The Federation of Catholic School Parent Communities

2013
ANNUAL REPORT
May 2014
**Our Values**

Choice  
Quality  
Equity  
Voice

**Our Vision**

To be an independent, influential voice committed to achieving quality and equity in educational opportunities and outcomes for students in Catholic schools.

**Our Mission**

We exert influence in pursuit of policy outcomes, develop and share resources and build the capacity of parents to be partners in the education of their children.
Our History

The Federation of Catholic School Parent Communities (SA) Inc. was formed in 1967 by a group of parents committed to address the fact that South Australia was the only state where government grants were not provided for children attending non-government schools.

At this, the 47th Annual General Meeting of the Federation, we acknowledge the strength, wisdom, vision and commitment of those parents. We also acknowledge the work and influence of all those who have volunteered their time, gifts and talents to continue the work of the Federation in the last 47 years.

Let us not forget our history and the work of our founding members but be inspired by it to continue the work of the Federation by parents for parents, children, families and schools.

Our Future

The future of the Federation as the peak body for Catholic school parent communities in SA Catholic schools are parents in our school communities today.

Membership on the Council of the Federation of Catholic School Parent Communities provides the opportunity to play a significant role in the future of the Federation in South Australia.

Be a part of our future – nominate now!

“If you don’t know where you’ve come from, you can’t possibly know where you’re going.”

John Schumann
2013-2014 Federation Council

Executive

President: Caz Bosch
Vice President: Jlse Sanderson
Vice President: Simon Abbot
Treasurer: Paul Della

Members

Shefia Nemer-Khoury Rebecca Smith
Anna Dillon Jeff Carr (resigned August 2013)
Sarah Wood Mary Avina
Dan Galbraith Kylie Ind
Cherrell Murray (resigned December 2013)

2013 Federation Office Staff

Executive Director: Ann Bliss
Parent Project Officer: Terri Judd
Finance Officer: Teresa Matkovic
Administrative Officer: Michelle Cockshell (until July)
Leanne De Young (from July)

Life Members

Mr Tom Ffrench (late) Dr Des Dineen
Mrs Nicky Mullins Mrs Jenny Damiani
Families provide children's first, ongoing and most significant experience of love, faith and learning.

The purpose of schools is to help families educate their children.

Parents and families have both the right and the responsibility to actively engage in their children's learning and schooling.

These extraordinarily powerful statements have underpinned every aspect of the work of the Federation in 2013.

What do these statements say to you? Do they resonate with you?

Do they inspire you to reflect on your role in the education of children and young people whatever your role is – parent, grandparent, teacher, principal, Director of Catholic Education, Minister for Education?

Whatever your role, what do these statements call you to do – in your home, your classroom, your school, your community, your education sector?

Positive parent and family engagement is critically important because it makes a huge difference to how children and young people feel about learning, how they feel about themselves and the world, and what they achieve through their formal schooling and community activities. Positive engagement must be welcomed, promoted and supported at all levels of influence and impact - from the cubby house, to the classroom, to Canberra and all contexts in between.

“…Parents have a particularly important part to play in the educating community, since it is to them that primary and natural responsibility for their children’s education belongs…”

(The Catholic School on the Threshold of the Third Millennium. 1997)
We commend this annual report to you as a snapshot of the Federation’s efforts in 2013 to support and ensure appropriate policy, funding, resources, leadership and engagement in schooling. It offers examples of our work in advocacy, representation and service delivery on behalf of all parents with children in Catholic schools in South Australia.

Highlights include:

- Our inaugural state conference, ‘Parent Engagement in Learning for Life’ in May
- The formation of Catholic School Parents Australia (CSPA) in October, and the Federation’s decision to join as a founding member
- Our strong and ‘always present’ parent voice as the new state/federal funding agreement was negotiated, and the federal election unfolded
- The instigation of an independent review of the Federation’s work to shape our future directions.

We dedicate this report, and the Federation’s 2013 successes, to our parents and school parent communities who work in partnership to provide positive encouragement and support to children in their learning, and practical support and resources to our Catholic schools.

We acknowledge and value your contributions through your support of classroom, school and sporting programs, your participation in learning reviews, information meetings and surveys, your membership of school boards, parent committees and support groups, and through your efforts to provide a home environment that supports your children’s learning and wellbeing.

Schooling is not always, but always should be, a strong partnership between parents, students, teachers, principals, education authorities and government departments, and our elected politicians who are responsible for developing and funding effective education policy.

“Change will not come if we wait for some other person or some other time. We are the ones we’ve been waiting for. We are the change that we seek (President Barack Obama)”.
The Federation is an affiliate of the Australian Parents Council (APC) on behalf of all South Australian Catholic school parents. This ensures that a strong South Australian Catholic school parent voice is maintained in all representations to the Federal Government.

In 2013, the Federation was strongly involved in the governance of the APC via representation on the APC National Executive including Caz Bosch and Paul Della who were re-elected as President and Treasurer respectively, and Ann Bliss who was re-nominated as SA representative on the National Executive.

Through the Federation’s affiliation with APC, parents in SA Catholic schools were represented at:

- Meetings with senior officials from the Department for Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR), now the Department of Education, in Canberra
- The APC Annual Conference/AGM in Canberra (August) and APC National Executive
- Family School and Community Partnerships Bureau Governance Committee, including planning for the second National Symposium in Canberra (March)
- Federal Government’s Students with Disabilities Working Group
- Consultations and/or submissions regarding:
  - Senate Education, Employment and Workplace Relations committee inquiry into the Australian Education Bill;
  - House of Representatives Standing Committee on Education and Employment inquiry into the Australian Education Bill.

The APC and Australian Council of State School Organisations (ACSSO) were funded by the Australian Institute of Teaching and School Leadership (AITSL) to produce two Illustrations of Practice documenting examples of work against standards 3.7 and 7.3 of the National Professional Standards for Teachers. These standards relate to practice in engaging with families. The Federation worked with the St Gabriel’s School community to produce an Illustration of Practice to document their outstanding work in this area.
APC’s key internal working groups, with strong Federation representation, continued to meet in 2013 to support the work of the Executive Director and to inform and direct APC position of key education issues. These included:

- College of Executive Officers
- Government Policy, Funding and Advocacy task group (Chaired by Caz Bosch)
- Parent Engagement and Partnership Task Group (Ann Bliss)
- Indigenous Parent Factor (IPF) Project Reference Group (Caz Bosch, Paul Della)
- Review of Successful Learning in the Early Years – The Parent Factor program (Terri Judd)

2013 saw the APC National Executive refine its strategic priorities and communications plan to adapt to the changing context of parent voice at the national level with the formation of the distinct Catholic school parent body Catholic School Parents Australia.

