Principal’s Report...

Welcome to our second newsletter for this term which again highlights the extensive learning opportunities provided by North High. In this article I want to concentrate on: My Big Picture Plan; Student Led Conferences; managing student conflict; Back to the 80’s musical; NAPLAN testing; Queensland Core Skills practice tests; and Year 10 subject selection for 2016.

Student Led Conferences:
Last week, we held the first of our Student Led Conferences with large numbers of parents and students participating. By the end of the day, almost 400 students had led a conference with their parents, supported by their RAS teacher. Students discussed their academic progress and set goals to achieve in their next learning phase. This was a 400% increase in parent participation compared to our previous parent teacher interviews. We are still collecting feedback from parents, students and staff about the conferences which will assist us in improving our process into the future. I can say that the trend of this feedback to date is very positive, with parents in general finding the process very supportive and helpful to their students. While this is a new concept to North High, it is a concept that has been implemented across the world and is often referred to as student self-reported grades, which has been found by educational researchers to have a significant impact on improving student academic performance. I wish to thank Michelle Pole, Junior School Deputy Principal, for all the work she has put into ensuring our first conferences were a success; our RAS teachers for their work in preparing students for their conferences; our students for the manner in which they have embraced this new approach; and to you, our parents, for your response.

Managing student conflict:
Our school is a large community of young people and, from time to time, relationships between students can be tested, resulting in conflict, just like in any community. Should a student find themselves in this situation we expect that they do not approach the student they are in conflict with but to seek the support of an adult in our school, [classroom teacher, Deputy Principal, Principal, Year Level Coordinator, School Based Youth Health Nurse, School Based Police Officer, Chaplain, Guidance Officer, Youth Support Coordinator or our senior school Peer Mediation Team] to assist them to resolve the problem. We, just like the rest of our society, have no tolerance for the use of violence or harassing behaviour as a way of resolving conflict, and students who engage in this behaviour will be subject to very serious consequences. This approach to dealing with conflict has, in recent years, seen a significant reduction in the amount of physical conflict experienced in the school. I ask you to discuss this with your student, have them share with you any concerns they have about relationships with other students, and encourage them to follow our process for dealing with conflict.

‘Back to the 80’s’ Musical preparations:
Preparation for our school musical Back to the 80’s is drawing to a close, with the final touches being made. Our...
students and staff have worked hard throughout term 1 and 2 putting the musical together and it promises to be a performance spectacular showcasing our many talented students and staff. I hope you can make it along to see this great event on the evenings of Friday, May 22 and Saturday, May 23. Tickets will be on sale at the door on each evening. Please see the article later in this newsletter for more details.

NAPLAN testing:
This week, Year 7 and 9 students completed their NAPLAN testing, which included writing, reading, language conventions and numeracy skills testing. The students approached the tests with confidence and a high level of engagement. I want to thank all staff who played a role in preparing the students for the tests and the students for the serious and committed manner with which they approached the preparation and testing. Even though the testing has finished, our Literacy and Numeracy development programs will continue with a strong focus on strengthening students’ skills to ensure they achieve the best outcomes across all of their subjects. Results of this testing will be available later this year, which will be valuable data used to identify our progress in growing the literacy and numeracy skills of our students.

Queensland Core Skills [QCS] practice tests:
Since the beginning of the year, Year 12 OP eligible students have been participating in a QCS test preparation program ahead of the real test in September. Students have spent time developing their test-taking skills through: specific lessons on each aspect of the test, participation in practice tests, and responding to feedback on how to improve their performance based on the practice test results. This week, students completed a practice Writing Task test as part of the QCS preparation program and will soon be receiving feedback. While this program plays an important role in achieving a good OP, it is only part of what is required. Individual student results are the most significant contributing factor to the attainment of a good OP and all students must work hard to get the best result possible in all of their subjects.

