Principal’s Report…

Welcome to our final newsletter for Term 3 which again highlights the extensive learning opportunities provided by North High. In this article I want to concentrate on; Senior Prom preparation, Quadrennial School Review and Strategic Plan Development, Independent Public School application, recent student successes, and the celebration of student learning and achievements.

Senior Prom preparation: A chance for Year 12 students to celebrate

As the end of the school year and schooling for our year 12 students draws closer, preparations for the Senior Prom are intensifying. Student participation in this event is by invitation only and at the start of the school year and more recently, letters have been or will be sent to both parents and students outlining what is required in order to receive an invitation. Students are expected to fulfil a set criteria of high standards of behaviour, attendance and effort made in class. Specifically, students who have a record of suspension for poor behaviour, attendance of less than 90% and not having made a reasonable effort to achieve a QCE may not receive an invitation to the Prom. It is important that students understand these requirements and are working towards achieving them. If it is likely that your student may not meet these requirements I encourage you to discuss this with your student and with the school sooner rather than later. The Senior Prom will be a great opportunity for students to celebrate 12 years of schooling and I hope we can work together to ensure that this is an occasion for the whole family to remember.

2016 to 2020 Quadrennial School Review and Strategic Plan Development Consultation Meeting.

Thank you to all the parents, students and staff who participated in the first step in this process. The consultation meeting was held on Thursday 1st September last week. This meeting examined our achievements, discussed what we have not achieved, considered how the school might prepare students for the future giving some broad general directions for the school from now to 2020. The input of parents and students gave a voice to our school community and added a very important perspective on where we are going. From here the QSR working party will use the information gained last week to write a draft 2016 to 2020 Strategic Plan. This draft plan will then be shared with the school community for discussion and feedback. So it is still possible to be part of this very important discussion and we would be pleased to receive your feedback when the draft is published, so we can shape the future of the school together. Please use the link below to see and read the notes of the discussions from last week’s meeting.

Quadrennial School Review Activity 1

Quadrennial School Review Brainstorming Activity 2 Response
**Independent Public School Proposal**

In the last newsletter I wrote about North High considering whether to become an Independent Public School in 2017. Provided below is a repeat of the information I placed in the last newsletter, I encourage you to read this if you have not done so. As part of the school’s consultation on this proposal there will be more discussion at the October 6th P&C Meeting and a public meeting held at the school on Wednesday, October 12th 2016 from 6.00 to 6.45pm in the School Hall. In addition to this, Kepnock State High School will be hosting a visit from the School Autonomy Team in the RJ Young Hall who will present information about becoming an Independent Public School to the community on Monday, 12th September from 5:30 – 6:30 pm.

An Independent Public School is a high potential school performing above like schools with the capacity to be already or to be engaging in innovative practice that can lead to system wide change and improvement. In order to innovate and try new ways of working Independent Public Schools are given additional support through advice, direct access to Central Office, a start-up grant and operational flexibility that includes human, physical and financial resource management while still being fully accountable to its community and Education Queensland. For more detail please read the attached Independent Public Schools Policy Framework.

This proposal is part of a collaborative decision by the Bundaberg State High School, Kepnock State High School and Bundaberg North State High School to all apply at the same time due to our close and ongoing collaboration on a number of key projects aimed at improving the outcomes of all students who attend our schools. Jointly we see the benefits of becoming an Independent Public School’s Alliance as being an opportunity to:

- Further build upon the collaboration and innovation the Bundaberg public high schools are already getting the benefits from eg. Jobs Education and Training JETS (2006), Bundaberg Regional Youth Hub BRYH (2011) supported by the Collaboration and Innovation Fund CIF (2015), Indigenous Graduation (2011), Success Schools Literacy and Numeracy Improvement Program [2014].
- Provide greater flexibility and autonomy in decision making; school can be more responsive and open to the wider range of possibilities in the broader community.
- Enable increased innovation stronger partnerships with community
- Further tailoring of local school programs to meet the needs of our community
- Increase the positive perception of public schooling in the Bundaberg community: ‘The Bundaberg Independent Public Schools Alliance’
- Have the flexibility to support innovation in terms of the management of human, physical and financial resources
- Have support from Central Office for Innovation that includes Advisors, access to professional learning, a $50,000 start-up grant and direct access to the Strategic Infrastructure Branch for any facility’s needs.