The Federation subscribed to the APC Review, the well regarded quarterly publication of the Australian Parents Council, and provided complimentary copies to all school parent groups, school leaders and key stakeholders in education in South Australia.

SA Federation delegates to the 2013 Annual Conference and AGM of the Australian Parents Council – Caz Bosch, Jise Sanderson, Ann Bliss, Paul Della and Rebecca Smith
Catholic School Parents Australia (CSPA) was launched in October to provide a distinct Catholic school parent voice at the national level.

Following deep discernment, the Federation Council agreed at its August meeting on a majority vote to join the new body as a founding member.

The SA Federation will continue to affiliate with the Australian Parents Council and work with its other members to shape APC’s future, just as we will work hard to support the emergence of Catholic School Parents Australia as a distinctive voice.

The Federation’s nominees to CSPA are Council member, Kylie Ind and Executive Director Ann Bliss.

Other founding members are:
- Council of Catholic School Parents NSW (CCSP)
- Federation of Parents and Friends Associations of Queensland
- Victorian Catholic Schools Parent Body
- Parents and Friends Federation of WA
- Tasmanian Catholic School Parents Council
- Catholic School Parents - Canberra/Goulburn.

The Federation is committed to extending its strong and influential work at the national level through membership of CSPA and APC to advocate for our goals of choice, quality, equity and parent voice in education.

Inaugural members of CSPA Council at its official launch, October 2013
Top: Karl McKenzie (Qld), Joe Monterosso (WA), Greg Boon (Tasmania), Trevor Kellam (NSW), Tim Smith (ACT). Bottom: Tracey O’Neill (Victoria), Patricia Palman (Victoria), Siobhan Allen (WA), Danielle Cronin (NSW), Carmel Nash (Qld), Ann Bliss (SA), Kylie Ind (SA) and Bob Brady (ACT). Absent: Brendan McManus (Tasmania)
Strategic Partnerships

In 2013, Federation was represented on the Australian Parents Council (APC) National Executive, the National Catholic Education Commission’s (NCEC) Parent Committee (up to June 2013), Catholic School Parents Australia (CSPA), the Ministerial Advisory Committee for Non-Government Schools, the three standing committees and various committees and working parties of the South Australian Commission for Catholic Schools (SACCS) and Catholic Education South Australia (CESA) and a number of other key education forums and groups.

In 2013, the Federation’s representation on these forums resulted in the strategic contribution to the management, development, promotion, implementation and/or review of the following:

- Australian Education Bill 2013
- Better Schools funding model
- National Family, School and Community Partnership Bureau
- National Symposium on Parent Engagement in Learning and Schooling;
- National resource titled “Strengthening Family and Community Engagement in Student Learning” and an Action Research Project on its use in five SA schools
- National Professional Standards for Teachers Illustrations of Practice project
- Funding model for students with disabilities
- APC’s program: Successful Learning in the Early Years – The Parent Factor
- SA Education and Care Legislative Review including the draft Child Development Bill and Registration of SA Schools
- SACE Board policy review including Special Provisions and Capabilities
- World Teachers Day celebrations
- Archdiocesan Framework for Sacramental Catechesis
- CESA Continuous Improvement Framework for Catholic Schools
- CESA Drug and Alcohol education initiatives
- CESA’s Re-Imagining Childhood proposal
- Leadership Development programs in Catholic Education SA
- Cyber safety initiatives
- Early Career Teacher induction programs
- Child Protection Policy and Curriculum
- Charter for Staff in Catholic Schools SA
- Seligman and Rinaldi Thinkers in Residence Reference groups
- SACCS Policies:
  - Assessment and Reporting
  - Religious Leadership in a Catholic School

A list of all representations covered by the Federation in 2013 is attached (Appendix 1).
Political Advocacy

Exerting influence in pursuit of policy outcomes is central to the mission of the Federation and was a strong feature of our work in 2013.

The Australian Education Bill (2013) was passed incorporating an historic new funding model for schooling into the future relying on agreements between states/territories and the federal government to a shared investment in schooling. Through its affiliation with Australian Parent Council (APC), the Federation contributed to the development of APC’s submission to the Senate and House of Representatives inquiries into the Bill with Federation president, Caz Bosch, giving evidence to the Senate Inquiry in her capacity as APC President. APC’s key messages were for funding fairness for non-government school students including equitable funding for students with disability and for an adequate investment in parent engagement in schooling as central to education reform.

The Federation advocated strongly for the funding model to be finalised in time to provide funding certainty for schools and families. This advocacy included letters to the Prime Minister, federal Education Minister and all federal Members of Parliament and meetings with key South Australian federal politicians such as Shadow Education Minister, Christopher Pyne and Senator Don Farrell.

Once the final model was announced, the Federation then advocated for a South Australian state government agreement with the Australian government that would deliver additional dollars early in the planned six year implementation of new funding. This constituted a call to honour its 2010 election commitment to address the relativity low level of state government funding to SA Catholic school students. This was achieved following a letter campaign to all state Members of Parliament and the development of resources to empower Catholic school parents to engage in local advocacy. This campaign also sparked media commentary.

Even reform cash ‘will leave us short’

CATHOLIC education chiefs in South Australia have lashed Labor’s “broken promises” over funding, saying even if the state signs up to the Gonski reforms it will still take years to address “chronic under-funding”.

Catholic Education SA Director Paul Sharkey said the sector was bitterly disappointed Federal Education Minister Christopher Pyne did not in last week’s State budget honour a 2010 pre-election promise to increase funding for Catholic schools.

Dr Sharkey said students in non-government schools in South Australia received the lowest state funding in the nation, about $270 less than the national average per student. Each Catholic school student in South Australia receives about $2,460 a year in government funding, while any student in a public school receives 36 per cent more.

Dr Sharkey said the government had told the sector its low level of funding would be lifted as Julia Gillard’s Gonski school funding blueprint was introduced during the next six years.

However, only NSW and the ACT have signed up to Gonski. The Labor states of South Australia and Tasmania remain in negotiations ahead of the June 30 deadline.

“The sector budget was silent on the new funding model and gave no indication that next year and the immediate years following, there would be any lifting of non-government school funding,” Dr Sharkey said.

Given the education industry has a higher inflation rate than the CPI, many of our schools have reached their limit,” he said.

He said they were in talks with the Government about a funding boost early in the six-year implementation of Gonski. “We believe the state government needs to put in new money early in the implementation period if it is to keep faith with its 2010 pre-election promise.”

In the days before Labor in South Australia won re-election for a third term in March, the government wrote to the Catholic education sector promising to address the “relativity low level of state government funding to Catholic education per capita grant to non-government schools and the

‘Our schools have missed out on millions of dollars’

Ann Brelsford, executive director of Catholic School Parent Committees, yesterday said the sector had been shortchanged for the past three years by successive state education ministers and the Premier and Treasurer.

