



2023 11 20 ANNUAL COLLEGE COMMUNITY MEETING

ADVISORY COUNCIL CHAIR REPORT

Good Evening everyone and welcome to the Annual Community meeting for the St John Bosco College Advisory Council.

I respectfully acknowledge the past and present traditional custodians of this land on which we are meeting, the Whadjuk Noongar people. It is a privilege to be standing on Noongar country. I also acknowledge the contributions of Aboriginal Australians and non-Aboriginal Australians to the education of all children and people in this country we all live in and share together – Australia.”

We are currently in the Noongar season of Kambarang, the season of Transformation. Many things are undergoing transformation with the warm change in the weather and longer dry periods accompany a definite warming trend.

We can also see many transformations happening around the College. The building program is transforming the College, a lot of planning has happened as the College transforms to accommodate Year 11 and Year 12.

This year, *Stage 4C* of the building program was finished and we saw the beautiful *de Sales Library Resource Centre and Administration* upgrade.

In May we hosted the official opening and blessing of the *Stages 2, 3 and 4* buildings. It was a pleasure to have state and federal politicians, representatives from Catholic Education WA, the St Francis Xavier Parish, Whadjuk elders and representatives from Santelli Architects, Sanpro and Devlyn builders. There were performances from the Choir and Dance groups and the College was very well represented.

Stage 5 has been a huge achievement for the College, with the massive build attracting attention from everyone driving down Armadale Road. I know everyone is excited to gain access to the Mazzarello Sport and Recreation Centre and the amazing fitness equipment the Friends of St John Bosco worked so hard on fundraising for.

Stage 6 was approved in the second half of 2022 and that build has started. Unfortunately, the café we requested in 2022 was not included, but we have been successful with our *Stage 7* building request and planning is underway for a Café build. The leadership team and architects will conduct visits of schools that have successfully operating cafes. The introduction of daily lunch orders has been amazing and I look forward to having our own café onsite with full menu offerings.

Other than the build, most of the work that the Advisory Council has done this year has been around financial planning. This has been looking at costs associated with running the College and ensuring we are planning a great future for our children. Subsequently, due to the increasing costs in CPI, in consultation with CEWA, the Advisory Council has made the decision to increase College fees. Daniel will shortly deliver the Treasurer report and explain the costings. As we do every year, we would like to highlight how useful the payment plans are. A fortnightly or monthly deduction certainly helps when the annual bill is sent out.

Once again, I would like to thank the Friends of St John Bosco. Kylie, Jennifer, Amanda, Belinda and Daniel who have organised great events and fundraisers for the College this year. I would also like to thank the class reps and other parents and carers who support them. I would like to extend a special thank you to Siminette who has liaised with both the Friends and Council and acts as the 'go-between' between the two groups in her role.

I would like to thank the great team on the Advisory Council: Wendy, Cassie, Daniel, Siminette, Brett and Joe. Looking forward to continuing our work for the College next year.

Finally thank you to the staff of St John Bosco College who take such good care of our children and encourage and guide them on their educational journey. The staff are an amazing group of dedicated professionals, as seen by their presence at College events, organisation of after-hours activities and commitment to helping make our children to be the best people they can be.

Thank you for attending this evening and I wish you all a safe and happy holiday.

Erin Parry

Advisory Council Chair