participation in working groups and communications.




Leon Wilson | Principal

30 July, 2022



Alison Harman, Principal MHESC



Katharine Nash, Schools Board Chair

04 August 2022