“We’ve asked them consistently to provide us with a report on the progress of their commitment...our schools have missed out on millions of dollars,” she said.

But yesterday, Mr Walker claimed the only commitment was to “work with the Catholic and independent school sectors to address school funding.”

“The Gonski school reforms not only meet that commitment but surpass it by creating a new national benchmark for funding for Catholic schools, which the South Australian government will meet,” he said.

(The Australian, 11 June 2013, page 4)
**Parent Voice in Action**

The Federation continued to be represented on the South Australian Commission for Catholic Schools (SACCS) Political Strategy Group and contributed to a comprehensive sector wide communication strategy to keep families informed of the progress of the development of a new funding model and the ensuing state/federal agreement. This aligned with the national strategy prepared by the National Catholic Education Commission (NCEC).

SA Catholic school families were kept updated by regular communication from the Federation to school Principals and Board chairs, posts on Facebook and direct communication to members of our data base.

Communications included:

- We’re getting anxious! Will the new funding model deliver? It had better! (March 2013)
- Just how much longer will you, your children and your school have to wait? (June 2013)
- Better Schools Plan and Funding Reform - Update for families (July 2013)
- More funding sooner rather than later (August 2013)

The Federation’s consistent message was to call for a funding model that delivered funding fairness and certainty for children in SA Catholic schools that would keep fees affordable and enable Catholic schools to continue to provide a quality education for all children.

Federation Council also identified its key policy priorities on behalf of Catholic school parents in the lead up to the 2014 state election. Its key priority to strengthen family engagement in schooling reflected the unique perspective a peak parent body can bring as policy drivers. Other priorities such as the status of Year 7 in South Australia, support for the provision of early years’ services in the Catholic sector and capital funding complemented those identified by Catholic Education SA as priority issues for our sector in addition to allied health support, bus access and commitment to the new funding agreement.

Meetings with the state Education Minister Jennifer Rankine and Shadow Minister David Pisoni and their advisers were initiated to discuss these priorities.

“Education costs money, but then so does ignorance”

* Claus Moser*
Service Delivery to Schools and Sector in 2013

In 2013, the Federation provided relevant services and resources to school parent groups and parent communities to build parent capacity to be engaged in learning and schooling. A range of services and resources was also provided to educators and school leaders.

Most of this work was delivered as the Parent Engagement and Partnerships Project co-ordinated by the Parent Project Officer (PPO) with other services provided by the Executive Director.

Support for school parent communities and school leaders
The Federation worked with and supported school parent groups and school leaders via the provision of customised services to parent groups to assist in the review of their roles within the broader school community. Ideas and resources were provided to parent groups and school leaders around community building and the development of family/school/community partnership models.

The Parent Project Officer committed to make direct contact with all newly appointed principals in 2013 to promote the role, services and resources of the Federation, conducted support meetings and information sessions for P&F and School Boards in 14 schools and facilitated 11 school leader support meetings.

A Regional Parent Leader Network was formed in consultation with parent and school leaders with four parent leader representatives in the South East Region representing Tenison Woods College, Mount Gambier, St Anthony’s Catholic Primary School, Millicent and Mary Mackillop Memorial School, Penola. The Network was established to encourage parent community networking between the schools, share examples of initiatives and strategies to strengthen family engagement and provide a regional parent voice for Catholic school families in the south-east region.

Regional visits
Three regional visits were undertaken in the South-East, mid-north and Riverland. These provided support for P&F groups, presentations to School Boards to promote the Strengthening Family and Community Engagement in Student Learning Resource, parent workshops and support meetings for parent leaders and school leaders.

Parent Workshops
The Parent Project Officer conducted 19 workshops covering 6 different workshop topics in 2013. A list of parent workshops offered in 2013 is provided in Appendix 2. There was less demand for parent workshops and lower attendances at parent workshops in 2013 prompting a review of services (refer page 15).

Consultation
Facebook was utilised for consultation with parent communities including a survey of families on factors affecting school choice. The Parent Project officer consults with parent communities at support meetings in both metropolitan and regional schools regarding educational issues.
Parents in Education (PIE) Grants

The Federation was granted an increase in PIE Grant funding from the Minister of Education and Children’s Services. $25,000 was provided to distribute to schools within our sector to assist in running innovative projects designed to increase and encourage parental engagement in their children’s education.

A total of twenty four applications were received from SA Catholic schools for 2013/2014 PIE grant funding with twenty three project applications being approved for funding which will benefit thirty schools and encourage parent initiatives and engagement in children’s education. A list of successful grants is listed in Appendix 3.

Communication with affiliates

Communication with affiliates occurred in a variety of ways. Electronic and hard communication from the Federation is directed to the Chairperson of the school/college governing body with an electronic copy forwarded to school Principals. Through this process affiliates receive information concerning Federation services and resources through the tabling of correspondence at Board meetings. If a formal parent association is in place in schools, the Chair of the governing body is asked to forward all correspondence to the President via this association’s representative on the governing body.

In 2013, the Federation’s quarterly newsletter ‘Federation e-News’ was produced and distributed to every Chairperson and Principals in SA Catholic Schools and to all members of the Federation data base. A copy of the Federation e-news is accessible from the Federation website and linked to Facebook. The Federation newsletter is utilised as a communication tool to provide information on educational issues, relevant seminars, services and resources for parents.

In 2013 the Federation also established an online community via Facebook.

Membership to Facebook is growing steadily and proving to be another additional tool to communicate with parent communities in SA Catholic schools.

Complimentary copies of the Australian Parent’s Council quarterly publication ‘APC Review’ is included in mail outs.

Learning Assistance Program (LAP)

The Federation maintained its commitment to LAP in our schools through representation on the LAP Association’s Management Committee and with the provision of annual Responding to Abuse and Neglect, Education and Care training for LAP Association volunteers in Catholic schools.

Resources developed and updated

The Responding to Abuse and Neglect Training module and associated information brochure for school volunteers were updated in partnership with Catholic Education SA.
Other brochures updated in partnership with Catholic Education SA included Safe Teenage Parties and A-E of Student Reports

Other resources updated or new resources developed included:
- Choosing a Secondary School – Tips for Parents
- Parent-Teacher Interviews: An Essential Conversation (Primary and Secondary versions)
- Putting NAPLAN in Perspective
- We’re Engaged! Some Basic Tips to Support your Child’s Learning.
- Welcome Package for Families New to a Catholic School Community

Promotion of Parental Engagement in Education
In 2013, the web based tool, *Strengthening Family and Community Engagement in Student Learning* was promoted to both metropolitan and regional schools SA Catholic schools as an invaluable resource for school communities. Presentations of the resource were conducted to parent groups and School Boards.