Year 10 Subject Selection for 2016:
Year 10 students are currently participating in Senior Education and Training [SET] Plan lessons to assist in the development of their SET Plans and the selection of subjects for senior school. All students after Year 10 must be earning or learning, which means that they must be participating in an eligible option post year 10. This includes: returning to school, working for 25 hours or more a week, engaged in training as part of an apprenticeship, or participating in a Certificate III level qualification course at another training provider. The students have a big decision to make about their future schooling and career pathways which, while not life-changing, is certainly life-influencing.

Students choosing to return to school do so with the understanding that they must be actively working towards the attainment of a Queensland Certificate of Education. This generally means that all students must receive a passing mark in all their senior subjects. Preparation for senior studies is not only about completing the SET Plan but includes students ensuring they have a strong academic foundation from which they can engage successfully in their senior school studies. This is achieved by students reaching at least a ‘C’ standard in all of their Year 10 subjects. Students on a recent assembly were told of the importance of attaining this standard in English and Mathematics and the possibility of not being invited to enrol in Year 11 and 12 subjects if this standard has not been attained. If you are a Year 10 parent I ask that you to continue to discuss with your student their progress and plans for 2016 and beyond.

The 10 into 11 Subject Selection evening will be held on Tuesday, July 21. Attendance by all students and parents is critical to ensuring students make good decisions about their future with the support of their parents. Therefore, I expect all students and parents to attend.

Finally, please continue to contact the school if you have any concerns regarding your student’s education so that together we can produce the best outcomes for your child.

Ross Robertson
Principal
Hello to all parents and carers

February 5th saw the Annual General meeting of the P&C with the following office bearers elected:

Mark McKean - President
Steve Weller - Vice President
Julie Schulte - Secretary
Susan Ide - Treasurer

The incoming committee would like to thank all members for their service, in particular the outgoing President - Roger Burtt.

Are you good with numbers?? Our long serving Treasurer would like a rest and the P&C would like to hear from any volunteers available to fill the role. Pay some bills and present the monthly report - nothing to it?

The P&C are actively looking for some new blood and interested parents, carers and friends. Play a part in the future of the school and see how the students and the school can benefit. The more input - the more chance of benefits for all.

Just one day per month (or more) - can you afford this amount of time to volunteer in the tuckshop. All help would be greatly appreciated. For further information please contact the office and I am sure they will pass on the contact details to you.

I look forward to seeing you at the next meeting Thursday, June 4th starting at 5.00pm. New venue - G Block conference room (Look for Art and you must be close).

Mark McKean
P&C President

DATES TO REMEMBER:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>22nd - 23rd May 2015</td>
<td>School Musical – “Back to the 80's”</td>
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<tr>
<td>26th May 2015</td>
<td>Bundaberg Careers Expo</td>
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<tr>
<td>27th May 2015</td>
<td>Walkathon &amp; Cross Country</td>
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<tr>
<td>28th May 2015</td>
<td>Bundaberg Show Holiday</td>
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<td>8th June 2015</td>
<td>Queen’s Birthday public holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>9th June 2015</td>
<td>Year 8 vaccinations</td>
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It is important that our office staff are kept up to date with the latest information and process involved in their role and the day to day operation of the office. To ensure that they are given the opportunity to receive professional development of this nature, the office will close, EACH WEDNESDAY AT 3:30pm.

Please ensure that any business you need to conduct at the school office is completed before 3:30pm.

We sincerely appreciate your cooperation.

Office hours:  Mon, Tue, Thur, Fri - 8:00am – 4:00pm
              Wed             - 8:00am – 3:30pm
Subject selection evening

On **July 21st** all Year 10s and their parents will be asked to attend a Career Education/Subject Selection evening in our hall. Students have begun a career education program once a week on Tuesdays. Students will be beginning to develop their SETP (Senior Education Training Plan). They will be researching potential jobs/careers of interest and learning about the subjects that will be offered in Year 11. Please place this date on your calendar. We would like to see all students and their parents attend this evening to gain information about the senior curriculum. More specific details will follow.

Back to the 80’s – North High School Musical, May 22\(^{nd}\) & 23\(^{rd}\).

