Principal’s Report...

Welcome to our first 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, Year 10 subject selection for 2016, Relay for Life, school uniform, rowing and opportunities provided to students over the Winter vacation.

Student Led Conferences

Next week we will hold the second and final round of Student Led Conferences for 2015 and we are expecting to improve the numbers of parents and students participating from 50% to 75%. As I indicated in a previous newsletter, 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. Parent feedback on our first set of Student Led Conferences was overwhelmingly positive with the majority of parents surveyed finding it a positive and motivating experience for their student. All of our RAS Teachers in the last two weeks and again next week have been working with students preparing for the conference, reflecting on their semester one performance and developing & recording a plan of action for semester two. Our booking system PTO was opened last Thursday and we are steadily receiving bookings. For more details on this system and how to book please refer to the information provided in this newsletter. I look forward to your participation in the Student Led Conferences so that together we can get the best outcomes for your student.

Year 10 subject selection for 2016: Subject Selection Evening

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. On Tuesday the Year 10 into Year 11 Subject Selection Evening was held as part of this process. Thank you to all the parents and students who attended the evening, I hope you found it informative and helpful in assisting your student to make this highly important decision. At the evening parents heard that all students after Year 10 must be earning or learning which means that they must participating in an eligible option post year 10. This includes: returning to school; working for 25 hours or more a week; or being engaged in training as part of an apprenticeship or participating in a Certificate III level qualification course at another training provider. 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. They also heard details of what is required to gain a QCE, which is generally that all students must receive a “pass” mark in all their senior subjects. In addition to this, information about senior school subjects and post-school options was available from the large number of stalls set up for the evening. All Year 10 students will now complete a subject selection survey, continue their SETP lessons and participate in a SETP interview before they make their final choices for 2016. In addition to this preparation for senior studies, all students must continue to ensure that they have a strong academic foundation from which they can engage successfully in their senior school studies. This is achieved by students achieving at least a ‘C’ standard in all of their Year 10 subjects including English and Mathematics as these are prerequisites for all subjects in Year 11 and 12. 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. I also want to take this opportunity to thank Robyn Kent our Senior School Deputy Principal, our Heads of Department and all other staff who contributed to this highly successful evening.

Relay for Life

Our Year 12 teams have been busily fundraising to support the Queensland Cancer Council Relay for Life which will be held in mid-August. The latest fundraising event, a trivia night was held on Friday, July 17. The night was a huge success with a great response from the school community. Over 200 entries were received and large numbers of donated prizes were raffled out to lucky winners. Funds raised from the event will ensure that all teams will achieve their fundraising targets. Congratulations to all of our student teams, parents, staff and Mrs Keri Jensen for the organization of this very profitable evening.

Uniform

Bundaberg North State High School is a uniform school that has a school uniform supported by our P and C. In general almost 95% of our students meet our uniform requirements and I thank you, our parents for your support of the uniform. In the circumstances where students do not meet our uniform standards we aim for cooperation rather than ongoing conflict with students and families to meet this expectation. I seek your assistance in working with the school to ensure that all of our students are meeting our uniform requirements including jumpers, socks and shoes. To assist you in this request I have included the link to the school’s uniform guidelines, and correct footwear guide.

Rowing

On Sunday, July 19 the Bundaberg North State High School rowing break-up was held. The event was an opportunity to thank our parent coaches and helpers, award our junior and senior rowers of the year and acknowledge the contribution of Teressa Gibson our school rowing coach. I want to acknowledge the work of Mrs Gibson who has been our rowing coach for a number of years. Rowing at North happens because of the unique partnerships that our school has with the Bundaberg Rowing Club and our parents which have been developed and sustained by Mrs Gibson. These partnerships give student access to boats, coaches and the Bucca Rowing Facility. This year North had its most successful year with students winning over 20 medals at the Head of the River and also winning the School Spirit Award. Well done and congratulations to Mrs Gibson for this great work.

Winter vacation opportunities:

Thank you and congratulations to the following staff who provided a number of great opportunities and experiences over the Winter vacation which included a media trip to Melbourne, annual ski trip and NAIDOC week celebrations.

Mike Seary, Phil Moller and Deb Quivooy: for their time, organization and leadership of another successful ski trip - student feedback was exceptionally positive.

Leigh Moroney and Tracy Hall: for their leadership, organisation and time invested in running another successful Year 10 media trip to Melbourne. The learning experiences provided to the students were perhaps once in a lifetime events for them.

Angela Long assisted by Robyn Kent and Kris Johnson: for the coaching of our Indigenous dance group who opened the NAIDOC Week celebrations at the Holy Rosary Catholic Church and attended the flag raising ceremony at Bundaberg North State School over the vacation. The quality of the dance group has been recognized by the community with many requests to dance at a number of significant community events.

In conclusion 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
The development of our new school uniform began in 2013. It started by changing the sports uniform polo shirt and then the formal uniform.