The Executive Director and Parent Project Officer continued the work of promoting models of family school partnerships in schools via presentations to school leaders and emerging leaders, parent groups, school governing bodies, early career teachers and pre-service teachers, newsletter articles via Federation e-News, workshops and support meetings to assist schools to increase and encourage parent participation and engagement in their children’s education.

The Executive Director ran two workshops and president Caz Bosch was a key note speaker on the central place of family engagement in education reform at the annual South Australian Catholic School Principals (SACPPA) conference.

Trialling a new model of service delivery, the Executive Director worked with two school communities to address their goal to strengthen family engagement in their school communities. The ED worked closely with the leadership teams to develop a planned approach to working with the whole school community. Action Teams were set up with representation from leadership, staff, parents, community and students to review current practice, identify gaps and develop strategies for strengthening family engagement. Separate sessions for staff were provided. This model acknowledges the importance of principal led, whole of school approaches to systematically embed sustainable practices for engaging parents and families in learning and the life of the school.

Acknowledgement
The Federation acknowledges with thanks the South Australian Commission for Catholic Schools (SACCS), the Association of Principals of Catholic Secondary Schools (APCSS) and the South Australian Catholic Primary Principals Association (SACPPA) for funding to enable the Parent Engagement and Partnerships Program and the Minister for Education and Children’s Services for the provision of PIE Grant funding to support local school initiatives.
Organisational review

In late 2013, the Federation Council commissioned an independent review of its work in strategically promoting parent and family engagement in learning and schooling.

The key question for the review was:

*What model of service delivery would enable the Federation of Catholic School Parent Communities to best support the work of the Catholic Education Offices and SA Catholic schools to systematically embed sustainable practices and processes to strengthen parent and family engagement in learning and schooling?*

Federation Council engaged an independent consultant, Ms Karen Jennings, to undertake a series of interviews with key sector, school and Federation stakeholders to identify sector and school needs in addressing this key domain of school improvement.

A report and associated recommendations would be presented to Council early 2014 to support its work in determining the best organisational structure to enable it to continue to be a high quality, contemporary and relevant resource to Catholic Education SA in this core area of its work.
Inaugural Parent Conference

The Federation of Catholic School Parent Communities hosted its Inaugural Parent Leader Conference at the Monastery Function Centre on Saturday, 25th May 2013.

The conference was an opportunity for parent leaders in SA Catholic schools to explore the benefits and challenges of parent engagement in children’s schooling and learning in the 21st century and to share strategies for effective parent engagement in our schools. It was also an opportunity to meet and network with other Catholic school parent leaders.

Key note speakers were Dr Stacey Fox from the Australian Research Alliance for Children and Youth (ARACY) and educational consultant Mark Treadwell with workshops facilitated by Mark Treadwell and Phillip Slee.

Strategies for engaging parents were identified and shared by participants using the World Cafe model and a panel discussion on Family Engagement in Learning facilitated by Caz Bosch brought together the perspectives of school leaders, teachers, parents and students.

The conference was attended by forty five participants comprising parent leaders and principals from both metropolitan and regional schools, panel participants, conference speakers, Federation staff and Federation Council members.

The evaluation of the conference was based on feedback recorded from activities during conference day and testimonials received in the few weeks after the conference.

Feedback from participants indicated that the Federation’s Inaugural Parent Leader Conference 2013 was a resounding success with participants having found the conference both ‘fun and educational’ and a profile raising event for the work of the Federation of Catholic School Parent Communities.
The following testimonial is reflective of the overall positive response to the conference experience:

“A great day which empowered me as a parent to engage with my school to do anything that may improve my child’s future, the future of our world”

(Maria Sauchelli, St Joseph’s Hectorville)
**Tom Ffrench Family-School Partnership Awards**

In 2013, these annual awards were presented at the Conference dinner following the Federation’s Inaugural Parent Conference. These awards celebrate initiatives in our schools designed to strengthen the essential partnership between home and school.

Successful award recipients in 2013 were:

- St Joseph’s School, Murray Bridge for its *Wrap Around Approach* project.
- Our Lady of Grace School, Glengowrie for its *Buddy-up with a Family* project.
- St Joseph’s Memorial School, Norwood for its *Project Forward*.
- Our Lady Queen of Peace School, Albert Park for its *Pastoral Care Project*.
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<th>Our Strategic Intentions</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Choice</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Advocate for the right to choose a Catholic education</td>
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<tr>
<td>Promote an understanding and appreciation of the contribution of Catholic education</td>
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<tr>
<td>Represent parent rights and perspectives</td>
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<td>Strengthen and expand politically strategic relationships</td>
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<td><strong>Equity</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Advocate for a fair and equitable distribution of government recurrent and capital funding for schooling</td>
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<tr>
<td>Advocate for appropriate basic funding entitlements for all Catholic school students from the federal and state governments</td>
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<td>Advocate for parity in funding for students with disability, and special educational needs across all education sectors</td>
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<tr>
<td>Advocate for educational policy and practice that addresses educational disadvantage for Indigenous students, students from disadvantaged backgrounds and rural and remote communities.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Quality</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Advocate for the right of all students to quality educational opportunities and outcomes across all level of education from early childhood to senior secondary</td>
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<tr>
<td>Drive, promote and support family engagement and partnerships in education</td>
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<td>Develop and deliver innovative parent projects</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Voice</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Build a reputation as a peak body in education</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contribute to the shaping of educational policy and practice with strategic and skilled representation</td>
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<td>Build networks with like bodies</td>
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<td>Build and sustain strategic partnerships with key stakeholders</td>
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# The work of the Federation in 2013 by Numbers

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>101</strong></td>
<td>Number of SA Catholic school parent communities affiliated with the Federation in 2013 (out of 103 schools)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nearly <strong>50,000</strong></td>
<td>Number of children and young people in SA Catholic schools</td>
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<td><strong>4</strong></td>
<td>Number of Tom Ffrench Family School Partnership Awards presented</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>4</strong></td>
<td>Core values of the Federation – Choice, Voice, Equity and Quality</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>11</strong></td>
<td>Number of members of the Federation Council as of 31.12.13</td>
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<td><strong>46</strong></td>
<td>Number of years since the formation of the Federation as the peak body for SA Catholic school parents in 1967</td>
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<td><strong>47</strong></td>
<td>Number of state members of parliament who received a letter from the Federation in June alerting them to issues of concern in relation to governments’ funding for students in SA Catholic schools students calling on them to take these concerns to the Premier</td>
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<td><strong>3.7 &amp; 7.3</strong></td>
<td>National professional standards for teachers represented in the St Gabriel’s, Enfield story documented in an Australian Institute of Teaching and School Leadership Illustration of Practice co-ordinated by the Federation on behalf of the Australian Parents Council.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>31</strong></td>
<td>Number of key national, state and Catholic Education SA committees with Federation representation bringing the unique Catholic school parent perceptive to their work</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>8</strong></td>
<td>Number of the Domain in Catholic Education SA’s Continuous Improvement Framework for Catholic schools dedicated to Strong Home, School and Community Engagement</td>
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<td><strong>25,000</strong> Dollars</td>
<td>Provided by the SA State government in Parents in Education (PIE) grant funding for SA Catholic school communities</td>
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30  Number of Catholic schools benefitting from 13/14 PIE grant funding