I strongly feel that if our school is going to continue to improve and provide the best learning environment and outcomes for your students we need to continue to innovate in collaboration with the other public high schools in Bundaberg.

**Student successes**

Congratulations to the following students who have achieved recent successes.

**OPTI- Minds Success:** Our Year 7 team consisting of Montana Maddern, Rachelle Sullivan, Amber Blanch, Angie Sandeman, Alex Day and Alison Quinn were placed first in Division Two Social Science Competition. They now compete in the State Final during October in Brisbane. A big thank you to their coach Graham Quinn for his work in preparing the team for the contest.
2016 Emerge Ambassador [Bundaberg Regional Art Gallery High Schools Art Exhibition]

Angus Ethell has just been named the ambassador for 2016, this a real achievement given that all High schools in our district, both state and private all have students who nominate for this position.

Titration success

North High’s Titration team 2 consisting of Mikka Noblellt, William Robertson and Josh Gillard had the second best team score in the RACI Titration Competition. Team 2 has been asked to compete in the National Finals of the RACI titration competition in October. Team 1 consisting of Jacob Watson, Georgia Prichard and Madison Sheridan also performed to a high standard. Please see the article later in this newsletter. A great result for our school.

Celebration of student learning and achievements

During the course of term four there will be a number of opportunities to celebrate student learning and achievement successes. These events include the Annual Presentation Night, Reach for the Sky Awards assembly and the Senior School Graduation. I invite you to participate in all of these events as I feel that student achievement needs to be highly valued and recognised by the whole school community. Details of each of these will be provided in this and future newsletters.

September vacation

I wish all students and their families a safe and restful September vacation and hope that all students return ready for a busy term four.

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

Ross Robertson
Principal

DATES TO REMEMBER:

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12th September 2016</td>
<td>Community meeting re Independent Public Schools 5:30pm – 6:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>16th September 2016</td>
<td>SETP Interviews finish</td>
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<tr>
<td>16th September 2016</td>
<td>Last day of term 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>3rd October 2016</td>
<td>Public holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>4th October 2016</td>
<td>Frist day of term 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>12th October 2016</td>
<td>Public meeting re Independent Public Schools 6:00pm – 6:45pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>18th October 2016</td>
<td>Presentation Night</td>
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QCS Tests

Last week we had 42 Year 12 students complete the Queensland Core Skills test (QCS). This test result contributes to the students OP score. All students participated well and we wish them the best of luck when receiving their result. A big thank you to Mr Schmidt for organising the testing and to the senior teachers for helping prepare the Year 12s, especially Mr Wright, Mrs Thrupp and Mr Hogan who have worked with the students each week.

Thank you also to Jacky Burtt (from the Canteen) who provided a little “goody bag” for students each morning to keep their energy levels up.

If you wish to collect your student early from school, please advise the office prior to the time of departure. We will prepare a ‘leave request’ slip for your student so they can leave the classroom without interrupting other students who are working. Please also remind your student to sign out at the G Block Student Services Office. This process will ensure that classroom disruptions are kept to a minimum and you are not kept waiting as we locate your student.

Many thanks
RUOK at North Bundaberg State High?

RUOK? is a renowned suicide prevention charity organisation whose mission is to inspire and empower everyone to meaningfully connect with people around them and support anyone struggling with life. Eighteen year 10 and 11 students were trained on how to have an RUOK? conversation, and thus became RUOK? Champions.

To commemorate RUOK? Day, some of our Champions organised a sale of RUOK? cupcakes. Thanks to Hospitality Teacher, Amy Maidment and her Year 10 Hospitality class, for the delicious cakes that were baked and made ready for the day. Over 150 cakes were sold and it is planned that the profit of $130, will be donated to RUOK?

In addition, our Champions had the pleasure of meeting and hosting a luncheon with RUOK? Ambassador and Ex-Olympian champion swimmer, Libby Trickett. A number of Regional Council members also attended the lunch. Lots of photographs were taken, and the students seemed to find the experience very worthwhile.
SETP Interviews – Have you booked yours?

From 8th – 16th September we will be conducting SETP Interviews will ALL Year 10 students. Thank you to all parents who have already made a booking. If you have not yet made a booking, please call Trish in the office on 4130 0222 and we will be happy to assist you. It is very important that every Year 10 student and their parent attends an interview before September 16th as there are forms to sign and decisions to be made about subject choices.

