Principal’s Report…

Welcome to our newsletter which again highlights the extensive learning opportunities provided by North High. In this article from me I want to concentrate on Year 7 and 9 NAPLAN successes, Carmel Brinkley’s retirement and farewell, our ongoing commitment to quality teaching through our professional learning program for our teaching staff and acknowledgement of the staff’s great work in providing extra opportunities for our students.

Year 7 and 9 NAPLAN success

I have attached a link to a series of graphs and tables, related to NAPLAN from 2013 to 2015 and as you review these graphs you will find that we are on an upward trajectory of improvement. In 2013 all areas in our performance were below the national cohort,[red] while this year our Year 7 and 9 performances in the majority of areas is similar to the national cohort[ blue]. The line graph which depicts our trend over the last 7 years shows a strong increase in performance from 2014 onwards. Of note, is our performance in the upper two bands. In all parts of the test our performance is similar to the national cohort suggesting that our LEAP and Unify programs have had an impact. These results are due to the efforts being made by our staff and students who have made literacy and numeracy improvement a priority in our classrooms with the implementation of many new literacy and improvement strategies. I thank staff and students for the progress we have made but this is not a finished canvas, we still have work to do with Reading in Year 9 and Writing in both Year 7 and 9 but I think there is also a lot of good news here.

Queensland Certificate of Education [QCE] attainment

In 2013 70% of our Year 12 students achieved a QCE, which was a satisfactory outcome and an improvement on the 2012 outcome of 64%. In 2014 78% of students achieved a QCE which was still well below the state performance of 92% and our goal in 2015 is to reach or exceed this benchmark. As a result of this desire, our efforts to attain this target are relentless and the school has in place a number of strategies to support our student’s attainment of a QCE. This includes monitoring of student’s progress towards a QCE, identification, intervention and support for students at risk of not gaining a QCE, academic target setting, and whole of subject performance monitoring by our Heads of Department. Our students will need as much support as possible to reach the goal of matching or exceeding the 92% state performance target and I ask Year 12 parents particularly, to continue to play a role in this support. You can assist by discussing with your student their academic targets for the semester, skills they need to maintain or improve, their progress towards those targets and ensuring regular school attendance. All of us working together: teacher; student; and parent will help to ensure the best outcomes for your student.

Farewell to Carmel Brinkley, Business Service Manager

On Friday, August 14th we formally farewelled Carmel from Bundaberg North State High School. Carmel provided 33 years of service to the Bundaberg North State High School community, service that saw her move from Teacher Aide,
AO2, Office Manager and finally BSM. She witnessed many changes to education and the way in which support staff work. Carmel, throughout her years of service and from my experience, maintained a dedicated and strong commitment to the school, students, parents and staff, always working hard at being the best she could be. Carmel’s contribution to this school was outstanding and will always be remembered. I wish her health and happiness as she moves into the next phase of her life, and thank her all the she has done for this school.

Professional learning:

Our staff have participated in a number of professional learning activities over the last few weeks and much of this has been delivered by their colleagues. I thank Penny McKeown and her team of Information Communication Technology mentors called Paperclips who worked skilling staff on how to develop a virtual classroom. I thank Gillian Colasimone and Belinda Arnold who provided an update on Classroom Profiling and in addition to this Rob Schmidt deepened teacher knowledge of QCE through his Queensland Certificate of Education presentation.

As well as all of the above, staff have just completed another set of instructional rounds where they have observed the use of group work in supporting students to discuss their learning. These rounds are part of our continuous professional learning model based on learning by doing and embedding professional learning into everyday practice.

Opportunities for students.

Thank you and congratulations to the following staff for their commitment to students and the school community through the provision of additional opportunities for our students over the past few weeks:

**Tom Wright:** For the organization of the Grin and Tonic Performance Group. This was such a great opportunity for our students to engage with a live performance, even more special when that performer was a past student of this school, Jack McGovern.

**Gillian Colasimone, Penny McKeown, Helen Coulton and Teressa Gibson as well as our Year 10 and 11 Student Ambassadors:** For the organization and co-ordination of the feeder schools term 3 Transition Program. It was well received by the schools and the students. What a great idea to have our students deliver the program, talk about their school and make connections with the transitioning students.