14  Years of service to the Federation Council provided by current Council member, Caz Bosch

2  Number of keynote speakers at the Federation’s inaugural Conference titled Parent Engagement in Learning for Life. The keynote speakers were Stacey Fox and Mark Treadwell

3.30  **Dollars** Per student amount used to calculate each SA Catholic school parent community’s annual affiliation fee to the Federation

1.95  Total full time equivalent (FTE) of the four part time positions in the Federation office – punching above our weight!

7  Number of state and territory Catholic school parent bodies that joined Catholic School Parents Australia as founding members in October

3  Total of 2 workshops and 1 keynote address presented by the Federation at the SA Catholic Primary Principals (SACPPA) Conference in September

**Immeasurable**

The dollar value of the hours volunteered by families in SA Catholic school communities and....

**Endless**

The number of hours of invaluable at-home family support provided to children and young people in SA Catholic schools.
THE FEDERATION OF CATHOLIC SCHOOL
PARENT COMMUNITIES

SPECIAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2013
THE FEDERATION OF CATHOLIC SCHOOL
PARENT COMMUNITIES

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT REPORT

Your board members submit the special purpose financial report of The Federation of Catholic School Parent Communities for the year ended 31 December 2013.

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

The principal activities of the association during the financial period were to promote the interests of parents of students in South Australian catholic schools via advocacy, representation, service and consultancy.

SIGNIFICANT CHANGES

No significant change in the nature of these activities occurred during the period.

OPERATING RESULT

The profit from ordinary activities for the year amounted to $14,535.15 (2012 $ 10,274.48).

During the financial year no officer of the Association, nor firm of which an officer is a member, nor a body corporate in which the officer has a substantial financial interest, has received or become entitled to receive a benefit as a result of a contract between an officer, firm or body corporate and the Association.

No officer of the Association has received directly or indirectly from the Association any payment or other benefit of pecuniary value, other than in the case of officers employed by the Association.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Members of the Board.

Chairperson  
Treasurer

Dated this 5th day of May 2014.
### INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INCOME</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Affiliation Fees</td>
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<td>Other Grants</td>
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<td>Miscellaneous</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>265,130.80</strong></td>
<td><strong>264,103.32</strong></td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXPENDITURE</th>
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<tr>
<td>Accounting and Audit Fees</td>
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<td>APC Expenses</td>
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<td>Bad Debts Expense</td>
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<tr>
<td>Council Expenses</td>
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<td>Insurance</td>
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<td>Parental Engagement Forum / Project</td>
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<td>Premier's Grant Expenses</td>
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<td>Regional Meeting Costs</td>
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<td>Special Projects</td>
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<td>Subscriptions &amp; Publications</td>
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<td><strong>250,595.65</strong></td>
<td><strong>253,828.84</strong></td>
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| Profit/(Loss) from Ordinary Activities      | 14,535.15 | 10,274.48 |
| Retained Profits at the beginning of the financial year | 80,249.63 | 74,975.15 |
| Transfer To Special Purpose Reserves         | -   | 5,000.00 |
| Retained Profits at the end of the financial year | 94,784.78 | 80,249.63 |

The accompanying notes form part of this financial report.
### Assets and Liabilities Statement

**As at 31 December 2013**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Note</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Current Assets</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Cash and Cash Equivalents</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trade and Other Receivables</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL ASSETS</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Current Liabilities</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Trade and Other Payables</td>
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<td>5,588.02</td>
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<tr>
<td>Provisions</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL LIABILITIES</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Net Assets</strong></td>
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**Members Reserves**

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<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reserves</td>
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<tr>
<td>Retained Profits</td>
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<td>80,249.63</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL MEMBERS FUNDS</strong></td>
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<td>155,252.84</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The accompanying notes form part of this financial report.

3.
NOTE 1 : SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES
This financial report is a special purpose financial report prepared in order to satisfy the
financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporations Act 1985 (as amended). The members of the Board have determined that the association is not a reporting entity.

The financial report has been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historic costs, which do not take into account changing money values or, except where specifically stated, current values of non-current assets.

The following significant accounting policies which are consistent with the previous period unless otherwise stated have been adopted in the preparation of this financial report.

Income Tax
Under section 23(g) of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1936, the association is exempt from income tax.

Plant and Equipment
Plant and Equipment are carried at cost less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation. The carrying amount of plant and equipment is reviewed annually by the board to ensure that it does not exceed recoverable amount.

The depreciable amount of all fixed assets are depreciated on a Diminishing Value basis over the useful lives of the assets in the association commencing from the time the assets is held ready for use.

Employee Entitlements
Employee Provisions represent liabilities for Annual and Long Service Leave owing to employees as at 31 December 2013. Employee entitlements have been measured at the amounts required to settle the obligation at the end of the reporting period.

Going Concern
The financial report has been prepared on a going concern basis as the board have been assured continued financial support from affiliation and grant funding organisations, and the board believe that such support will continue to be made available to the association.

Comparative Figures
When required by Accounting Standards, comparative figures have been adjusted to conform to changes in presentation for the current financial year.
## NOTE 2: CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2013</th>
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<tr>
<td>Federation Account S7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fixed Term Deposit</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<td>$160,840.86</td>
</tr>
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</table>

## NOTE 3: TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grants Receivable</td>
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<td>LSL Funds</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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## NOTE 4: TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accruals</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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## NOTE 5: RESERVES

<table>
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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>$51,257.21</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>$75,003.21</td>
<td>$75,003.21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
THE FEDERATION OF CATHOLIC SCHOOL
PARENT COMMUNITIES

STATEMENT BY THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

The members of the Board have determined that the association is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the financial statements.

In the opinion of the members of the Board the financial report as set out on pages 2 to 5:

1. Presents a true and fair view of the financial position of The Federation of Catholic School Parent Communities as at 31 December 2013 and its performance for the year ended on that date.

2. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that The Federation of Catholic School Parent Communities will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the members of the Board and is signed for and on behalf of the members of the board by:

[Signatures]

Chairperson

Treasurer

Dated this 5th day of May 2014.
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR’S REPORT
TO THE MEMBERS OF THE FEDERATION OF CATHOLIC SCHOOL PARENT COMMUNITIES

We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report of The Federation of Catholic School Parent Communities, which comprises the assets and liabilities statement as at 31 December 2012, income and expenditure statement for the year then ended, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the statement by members of the committee.

Committee’s Responsibility for the Financial Report

The Committee of The Federation of Catholic School Parent Communities is responsible for the preparation of the financial report, and has determined that the basis of preparation described in Note 1 is appropriate to meet the requirements of the Associations Incorporations Act 1985 (as amended) and is appropriate to meet the needs of the members. The Committee’s responsibility also includes such internal control as the committee determines is necessary to enable the preparation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement.

Auditor’s Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. We have conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Those standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor’s judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the association’s preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view, in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the association’s internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the committee, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.
OPINION

In our opinion, the financial report presents fairly, in all material respects the financial position of The Federation of Catholic School Parent Communities as at 31 December 2013 and its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements, and the requirements of the Associations Incorporations Act 1985 (as amended).

Basis of Accounting and Restriction on Distribution
Without modifying our opinion, we draw attention to Note 1 to the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared to assist The Federation of Catholic School Parent Communities to meet the requirements of the Associations Incorporations Act 1985 (as amended). As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose.

S P GRAETZ
Adelaide

MESSENGER ZERNER PTY LTD
Chartered Accountants

Dated 19 day of May 2014
Appendix 1

Committee Membership 2013

The Council and Staff of the Federation of Catholic School Parent Communities represented parents on the following committees and working parties:

**National**

**National Catholic Education Commission (NCEC) Parent Representative (from July 2013)**
Ann Bliss

**NCEC Parent Committee** (disbanded June 2013)
Dianne Mack and Jlse Sanderson

**Australian Parents Council (APC)**
- **President** – Caz Bosch
- **Treasurer** – Paul Della
- **National Executive** – Caz Bosch, Ann Bliss and Paul Della
- **Government Advocacy, Funding and Policy Task Group** – Caz Bosch (Chair) and Ann Bliss
- **Parent Engagement and Partnership task group** – Ann Bliss
- **Students with Disability task group** – Rebecca Smith
- **College of Executive Officers** – Ann Bliss
- **Family School and Community Partnership Bureau Governance Committee** – Caz Bosch
- **Indigenous Parent Factor Project reference group** – Caz Bosch, and Paul Della

**Catholic School Parents Australia (CSPA)**
- **SA representatives** – Ann Bliss and Kylie Ind

**State**

**Ministerial Advisory Committee on Non-Government Schools**
Ann Bliss

**Teachers Registration Board** – Ann Bliss (Non-representative)

**SACE Parent Reference group** – Ann Bliss

**Education and Care Legislative Review Stakeholders Group** – Ann Bliss

**Archdiocesan**

**Partnerships in Sacramental Catechesis working group** – Ann Bliss
Catholic Education South Australia

South Australian Commission for Catholic Schools (SACCS)
Ann Bliss (Non-representative) up to August 2013

Standing Committees
- Religious Leadership and Culture – Ann Bliss (as Chair) up to August 2013 and Rebecca Smith
- Administration, Finance and Planning – Kay Neill
- Faith and Education – Shefia Nemer-Khoury and Terri Judd

Committees
- Infrastructure, Planning and Development Committee – Caz Bosch
- Special Education Advisory Committee – Jlse Sanderson
- Educational Programs Advisory Committee – Ann Bliss
- Languages, Literacy and Numeracy Advisory Committee – Simon Abbott
- Behaviour Education and Review Committee – Terri Judd
- Enterprise Vocational Education Advisory Committee – Jeff Carr/Cherrell Murray
- Political Strategy Advisory Group – Ann Bliss

Working Parties
- Child Protection – Terri Judd
- Child Protection Curriculum Development – Terri Judd
- Refugee Task Group – Terri Judd
- Planning Task Group – Ann Bliss
- Assessment and Reporting Policy Review – Ann Bliss

Reference Groups
- Martin Seligman Thinker in Residence – Terri Judd
- Carla Rinaldi Thinker in Residence – Ann Bliss
- CES A Continuous Improvement Framework – Ann Bliss

Inter Sector Committees

State, Catholic and Independent
- SA Canteen Network – Terri Judd
- LAP Association Management Committee – Terri Judd

Other
- National Association for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (NAPCAN) – Terri Judd
- Federation’s Political Strategy Sub-committee – Caz Bosch, Simon Abbott, Sarah Wood and Ann Bliss
Appendix 2

Parent Workshops on Offer in 2013

Responding to Abuse and Neglect, Education and Care Induction Seminars for Volunteers
This seminar provides an introduction to the concept of mandatory notification highlighting the role and responsibilities of volunteers. It is targeted to all volunteers in schools – LAP, sports coaches, canteen volunteers and those attending camps and excursions.

Supporting Kids to Make Good Choices
Suitable for those schools with Choice Theory as a particular focus, this workshop introduces the concepts of Choice Theory and looks at implementing the principles in the context of parenting.

Making the Most of Parent Teacher Interviews
This workshop is for parents wishing to develop a constructive working relationship with their child's teacher and make the most of parent-teacher conversations. Based on research that: “Comprehensive, well planned partnerships between family and school lead to higher student achievement.” (Henderson and Berla, 1994)

Bullying- some questions answered
This workshop answers the “what? how? and why?” about bullying. It explores strategies that parents may employ to address the issue of bullying with their children and ways that parents can support and complement the school policies related to bullying and personal responsibility.

From Primary to Secondary School – supporting parents with this transition
This workshop explores the issues that may arise for parents when their child moves from primary school to secondary school and identifies strategies to support parents in this transition.

Yr 8 Orientation Session
This customised program is designed to be offered in the secondary school setting for parents of students due to start in Year 8. It is developed and implemented in partnership with the school principal and parent leaders to ensure its relevance to the school context.

The A-E of Student Reports – making them work to support your child's learning
This workshop provides the opportunity to discuss the format of student reports and the role reports play in informing parents of their child’s achievements, progress, strengths and challenges at school. It explores the rights and responsibilities of parents to work in partnership with the school to support their child’s learning.
Choosing a Secondary School
This interactive workshop explores a decision making process that parents may apply when undertaking the challenging task of choosing a secondary school for their child.

Building Your Child’s Resilience
This interactive workshop for parents explores some strategies for building resilience in children. It also includes information and ideas for addressing the issue of bullying with children and supporting and complementing school policies relating to bullying and personal responsibility.

Supporting Your Child’s Learning
This workshop explores handy hints and strategies for parents and caregivers to play a central role in supporting their child’s learning to maximising success, including tips for stress free homework and much more.

