

## **Integration Update #7 – 14 June 2018**

### **Integration is progressing well and is on track**

With only two weeks to the end of Term 2, I am pleased to advise that all elements of the integration process are progressing well:

#### **New Colours, Crest and Uniform**

The design of the new school colours, crest and uniforms are on track to be presented to a combined parents' forum in early Term 3. I hope to announce the date of the Forum in next week's Update.

#### **Five Staff Integration Working Groups**

Staff are working very well together in five different working groups:

1. **Staff Collegiality Group** – which is focusing on developing opportunities for staff collegiality across all disciplines, co-curricular and year groups during Terms 3 and 4.
2. **Student Engagement Group** – which is focusing on various formal and informal opportunities to get students from both schools in year groups together over the next two terms.
3. **Year 11/12 Focus Group** – which is working to ensure that the current Year 11 & 12 at both schools do not lose focus during this period of change through close collaboration and using staff resources at both schools.
4. **Senior Learning Space/Library Upgrade at the Scots Campus** – which has been formed to consider what needs to be done to upgrade the current Scots campus Library to a modern Learning Centre in readiness for next year. The aim is to have all the work done during Term 4 so that all Year 12 students have appropriate study space and technology for their study periods next year.
5. **New House Names Group** – which has the task to resolve and recommend the names for the new competition Houses for Swimming, Athletics, Cross-Country, Music, Drama, Debating and any new competition we may choose to add to the new school.

#### **Mr John Weeks and Staff Appointments**

This week, Mr Weeks has been chairing the panel to interview and appoint the Senior Executive Staff, with the new school's Senior Executive positions expected to be announced before the end of Term. Further leadership appointments will be made early in Term 3 for Heads of Department and Heads of House or Year Groups along with other senior responsibility positions.

#### **Mr David Gates Sabbatical Leave**

As advised last week, Mr Gates will be taking sabbatical leave from 17 June until 13 July. During this time he will visit two schools in the Northern Territory including the Ti Tree School 195 kms north of Alice Springs and St Phillips College in Alice Springs. Progress on the integration process will continue unabated during this period.

#### **Last Scheduled School Board Meetings this Saturday**

The integration of the two schools is a period of great change in all aspects of the two schools, other than to the underlying core values and passion of everyone involved in the two schools to educate and develop children, adolescents and young people to their full potential in a safe and nurturing

environment. These core values and mission have been lived by every member of the two School Boards over the past six months since we announced the purchase of All Saints' College in December 2017. But, I know they are the humble but proud present-day holders of the great legacy passed to them by the many generations of previous board members of both The Scots School and All Saints' College since the two schools were first established.

The combined Board meeting this Saturday will be the last scheduled Board meeting for both schools as we prepare for the General Assembly during the week of 9 July 2018. At the rising of the Assembly a new School Board for the new merged school will be announced, with the baton passed to that new group of individuals.

The combined Board meeting this Saturday will be a time of reflection, praise and thanks for four members who have served diligently and faithfully, and contributed greatly and graciously to their respective School Boards.

They are Mr Michael Inwood, who joined The Scots School Board in 2012; Rev Tristan Merkel, who joined The Scots School Board in 2015 and Mr Allan Blanch, who joined the new All Saints' Board at the beginning of this year. On behalf of the Trustees, I would like to extend my sincere thanks for their service and contribution during this process.

The fourth member is Mr Adrian Lamrock, who will be stepping down as Chairman of The Scots School over the past five years. Mr Lamrock is leaving an outstanding legacy of Christian leadership for the new school as, not only has he served as a Board Member since 2012 and Chairman since 2013, he was also a former Principal of The Scots School Bathurst from 1998 to 2003.

I am honoured to have worked with Adrian over the past several years, and look forward to keeping him informed of progress as he is a respected member of the General Assembly, and a good friend.

I will let Adrian speak in his words:

*"It has been a real privilege to work with the Board of Scots over the past six years. They are a hard-working group, absolutely committed to the future of Scots and, more recently, of the new school. I would like to take this opportunity to thank them personally for their hard work and tremendous support.*

*Living in Newcastle I have increasingly found the time taken by travel to Bathurst and the times spent in meetings at Scots have become more difficult to manage.*

*Nevertheless, it has been a difficult decision because I am absolutely committed to the integration of Scots and All Saints. Some may remember that Dr Tim Wright (former Headmaster of All Saints) and I tried to achieve this integration around seventeen or eighteen years ago. The fact that it is now about to become a reality is very exciting for me and I will watch the process with keen interest and support, although from a distance. I am grateful for the chance to have been part of Scots, on and off, for more than twenty years and I also have a very strong respect for All Saints. I look forward to them being built harmoniously into a new, single, school in the years ahead and certainly commit myself to praying for God's blessing on the new school as it develops."*

Adrian will be honoured at a special Scots School assembly tomorrow afternoon.

Kind regards,

Jeof Falls