The transition in 2014 to the new polo shirt has been very successful with all students now wearing it.

Shorts to wear with our polo shirt will remain the same with the school logo embroidered on the leg.

Winter uniform includes the plain black zip-up polar fleece jacket with school logo on pocket.

2016 -New formal uniform

The last part of our uniform to change is our formal uniform. Staff, students and parents have voted overwhelmingly to keep the purple skirt.

The girl’s shirt will have the peaks at the hemline instead of the previous banding and both the girls & boys formal uniforms will now have purple trim. The purple skirt will be longer and worn to the knee. The new tie will be worn by Yr 10/11/12.

Boys are to wear black formal pleated shorts with logo on the pocket. Both boys and girls are able to wear long formal pleated black pants with the school logo at the back.

Socks should be white only and shoes are to be vinyl or leather uppers to below the ankle and totally black.

We currently have 3 local businesses supplying uniforms, Shawline Embroidery, Mensland & Lowes. We will be putting the school uniform out to local businesses to tender for a sole supplier arrangement and will keep you informed of the update.

The new uniforms will be introduced for use in January, 2016. As with any uniform change-over parents have 2 years to purchase the new uniform.
School Opinion Survey

The annual School Opinion Survey will be conducted between 29 June and 31 July 2015. All families, school staff and a random sample of students will be invited to participate. We encourage you to take this opportunity to have your say about what this school does well, and how this school can improve.

Access details for the Parent/Caregiver Survey were sent home with students last week. Parents/caregivers are welcome to complete their survey online any time until 31st July.

Survey queries or requests for translations can be directed to Robyn Kent on telephone 4130 0222 or email principal@bundnortshs.eq.edu.au

DATES TO REMEMBER:

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>30th July</td>
<td>Student Led Conferences 11am – 7pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>31st July</td>
<td>School opinion survey closes.</td>
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Student Led Conferences

Parents of all students are asked to attend a 15 minute Student Led Conference on July 30th. You will have received information on how to book an appointment. At this meeting, students will receive their Semester 1 report card. This is a new process where students take responsibility for their learning. They will conduct the 15 minute conference with the support of their RAS or Yr 7 teacher. We strongly encourage all parents/guardians to attend their child’s meeting.

Click the PTO link on our website to book, or ring the office for assistance.

http://www.bundnortshs.eq.edu.au/

2015 Early School Leavers survey

The Queensland Government is conducting its annual statewide survey of students who left school in Years 10, 11 and prior to completing Year 12 during 2014. The Early School Leavers survey is a short, confidential survey that collects information about what young people are doing the year after leaving school. The information from the survey helps our schools to understand the pathways young people follow after leaving school and to plan services to support transitions into study or employment for our students.

Between July and August, our students who left school in Years 10, 11 and prior to completing Year 12 last year can expect to receive an invitation to complete a web-based survey or a telephone call from the Queensland Government Statistician’s Office to complete the survey. Please encourage early school leavers to take part.

For more information, visit www.education.qld.gov.au/nextstep/ or telephone toll free on 1800 068 587.

P & C Meeting

Thursday 6th August, starting from 5.00pm. All welcome!
Indigenous Dance Group

Our Indigenous dance group were invited to perform at North Primary School’s NAIDOC ceremony. The dancers have been working with a number of primary students preparing a combined dance for the ceremony. The performance was well received by the audience and has helped form closer ties with the primary school. Shaylee Brown presented the ‘welcome to country’ and Katrina Whelan explained the history behind our dance group at North. Joseph Ingram accompanied the girls on the didgeridoo before our dance group performed 3 dances.

Well done to all involved.

It’s Time for the 40 Hour Famine

This year we are celebrating 40 years of having 40 Hour Famine in Australia. Around $200 million has been raised and this has transformed the lives of many children. By giving up something such as food, furniture, technology or here’s a popular one with Parents/Teachers – TALKING for 40 hours; you can raise awareness and funds to help fight global hunger. This year you’ll be supporting World Vision projects in Bangladesh, Cambodia, East Timor, Laos, Malawi, Nepal, Swaziland and Uganda. The funds will go towards solutions like nutrition, child health services and better agricultural practices.

Those students who are interested in participating need to collect a Parental permission form from O block and return this by Monday 10th August to collect a donation booklet. The actual weekend for the 40 Hour Famine is 14-16 August. Each year the 40 Hour Famine makes a difference to the lives of children in the world. Be a part of the impact this year! Katrine Rayner
#paintbundypurple

During the second week of the school holidays the Cancer Council decided to “Paint Bundy Purple”. The purpose of this week was to raise awareness of *Relay for Life* which will take place shortly, over the weekend of 15/16 August. NBSHS has 5 participating teams this year and as such we were delighted to be approached by the Cancer Council to paint the Bundaberg Regional Council office windows in chalk paint as part of the week’s festivities.