Cyber-safety Awareness for Parents and Carers
This workshop explores some strategies for keeping children safe online. It includes information for addressing the issue of cyber-bullying and supporting and complementing school policies relating to bullying and personal responsibility.

Embracing and Building Community
This workshop is customised to the needs of school and parent leaders and is offered on request. The workshop aims to support, develop and promote positive and constructive Family/School partnerships and is designed for P&F / Parent groups that wish to reinvigorate the role and purpose of their group. This workshop includes strategies for problem solving, setting directions i.e. formation of an Action Plan and also includes resources and tools for strategic planning in partnership with school leaders and the parent community. This workshop is designed to celebrate parent engagement and also promote strategies for building community further.
Appendix 3

Parent Initiatives in Education (PIE) Grants

Summary of School Projects: 2013-2014

1: St Thomas More School

Project: Developing strong partnerships with parents via a series of workshops to connect learning at school and at home.
This program is designed to actively engage parents and caregivers in a parent module supporting the school program: ‘What’s the Buzz?’ connecting learning at school and at home. Additional workshops will include: ‘Raising beaut kids’ and ‘Real ideas to build better behaviours’. Sessions 1-3 will be presented by Mark Le Messurier and an additional two follow up sessions to be facilitated by the school counsellor and key teacher to determine ‘follow up and planning’ and ‘evaluation of program’.

2: Mary Mackillop Memorial School, Penola

Project: Families communicating and engaging with their child’s learning.
This project aims to bring together two motivational speakers who have achieved milestones and overcome personal hurdles from ordinary beginnings. One speaker will address certain issues with girls such as body image and self-esteem. The other speaker will address issues for boys re: ‘working hard for success’. The program will complement the school’s Mittiog program and teachers will follow up the parent evening with further information for children in the classroom. It is hoped that parents will absorb the information from the speakers and engage with their children in motivational conversations on how to overcome hurdles and achieve success.

3: St Columba’s Memorial School, Yorketown

Project: Meet and Greet, Family Fun Day.
This project will provide an opportunity to introduce new families to the school community. A welcome pack will be provided that contains information about family engagement and participation opportunities in the school and community. Twenty new families will receive a welcome pack to support their involvement and engagement in the school community and encourage parent engagement in their children’s education.

4: Thomas Moore College

Project: IT Safety – Navigating IT from Your Childs’ View Point.
This project will engage Sonya Ryan from the Carly Ryan Foundation to engage and empower parents with information about how to communicate and engage with their children concerning the use of technologies safely and appropriately for their education and personal life. This project will engage parents in their child’s learning and will connect learning at school and at home.

5: Rosary School

Project: Raising Beaut kids.
This Project will engage Mark Le Messurier as facilitator to work with parents to support their roles as their child’s first educator assisting parents to gain skills in building children’s resilience and problem solving to enhance the well-being of children.
6. St Joseph’s School, Port Lincoln

Project: Early Years Wellbeing Handbook.
This project aims to engage parents and caregivers of Reception and Year 1 students to support and help their children learn in the early years of school. It will produce an interactive ‘handbook’ to be used as a work booklet that children can use as a ‘homework’ project that the family can work on and engage together, i.e. games and questions relating to particular issues such as building resilience, coping with anxiety and understanding bullying. The outcome is to contribute to a positive social emotional wellbeing of both child and parent.

7. St Gabriel’s School

Project: Magical Mystery Tour.
This project aims to provide a group of community members with an opportunity to visit and experience other school learning spaces. Through the school visits an understanding will be gained around contemporary learning spaces. This project aims to connect with and enter into an educational dialogue with families increasing involvement in participation and decision making in new building design.

8. Mercedes College

Project: Practical strategies for parents to set children up for success- connecting learning at school and at home.
This program aims to provide an opportunity for Junior school parents to come together to hear a facilitator, Mark Le Messurier speaks about topics concerning: ‘Practical ideas to build children’s emotional resilience’ and ‘Real ideas to build better behaviours’. The college has a well-regarded Inclusive Education Program that supports a number of children with learning/ developmental/ medical/ social/ emotional/ behavioural concerns and this project aims to encourage and realise a connection with young families supporting their child’s learning.

9. Our Lady of the Sacred Heart College

Project: Connecting with Indian families and supporting learning at home.
This project aims to assist Indian families to have a better understanding of Australian education so that they may better support their child’s learning. The school will conduct parent surveys to identify parent needs in understanding schooling in Australia and tailor a series of workshops that will assist families to better engage and support their daughters learning and to dispel parent’s own feelings of helplessness.

10. St Mary’s Memorial School

Project: Keeping children safe online- empowering parents.
This project aims to attract a large audience of parents representing eight Catholic schools to participate in a parent/school family evening addressing concerns and issues of child safety ‘online’. It is hoped that families will be attracted to attend with the engagement of a high profile speaker such as Michael Carr- Gregg, an expert in the field of cyber- safety and cyber bullying. Parents will gain an understanding of how they can help their children and control their use of social media. Dr Carr Greg will provide coping and managing strategies for parents to better engage with their child. Schools to be invited for this presentation include the following: Christ the King School; Our Lady of Grace School; Sacred Heart Middle School; Star of the Sea School; Stella Maris Parish School; Marymount College; St Teresa’s School.
11. St Pius X

Project: Healthy Eating Education for Parents
This project will provide a message of healthy eating by engaging parents and children in a shared performance based educational experience promoting the message of health eating. The educational performance by ‘Bright Spark Entertainment, JunkFood Jim and the Flying Fruit Circus’ will engage and encourage parents to support their child’s learning. Parent workshops will follow the event and will provide parents with strategies to prepare quick, cheap and healthy lunch boxes. The workshops will provide practical advice on nutrition and highlight the importance of healthy eating at home and at school for good learning outcomes. This project also aims to attract parents not already actively involved in other aspects of school life. Handouts and newsletter articles will also support families with information regarding healthy eating.

12. St Mary Mackillop School, Wallaroo

Project: Developing parent knowledge and partnerships to support their child’s learning through improved social and emotional wellbeing.
A workshop presented by Mark Le Messurier aims to help parents to support their children to achieve the best possible outcomes in their social and emotional wellbeing and thus their learning. This workshop will connect learning at school and at home and make meaningful and practical connections between the learning from the Mark Le Messurier presentation and the resilience program for students, Program Achieve, which is part of the St Mary Mackillop School curriculum. It is envisaged that this workshop will create an ongoing partnership between parents and the school. This project aims to bring together people from different cultures and religious backgrounds, single families struggling financially without the emotional support from extended families. The demographic of families involved in the school face many challenges akin to isolated communities.