We can't believe it is only a week away. I want to take the opportunity to encourage you to see the 2015 school musical 'Back to the 80’s'. This is a special invitation for new members of our school community. The school musical provides opportunities for students with varying talents to come together as a team.

All of the cast and crew have been working hard and are excited to be part of a fun-filled musical. It is great to see some new students taking on the challenge of the stage with such vigor.

The hall will once again be lit up with the florescent and neon colours of the 80’s will being graced with big hair and taffeta dresses.

Going 'Back to the 80's' will have everyone singing and dancing along to the hits of the decade including; Girls Just Wanna Have Fun, Footloose and Loveshack.

Based in the US, this musical tells the story of Corey Palmer Sr, now 30-something and living in 2001, as he relives his senior year at William Ocean High School in the 1980s.

Join the graduating class of William Ocean High School as they live through their final senior year as they experience the fun, the heartbreak, the loves and the loneliness of growing up, all set to the biggest hits of the 80s.

Tickets can be purchased at the door on Friday, 22\(^{nd}\) and Saturday, 23\(^{rd}\) May. Tickets are $10 for adults and $5 for school aged children. The show starts at 7.00 pm.

Don't miss out on this fun-filled show which is sure to have you dancing in your seats.
Walkathon and Cross Country

Due to rainy weather, our Walkathon and Cross Country were postponed. We will be holding both events on Wednesday, 27th May. All students are expected to participate in either the Walkathon or Cross country unless they have a medical condition. Student not participating will be supervised doing work at school. This is a fundraiser for Student Council. Students have the option of gaining sponsorship or paying $4.00. It should be a great activity.

NATIONAL DAY OF ACTION AGAINST BULLYING AND VIOLENCE

On Friday, 20th March our school once again participated in the ‘National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence’. Students from every year level were invited to come under ‘C’ block at lunchtime to draw an outline of their hand on large boards to show their support for our theme - “Join hands to stop bullying”. Students from our Anti-Bullying Committee helped to facilitate this process on the day and we were thrilled to see so many students and teachers participating. Students were also given a wristband that said “Bullying no way! Take a stand together”. Members of our ‘Better Buddies’ Anti-Bullying Committee are currently adding the finishing touches to these boards and we hope to display them in the school sometime soon.

Staff and students are photographed below taking part in the lunch time activities
ROWING – FIRST REGATTA

Sunday, 4th May was the first Bundaberg Radiology BDSSS Regatta for 2015. Our 26 proud rowers took on the other Bundaberg schools and were greatly noticed in their new uniform. Despite the cold and windy start to the day there were some outstanding results. These included:

1st – Thomas Walker, Nathan Richardson, Ben Maddy & Lara Benecke in the Yr 8 Boys Quad
2nd – Alice Wake, Jamima Stephenson, Simran Prasad & Jemima Pacey in the Yr 7 Girls Quad
3rd – Jessica Laven in a Mixed School Yr 7 Girls Quad
3rd – Georgia Haupt, Lara Benecke, Simran Prasad & Jemima Pacey in the Yr 8 Girls Quad
3rd – Jessica Laven & Simran Prasad in the Yr 7 Girls Double
3rd – Cooper Habermann & Luke Laven in the Open Boys Double
4th – Jake Thomson in the U/17 Boys Single

Congratulations to our 16 beginner rowers from Yr 7, 8 & 12, all making it to the end high and dry. There were good racing conditions on the day with all putting in a great effort and gaining valuable race experience for the upcoming ‘Head of the River’ Regatta. The Head of River Regatta is on Sunday, 14th June. A big THANK-YOU to all the parents and coaches that helped out on the day, the day would not have been as successful without your assistance.