**Susie Mant, Youth Support Co-Ordinator:** For her excellent work with disengaged and at-risk students. Susie sources alternative education and training programs for these students, establishes a relationship with the organizations that provide the programs and then supports students and families to access these programs. This is vital work, ensuring that all young people find a sustainable pathway to achieve a positive future.

**Graham Quinn, Sue Firinne, Sue Richardt, Ben Kenway, Sharon Kidman, Tracy Hall, Leigh Moroney, Rhonda Cutmore:** For their preparation and presentation of the Term 3 Day of Excellence [LEAP] learning experiences to selected year 4 to 9 students from this school and our feeder schools. These days always produce very positive feedback from students and this day was no different.

**Julie Hanak, Year 7 teacher:** For her excellent work by taking a lead role in our BYOD trial, all devices are now connected and students are taking advantage of the enhanced learning opportunities provided by the use of digital technology.

**Keri Jensen:** For her excellent work with our Year 12’s to enter Relay for Life. The students raised $7500.00 in contributions to this great Queensland Cancer Council fundraising event aimed at supporting cancer research. The students had fun, learnt a lot of valuable skills raising the money, and did a great job of continuous walking during the Relay for Life. Some students clocked up 33 kilometres. Well done to Mrs Jensen and our Year 12 students.

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

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**Ross Robertson**

**PRINCIPAL**

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**P & C Meeting** Thursday 3rd September, starting from 5.00pm. All welcome!
DATES TO REMEMBER:

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<td>19th-27th Aug 2015</td>
<td>SETP interviews</td>
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<td>1st &amp; 2nd Sept 2015</td>
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<td>7th Sept 2015</td>
<td>Migrant interviews</td>
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<td>18th Sept 2015</td>
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<td>19th Oct 2015</td>
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<td>20th Oct 2015</td>
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<td>Arts Night</td>
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Visit the Health Active Kids website
To win a $25,000 mobile kitchen for your school
ROWING

HEAD OF THE RIVER SPIRIT TROPHY WINNER

Last week on parade, we were privileged to have Councillor Vince Habermann come and award the Vince & Donna Habermann Head of the River Spirit Trophy to our rowing captains. The trophy is awarded to the school that shows great sportsmanship on and off the water during the Head of the River Regatta. North received the unanimous vote from all the BDSSS Rowing Committee Members. After our great success on the water with 2 Gold, 3 Silver and 4 Bronze, this award has been an additional surprise. We were advised from the committee that in addition to the great sportsmanship of our rowers and parents, our tutus were also a big winner on the day.

Thanks, Teressa Gibson
Rowing Coordinator/Coach

Rowing Captains - Lachlan Jensen & Cooper Habermann with winning attitude & trophy

North Bundaberg SHS Chess Club

Our school recently participated in the quarterly interschool chess tournament held here in Bundaberg involving all of the Bundaberg secondary schools.

In the tournament our schools No. 1 team consisting of Jonathon Gillard, Jye Sercombe, Peter Johnstone and Jake Pollock finished second to the Shalom No. 1 team.

Our No.2 team made up of Blake Batchelor, Jack Clarke, Adam Richardt and Zennin Latimer finished third and in doing so deified the Shalom No.2 team and the St. Luke’s No.1 team. This was an extremely good performance against some very good opposition players.

Our No. 3 team was made up of Brandon Vyner and Daniel Smith who finished in the middle third of the individual competition, also a very credible performance by the boys.

If anyone would like to join our chess club, we have practise and coaching every Wednesday at lunchtime and participate in interschool competitions once a term.

We look forward to seeing you there if you would like to give chess a try.
NORTH HIGH RAISES $7500 FOR RELAY FOR LIFE

Congratulations must go to our five teams of Year 12 students that participated in Relay for Life 2015 at the Bundaberg Regional Precinct on Saturday, 15th and 16th of August.

Our students embraced this year’s theme of “Grease”. Some staff and students chose to dress accordingly whilst others danced the night away to all the hit songs from the musical Grease. Owen Puccini and Amanda Brocklehurst enthusiastically entered the “dance off” competition on the night.

