



ST JOHN BOSCO
COLLEGE
JOY IN LEARNING

2020-11-23 ANNUAL COLLEGE COMMUNITY MEETING ADVISORY COUNCIL CHAIRPERSON REPORT

Good evening and welcome to the 2020 Annual Community Meeting of St John Bosco College. My name is Erin Parry and I am the chairperson of the St John Bosco College Advisory Council, formerly known as the College Board.

Tonight's ACM is an opportunity to look back on 2020 and the many challenges it has given us, as well as celebrate the many achievements of the College. It is also the time to elect the members of the Advisory Council for 2021.

Firstly, I would like to acknowledge my fellow Board members: Kevin, Rachael, Daniel, Tracy, Brian, Wendy, Joanne and Nick.

I would like to thank them all for their dedication and knowledge over this past year. Particularly Daniel for his finance reports, Tracy for her work in planning, Brian for his excellent minute taking, Wendy for being our Parish Rep and Joanne for her updates to and from the Friends of St John Bosco.

Up for renomination this year is Daniel.

On behalf of the Advisory Council, I would like to acknowledge the contributions from Nick who has been involved with the Board for many years and has brought a lot of wisdom and experience to the team. I would also like to thank Brian who has been involved with the Board for many years. He is taking some time away from the Advisory Council, but I hope he considers being involved again in future years.

This year has seen our first cohort of Year 7 students start at the College. They have taken ownership of the MacKillop Science Learning Centre and now the Savio Arts and Technology Learning Centre, named in May on St Dominic Savio's Feast Day. It has been great to see these facilities used for events, including Surf Online Safe presentations, Choir Performances, College Open Nights and other community meetings.

Like many things, Covid-19 has caused some interruption to the building plans. However, we have made the following progress. Stages 4a and 4b, a single storey classroom block with 6 general learning areas began construction in 2020 and will be ready for occupation in 2021. This will also include external works, a reflection space to St John Bosco, security cameras and a soccer/hockey pitch.

Stage 4C will begin in 2021 which will include a double storey K-12 Library resource centre, a double storey Admin building with student services and external works.

In July, Kevin and I met with the Liberal Party and key leaders from CEWA including the executive director Dr Debra Sayce, in an opportunity for CEWA to present a "wish list" in funding opportunities to the Shadow Government and present the strategic directions for Catholic Education. We have frequently communicated with the Honorable Matt Keogh, our federal member and our state member for Jandakot, Yaz Mubarakai. In June and July, with the assistance of Chris Tallentire, we once again completed our annual application for the installation of a school zone to the City of Armadale. With the Friends of St John Bosco approaching the Minister of Education, it appears someone finally listened and the school zone was installed in October.

The board was also involved in Strategic Planning in October for the next business cycle and in November contributed to the College Cyclic Review.

Thank you to The Executive Team of the Friends of St John Bosco and all the members of the Friends of St John Bosco for all that has been achieved in this difficult year. On behalf of the Advisory Council, I would like to thank the parent and community volunteers that give up their time to assist at major events and throughout the year. Our College would not be the same without you.

Finally, the Advisory Council would like to thank our College Principal Kevin Sheehy, the leadership team, teaching and support staff for all their hard work and dedication to our children over the last 12 months. There was a period of a few months where government rules and directives in education were changing almost weekly, (felt like daily or even hourly!) and it was a very hard time for everyone involved.

It is an honour to look out at the audience tonight and see and welcome the new staff that will be working with our children next year. You will be joining a fantastic team and strong community.

Congratulations to everyone on making it through 2020. We have a few weeks to go, but we survived it and we have emerged as a stronger, more united community with increased levels of empathy and compassion for fellow human beings.

May God bless you all. Have a safe and happy Christmas surrounded by as many family members as the government will allow.

Erin Parry

Advisory Council Chair