I would like to thank our 8 Year 12 students - Shi Revelo, Nina Gorton, Rachel Gossner, Phillip Tran, Lachlan Jensen, Lachlan Baildon, Amanda Irwin and Grace Manoel for giving up a day of their holidays to paint this wonderful message in the main street. The students worked brilliantly as a group to design what went on the Council office windows. I’m sure you will agree that their work was IMPRESSIVE!

Keri Jensen (Mrs)
School *Relay for Life* Co-ordinator
Year 11 Subject Selection Evening for 2016

On Tuesday evening we held a career education and subject selection evening for our Year 10 students intending on returning to Year 11 next year.

Students and parents gained information on tertiary pathways and the OP process, Vocational Education and Training, toured school facilities and had opportunity to talk to staff and view displays of the senior subjects on offer along with opportunity to speak with representatives from the following outside agencies who attended the evening.

CQU
MRAEL
EPIC
Blue Dog Training
Rural Training Qld
East Coast TAFE
MEGT
Busy@work
Blue Print

We thank them for attending the evening. We also had the Director of Training – Mr John Suthers, (North Coast Region) speak to students and parents about Regional employment trends.

I’d like to thank all the Year 10 students and parents for attending and hope that the evening provided valuable information to use in making future choices. Students will be completing a Year 11 subject survey next week before making final choices. Parents and students will then attend a SETP interview in Week 6 & 7 to finalize the SETP and subject selections.
Tug-O-War

Just before the holidays we had the annual Tug-O-War where Senior and Junior RAS classes put their strength to the test for the right to be The Senior or Junior RAS Tug-O-War Champions. It was a fun activity with plenty of enthusiastic participation from both teachers and students. The following RAS classes were triumphant.

**Senior RAS**- Monduran G  

**Junior RAS**- Tirroan D  

**Teacher vs Students**- Teachers!!!  

Mr Moller YLC 12
$7 Only $7

Guaranteed to be on the No. 1 bestseller book list shortly is our NORTH BUNDABERG STATE HIGH SCHOOL RELAY FOR LIFE RECIPE BOOK. It’s “hot off the press” and selling for the small cost of $7.00 per copy. It contains approximately 70 tried and tested favourite recipes that have been contributed and shared by our staff and parent/student community.

Copies can now be purchased from the school office for $7. All proceeds will go to our Relay for Life fundraising and therefore purchases will need to be made with cash.

A big THANK-YOU must go to Mrs Sandra Spratling for producing the book for us and to Year 12 student and Relay for Life participant Sarah Dray (pictured right) who suggested the idea of compiling a cookbook as a fundraiser. Great idea Sarah!

Mr Newell contemplates what to cook his family for dinner tonight ..........

LUCKY WINNER

Congratulations to Year 12 student Samantha Russell who correctly guessed that there were 520 jelly beans in the jar. The winner was announced at our school athletic carnival held just before the holidays. Thank-you to everyone who supported this fundraiser and special thanks to Year 12 Student Amanda Brocklehurst for sponsoring and organising this prize.

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TRIVIA NIGHT

It was wonderful to see so many staff, students, parents and members of our community attend our North High Trivia Night on Friday evening. We would like to thank all of the businesses and parents who donated prizes for the continuous raffles, main raffle and major prizes. BIG thanks must go to Guzman Y Gomez for supplying corn chips and guacamole to the 34 tables on the night as well as gift vouchers for prizes. We were also treated to a delicious supper prepared by our tuckshop staff and students in Mrs Austin and Mrs Harvey’s Hospitality classes.

A final thank-you must also be extended to Tom Wright who did a sensational job of reading out the questions on the evening and to Elaine and Graham Quinn who were responsible for the preparation of the questions as well as the marking of the trivia. In concluding I would like to congratulate the Year 12 Relay for Life students who worked so hard as a group to prepare for this evening. What a wonderful idea it was! Congratulations.

Staff and students are pictured enjoying Friday evening at the North High Trivia Night.
Several options are available when you would like to make a payment to the school.

Direct Credit to
Bundaberg North State High School,
BSB: 064-403 Acct: 0090504, Reference: Student name or EQ ID number.

OR Credit card over the phone
OR BPAY (details on statement)
OR Centrepay (see Cashier in the office for details)

Payment plans may be discussed if other options are not possible.

COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

Get Started Voucher program open for applications

The Department of National Parks, Sport and Racing’s Get Started Vouchers program is accepting applications for a voucher of up to $150 to help pay an eligible child’s sport or recreation club membership and/or participation fees.

Parents or carers who hold a valid Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card can apply straight away.

Children who aren’t eligible under this criterion can apply if they are nominated by two referral agents. The list of referral agents still includes principals, school guidance officers and police officers among other occupations but teachers are unable to nominate a child in this round.

Vouchers are issued on a ‘first-come first-served’ basis and applications will close when all the funds are allocated or on 30 September. So submit your application as soon as possible.