Rachel Gossner created 5 wonderful batons for our teams. These consisted of records that had been melted down in the oven to form the shape of a baton and they were decorated in the theme of “Grease”. Wonderful idea Rachel!

It was great to see so many students continue walking enthusiastically throughout the night and the chilly, early hours of the morning. Well done North High. $7500 is certainly an achievement to be proud of. Thank you to our school community and to the parents of these wonderful students for all your support.

Keri Jensen
Relay for Life Co-ordinator
Year 12 Career and Tertiary pathways

Tertiary Trip 2015.

On July 23rd and 24th, a number of year 12 students visited some South East Qld universities. These included: University of the Sunshine Coast; Griffith University; University of Qld and the Qld University of Technology. At each of the Universities, students were given a tour of the campus and a short presentation by university staff and students about the courses and procedures at that university. These visits were planned to assist students make well-informed choices in regards to future tertiary study that they might undertake. As well, the students were given a taste of campus accommodation, by staying at The Women’s College on the University of Qld campus, on the Thursday night. Feedback from the students in relation to the trip was very positive and the behaviour and cooperation of the group was exemplary.

Queensland Tertiary Application Centre (QTAC)

Application lines are open from the 4th of August. All students who are intending to study at university in Queensland, need to make their application through this organisation. Year 12 students have been instructed on how to make their applications, but they are strongly encouraged to make an appointment with the Guidance Officer, to discuss their intended courses. Parents are also welcome at these appointments. Applications cost $36, if made before the 30th September. After this date, the cost is $134.

Scholarships

Studying at university can be expensive, particularly if you are attending a university that is in another town or city. All the universities offer a range of scholarships, designed to help students meet these costs. Some are up to $12,000 per year. All students are encouraged to apply for these scholarships. Visit the university websites or see the Guidance Officer for more information.

Rob Miller  Guidance Officer
Moore Park Instrumental Music Excursion

On Friday, 7th August Mr Brown and the stage band combined with Moore Park primary students to perform at the Moore Park Community Centre as part of the Moore Park Beach Festival.

They played 9 songs, alongside the South Kolan Drum Corp and the Moore Park State School choir. Their performances were fantastic and they were commended by the local community for their outstanding behaviour. Well done to all of the students that were involved and good luck at MusicFest!

Keeping Them in School

Facilitated by Amie Joseph – Family and Relationship Educator, Centacare

Program aimed at parents of children who are at risk of disengaging from mainstream education. An exploration of why young people disengage and how to get them excited about learning again.

This 2 hour workshop covers:

- The daily attendance struggle
- What's behind the behaviours?
- Who can help?
- Options and Pathways

When: Wednesday 26th August 2015
Times: Morning session: Starts at 8.45am and finishes at 10.45am  OR  
       Evening session: Starts at 5.00pm and finishes at 7.00pm
Location: Bundaberg North High School
Cost: $ 5 donation for Centacare

To register for either session please phone the school office on: 4130 0222
COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

Get Playing

SOFTBALL

Junior Little League (5,6,7 yrs)
Senior Little League (8,9 yrs)
Minor League (10,11,12)
Major League (12,14,15yrs)
Ladies A and Ladies B
Mens

SIGN ON DAY:
Sunday 23rd August 2015
10am - 12pm

Bundaberg Softball
Association
bundy-softball@live.com.au
CALL 0428565527
0413605403

BLUE CARE

Riverlea Aged Care Facility’s Memory Support Unit presents

Still Alice, features Julianne Moore in her Golden Globe winning and Oscar nominated performance as Dr Alice Howland, a Professor diagnosed with familial Alzheimer’s disease. The film highlights the real impact of Alzheimer’s on the patient, family, friends and the community. Your attendance will help raise awareness for dementia. All proceeds will go to Blue Care Riverlea Aged Care Facility’s Memory Support Unit.

Friday
Sept 18
6.00pm

ALL TIX
$15.00

Complimentary nibbles
Movie commences at 7.00pm

MONCRIEFF ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE
177 Bourbong Street Bundaberg
Phone 4130 4100
www.moncrieff-bundaberg.com.au

P & C Meeting Thursday 3rd September, starting from 5.00pm. All welcome!