13. St Margaret Mary’s School

Project: Parish Schools, Parent Education. Connecting three school communities to enhance children’s learning outcomes.
Connecting parents from three Catholic schools in a combined gathering to engage in a presentation facilitated by Mark Le Messurier. This project aims to engage parents and develop their skills in supporting their child’s learning and gain a richer understanding of community. Mark will present three sessions that will develop parent’s understanding and parenting skills to assist student learning outcomes and student and family wellbeing. Workshops will be supported with follow up newsletter articles and information translated to engage Vietnamese families. Parish schools involved include: St Margaret Mary’s school, St Patrick’s School and Whitefriars.

14. St Patrick’s School, Mansfield Park

Project: Parish Schools, Parent Education. Building a broad sense of a learning community.
This project aims to connect the communities of three parish schools, working together as groups to build a broad sense of community. A parent education seminar facilitated by Mark Le Messurier will assist parents to engage with their children to build better behaviours, emotional resilience, raising kids. It is envisaged that the session will encourage parent engagement with parents from a low socio economic community. This PIE Grant Application will support one of the three planned sessions in each parish school community. Schools involved: Whitefriars School, St Patrick’s School and St Margaret Mary’s School.
15. St Francis School, Lockleys

Project: Building parental capacity to assist, encourage and engage parents in their child’s learning.
This project is a two year parent engagement strategy that aims to provide parents with information that they have identified as needs as depicted via online surveys (Survey Monkey) conducted with the parent community. In the first year, a series of three sessions will be offered to provide parenting tips in how parents can greatly influence their child’s attitudes towards school, other children and their development. The sessions will include topics around ‘Supporting your child at school’, Working restoratively with your child’ and ‘Understanding Sensory integration and your child’s development’. The second year will focus parent sessions on: ‘How to help you child with Literacy skills’, ‘How to help your child with Numeracy skills; ‘Using ICT- Cyber safety, ICT programs, social media and ‘Study skills and positive work habits at home’.

16. St Anthony’s Catholic Primary School

Project: Real ideas to build better behaviours and connecting learning at school and at home.
This project aims to connect learning at school and at home with a facilitator that will engage with teachers in one workshop session and follow up the session with a workshop for parents. It is envisaged that this program will provide parents in the community with the necessary skills to engage more confidently with their children’s behaviour and influence their child’s overall happiness. The program will complement the schools social skills program and enhance its effect by empowering parents to follow through with proven strategies to support their children at home.

17. (b) Our Lady Queen of Peace School

Project: Encouraging parents to engage with their child’s learning by addressing skills to ‘raise beaut kids.
“Kids need parents that know when to say yes and how to say no”. Mark Le Messurier will engage with parents empowering them to show sound judgement, compassionate leadership and the capacity to develop predictable structures, boundaries and routines that will enhance their relationships and affect their child’s learning outcomes.

18. Whitefriars School

Project: Parish Schools, Parent Education.
Making connections and encouraging parent engagement in children’s learning.
This project aims to connect three Catholic school parent communities coming together encouraging parent engagement in their child’s learning by offering three separate workshops facilitated by Mark Le Messurier. This PIE grant application supports one of these sessions. This project will also support the development of a Vietnamese Parent group and it is intended that this forum be utilised as a forum of discussion with parents who attend Mark Le Messurier’s session sharing input in informal coffee sessions that are planned to follow mark’s sessions. The aim is to continue the momentum to build and embrace community and parent engagement. The three schools taking part in this project are: St Margaret Mary’s School, Whitefriars and St Patrick’s School.

19. St Francis Xavier Regional Catholic School

Project: Wellbeing “for me and my child”
This project aims to support families across a range of capacities that they may have skills to develop,
in their children: social and emotional competencies: fostering children’s engagement in learning by the recognition of strengths and capacities and the development of recognition of children as competent- understanding the importance of challenges, risk and open-ended learning experiences. Parent sessions are planned to support parents’ wellbeing and be given strategies to support their child’s wellbeing. Wellbeing is a core to learning.

**20. St Brigid’s Catholic School, Evanston**

**Project: Continuing ‘What’s the Buzz’ parent workshops**

Mark Le Messurier will continue to present a highly successful program of workshops presented to parents in 2013. The workshops are designed for families to raise awareness and an understanding of the ‘What’s the Buzz’ program that is being utilised with students in the classroom. Feedback from the 2013 workshops were so positive that the community requested more for 2014.

**21. St Joseph’s School, Payneham**

**Project: Supportive Strategies to Empower Successful learning**

The goal underpinning this initiative is to follow up on last year’s very successful presentation by Bartek Rajkowski. The parents and caregivers who attended thoroughly valued his well- researched information and requested the possibility to revisit topics presented and wanted to explore how to build on the skills gained from having attended his session to support their children’s learning. The main goal in having a follow up session is to keep the parent community highly involved in encouraging their children’s strengths and build on this to achieve: (1) greater independence in finding strategies to support their own (students) learning and (2) build parent confidence in how best to support their children at home and at school.

**22. Emmaus School**

**Project: Ways for Dads to get involved in their Children’s Education**

This Program aims to support Dads to build stronger connections with their children. Through mal White’s presentation: Good Dads GREAT DADS; footsteps worth following (Kids Hope Aus), Dads will be encouraged to become more actively involved in the education and life of their children and their children’s school.

**23. Marymount College**

**Project: Parent partnership to best support learning and well being**

This program fulfils a goal identified via communication with the parent community requesting that the school provide guest speakers to provide information relevant to the parent community to assist and build the capacity of parents to support their children’s wellbeing, learning and social and emotional capacities.

**Summary:**

- Twenty three schools have applied for PIE Grant funding. In all a total of thirty schools will benefit from a total of twenty-three projects.

**PIE Grant funding made available for 2013-2014:** $25,000
Acknowledgements

In the spirit of partnership, the Council of the Federation of Catholic School Parent Communities acknowledges the following for their support of the work of the Federation in 2013:

- Parents and families, who, as integral members of our Catholic school communities, have worked in partnership with educators to support their school and encourage their children’s education;

- Board Chairs and parent group leaders for promoting and valuing the Federation as an advocate for parents and utilising its resources to support their schools’ parent communities;

- The highly dedicated and skilled teachers, school staff and school leaders in SA Catholic schools for their commitment to provide a quality education for our children in partnership with parents and in an environment that nurtures their intellectual, physical and spiritual development;

- All leaders, education advisers and staff of the Catholic Education Offices in SA for their authentic commitment to working in partnership with the Federation;

- All past, retiring, continuing and new Council members for their commitment and expertise and passion for parent engagement in education;

- The Federation office staff who bring a passion and commitment to their work that complements their many and varied skills and special qualities.