Coordinator / Coach - Teressa Gibson

Open Boys Quad exhausted after their race
Overfilling bins makes collection difficult

Ever wondered how much is too much to stuff into your kerbside collection bin? Unfortunately, overfilling your kerbside collection bins can sometimes mean Bundaberg Regional Council isn’t able to service them. Our collection trucks can’t lift bins that weigh more than 75kg. If material is protruding from the bin or waste is tightly jammed to the bin, this may also mean the bin cannot be serviced as under Council’s guidelines, the bin lid must be closed and the contents must be able to be removed without manual intervention. For more information on Council’s Waste and Recycling Services head to www.bundaberg.qld.gov.au

Bundaberg Youth Summit 2015

On Wednesday, 29th May, two students from each year level were selected to represent North High at the Youth Summit Forum held at the Bargara Cultural Centre. This Summit provided students with the opportunity to have input and discussion on Councils Social Development Action Plan. Topics such as stress, disaster management, resilience and youth development were all addressed. Community Representatives and Councillors from the Bundaberg Regional Council spoke to the student body about their role within the community. We all enjoyed the group work activities which allowed us to meet new people and engage in active discussion. It was a positive experience for all students and one that highlighted to us that we have a voice to be heard within the community.

Lachlan Jensen & Emily Kurtz
School Captains

More than six million Australian volunteers give happiness to others each year. Research shows that those volunteers are happier as a result. This National Volunteer Week (11-17 May 2015), help us make Australia the happiest place on earth! Whether it’s one hour of your time or an ongoing commitment, it’s easy to share your skills and interests to give happy and live happy.

Valuable is the work you do
Outstanding in how you always come through
Loyal, sincere, and full of good cheer
Untiring in your efforts throughout the year
Notable are the contributions you make
Trustworthy in every project you take
Eager to reach your every goal
Effective in the way you fulfil your role
Ready with a smile like a shining star
Special and wonderful -- that's what you are!!

On behalf of the North High Community we wish to thank all our Volunteers who help out in the canteen, classrooms and grounds. The help and time you give is greatly appreciated by all.

Many Thanks
Janine Cronin
School to Work Community Liaison Officer
Do you have a favourite family recipe that you would like to share? Our Relay for Life teams are hoping that you do! We are currently in the process of putting together a NBSHS Recipe Cook Book similar to the last one that was produced some 21 years ago to commemorate the school’s 10th anniversary. Our staff have been enthusiastically sharing their favourite family recipes to be included in the book. We anticipate that the booklet will go on sale at the school hopefully before the end of this term. All proceeds will be donated to the Qld Cancer Council to aid research into finding a cure to cancer.

We would very much welcome our parents/members of our school community to contribute to this Cookbook as well. If you are willing to share a valued family or favourite recipe could you please email the recipe to Mrs Keri Jensen at the school on kjens27@eq.edu.au. Your name will be attached to the recipe in the book however please advise if you would prefer to not have your name included. If you have any enquiries in relation to the cookbook I may be contacted directly at the school on 41300239.

I look forward to receiving lots of great recipes from our school community.

Keri Jensen (Mrs)
Relay for Life Co-ordinator

LEGAL STUDIES EXCURSION TO BRISBANE LAW COURTS 2015

On Monday 4th May, the Year 11 Legal Studies Class left Bundaberg “bright and early” Brisbane bound. The students spent the morning and afternoon observing various court cases conducted in the District and Supreme Law Courts. Some students were able to observe a jury being empanelled and given their instructions by the Judge. Other cases viewed included Drug Trafficking, Dangerous Driving Causing Death, Fraud, Common Assault and Murder. The students are currently studying Criminal Law and this excursion will enable them to see theory put into practice. It was a great day of learning. Thank you to Mr Hogan for accompanying us also on this trip.

Keri Jensen (Mrs)
Legal Studies Teacher

Year 11 Legal Studies outside the Brisbane Law Courts
4/5/15

Careers Information from the Guidance Officer
Bundaberg Careers Expo

Tuesday 26th May
An excursion to the Bundaberg Careers Expo at the Bundaberg Civic Centre has been organised for interested Year 10, 11 and 12 students. The excursion has been designed to assist students make informed career choices.