Year 12 career options.

On the 30th of August, during lessons 1 and 3, a range of agencies were invited to speak to all Year 12 students who were not participating in the QCS test. The guest presenters included Centrelink, TAFE East Coast, Busy at Work, CQUniversity (STEPS program and TAFE options), IMPACT Training and Employment Services and Bundaberg Regional Council. These agencies are able to guide students in planning their career pathway and aid in the transition into further study, work, traineeships, or apprenticeships. This information morning was to ensure our students are aware of the many options available to them after their schooling ends.

If your student would like any further career advice you are welcome to speak to Miss Coulton, the Careers Guidance Officer.

Access to a quality education for students with disability is an important issue for many local families. The Department of Education is currently undertaking a wide-ranging review into disability policy in Queensland state schools. The review will take an honest look at what schools are doing well and areas in which the department can better support teachers who have responsibility for teaching students with a disability. I would encourage all interested parents and students to complete the survey before 30 September at http://education.qld.gov.au/schools/disability/qld-disability-review.html

Leanne Donaldson MP
Member for Bundaberg
Science News

So far this term, the Year 11/12 Science 21 class has begun to explore floating and sinking, specifically within submarines. The class has been conducting several experiments over the last couple of weeks, including designing and building their own submarines and measuring its effectiveness through water resistance. Students are then encouraged to evaluate and modify their design to run later tests and ultimately improve results.

Written by Kurt Batchelor and Sarah Korn – Science 21 students

In Science our class has been building a Rube Goldberg machine. A Rube Goldberg machine is a complex contraption that performs a very simple task. Materials used to make the machine were: plastic cups, wooden blocks, string straws, dominoes, plastic cards, scissors, rulers, and dynamic trolleys. Every group made different machines and took many attempts to get right.

Written by Julie Brunson – Year 8

Titration competition. Team 2 consisting of Mikka Noblett, William Robertson and Josh Gillard had the second best team score in the RACI Titration Competition – Central Coast Region (33 teams participating). Mikka and William both achieved individual results of ‘Excellent Performance’ with error of <0.25%, while Josh achieved ‘Competent Performance with <1% error. Team 2 has been asked to compete in the National Finals of the RACI titration competition in October. Team 1 consisting of Jacob Watson, Georgia Prichard and Madison Sheridan also performed to a high standard placing seventh out of 33 teams. Jacob Watson competing with team 1 completed an individual titration with the exact concentration and was also awarded an “Excellent Performance’ certificate.

Opti-Minds – Our Opti-Minds team competed in the Regional Finals and placed first in Division II of the Social Sciences challenge. The team members are all from year 7 and put in a huge effort to achieve this success. They are Montana Maddern, Rachelle Sullivan, Amber Blanch, Angie Sandeman, Alex Day and Alison Quinn. The girls were also awarded a ‘Spirit of Opti-Minds’ award on the day of the finals for their teamwork skills, creative thinking and how they behaved generally on the day of the finals. The girls will now be heading to Brisbane for the National finals in October.
COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

APRA &

Invite you to a

PROFESSIONAL

RODEO

10 September, 2016

123 Lakeview Drive, ALLOWAY, BUNDABERG

Come and see a professional rodeo at its finest – BULLRIDING, BRONC RIDING, BARREL RACING & LOCAL PODDY RIDING.

Gates open at 4.30pm with the Rodeo action starting at 6.00pm.

Food stalls (BBQ, Pizza, Coffee & Sweetie) and full bar facilities will be available – proudly supporting Apex, Rotary, SES and Girl Guides (Bundaberg).

Jumping castle and bucking bull machine

Come and see some of the best Rodeo bulls and horses in Australia

ADMISSION PRICES

Adults: $20.00
Children: $8.00
Family Pass: $50.00 (2 adults, 2 children)
Under 6 years: Free

Bring a chair and blanket
Camping available

Follow signs down Wise’s Road at Alloway

http://www.facebook.com/Amber-Ranch-Rodeo-Horse-Riding-Centre-15396202709700761/

P & C Meeting Thursday 1st September 2016, starting from 6.00pm. All welcome!

Marks Street, Bundaberg Q 4670 Phone (07) 41300222 Fax (07) 41525213 www.bundnortshs.eq.edu.au

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