There is an extensive range of exhibits including employment agencies, apprenticeships, universities, colleges, TAFE, defence forces, local businesses and much more.
At this stage, it is anticipated that 2 bus loads (120 students) will be making the excursion to the Careers Expo. Preference will be given to those students who return their permission slip by the due date.

Please encourage your son/daughter to attend. Permission forms are available from the general office. Please complete the relevant form and return it to the general office by Friday 22nd May, if you would like your son/daughter to attend.
The expo is also open to the general public from 4pm -6.30 pm.

Year 12 Tertiary Trip  23rd and 24th July. 2015.
The annual visit to Sunshine Coast and Brisbane universities is again being conducted this year. This trip is for year 12 students intending to study at tertiary level in 2016 or 2017. Students have recently been given flyers explaining the procedures related to the trip. Even though the trip is to occur on July, we are asking students to pay a $50 deposit by Friday 15th May. This will allow the organisers to finalise numbers for buses and accommodation well before the trip is conducted. The remainder of the costs is to be paid in late June.
The trip is an excellent way for students to familiarise themselves with a variety of university campuses and courses. I encourage all students who are considering studying at University to make the trip.

CQ University Experience   Friday 22/5.
Year 12 students are being offered the chance to spend the day at CQ University. The day is designed to give students a taste for what student life is all about, a chance to talk to current students and staff and the experience of taking part in activities in their study area of choice. This day is not just for students who are thinking of attending CQ University, but for all students who are considering post-secondary study.
Students, who are interested, should collect the relevant permission forms from Mr Moller, the Year 12 Year Level Coordinator.

Scholarships

Seize the Day Study Awards
The Seize the Day Study Awards are open to all young Queenslanders. Aged 16 to 21, who are planning to commence or continue post-secondary education next year and have experienced cancer personally, or with a close family member ( such as parent or sibling.)
The Awards aim to foster the personal growth and development of young people coping with cancer in Queensland. The grant may be used towards expenses incurred while undergoing post-secondary school education such as fees, accommodation, textbooks or stationery. In 2014, 36 young Queenslanders received awards, ranging from $300 to $2500.

Contact the Guidance Officer, Mr Rob Miller, for more information.
COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

ENGAGING ADOLESCENTS™
PARENT COURSE

A three-session program for parents & carers will be offered in two different time slots at

NORTH BUNDABERG STATE HIGH SCHOOL

CHOOSE EITHER:

Morning Course: MONDAYS 18/5, 25/5 & 1/6/2015 9am – 12noon

OR Evening Course: WEDNESDAYS 20/5, 27/5 & 3/6/2015 6 – 9pm

Presented by Debbie Guilfoyle & Cheryl Pankratz (Bundaberg District Behaviour Support Teachers) who have trained in Parentshop’s Engaging Adolescents program [www.parentshop.com.au].

FREE PROGRAM: Course handbook provided. Catering provided by the school.

REGISTER ASAP AT NBSHS MAIN OFFICE WITH YOUR NAME, PHONE NO. & EMAIL ADDRESS

* An end to the arguing and yelling! * It saved our lives * Simple, sane, effective.

LEARN ABOUT YOURSELF!

As Marcel Proust, a late 19th Century novelist wrote: “the real voyage of discovery consists not in seeking new landscapes but having new eyes”. Volunteer to host an international high school student arriving into Australia in July 2015 through Southern Cross Cultural Exchange and prepare to be amazed at the way this unique and rewarding opportunity helps your family to become closer, to understand themselves better and see the world in a new light.

Carefully selected students will arrive in July for one term, one semester or two semesters from France, Germany, Italy, Switzerland, Spain, Sweden, Norway, Finland, and Denmark. They will attend a local High School, arrive with their own spending money and comprehensive health insurance cover – all arranged by Southern Cross Cultural Exchange. To enquire about becoming a volunteer host family visit us at www.scce.com.au email scceaustralisce.com.au or call us toll free on 1800 500 501, request our international student profiles and capture the spirit of family and friendship.