Gray School Council AGM

Wednesday 5th March 2014

Report by

School Council Chairperson, Susan Bokelmann

and

Principal, Sue Beynon
School Vision

Gray Primary School vision is “To motivate and equip our students with the skills to succeed as resilient, global citizens.” We do this through:

- High quality teaching and learning that maximises student engagement, learning outcomes, and caters for individual differences.
- Safe, supportive, inclusive and lifelong learning environment for all members of the Gray School Community.
- Resilient students through a strong focus on wellbeing, pastoral care, social and emotional programs and learning pathways for all students.
- Inclusion of school values and school motto—learning with respect, pride and teamwork—in all that we do.
- Strong, community engagement and partnerships.
- Accountable governance.
Our Students

As at December 2013 there were 332 students enrolled at Gray Primary School – 271 in T-6 classes and 61 in Preschool. Enrolments were comprised of:

- Indigenous students 44%
- Non Indigenous ESL students 28%
- There are 29 languages spoken by students at the school
- Student turnover in 2013 was 44% compared to 47% in 2012
- Whole school average attendance in 2013 was 88%
- Indigenous attendance in 2013 was 86.4%
Our Staff

- Gray Primary staff members are committed and highly valued professionals. In 2013 the team consisted of 15 classroom teachers (including Preschool), a Special Education teacher, a non-contact teacher, a specialist teacher in ICT and a Lead Teacher. Specialist support in 2013 included one ESL General Support teacher.

- Our staff attendance was 93% and our staff retention was 74.3%, with staff leaving to return interstate or for promotion purposes.
Our Community/Our Partnerships

- Gray School takes great pride in our partnerships with the community and our resulting “Partners Engaging Gray School” (PEGS) group.
Our School Council

School Council started off very strong but slowly dwindled over the course of the year due to parents having other commitments. However, the achievements of School Council are numerous as listed below:

- Mothers Day Stall
- Mother’s Day gifts for parents
- Twilight Sports Evening
- Jumping Castle for ‘Star’ Attendees
- Blokes Big Masterchef Breakfast & raffle
- Performance Evening – Many Cultures, One School
- Christmas raffle extravaganza
- Purchasing of four new shade marquees & a new BBQ
Learning Programs at Gray School

In 2013 special student programs offered at Gray Primary School were:

- On Task Training for all students
- Quicksmart Literacy and Numeracy
- Guided Reading in small groups
- Reading Eggs in Early Years
- Mini Lit
- Toe by Toe Literacy
- Mathletics
- ICT
- Sport
- Visual Arts
- Social Skills groups
Areas of Concern

The key issues facing the school community are:

- Engagement of parents in school life
- Improving student attendance
- Improving student academic results in Literacy and Numeracy
Achievements in 2013

- Increased use of sustainability practices through composting, food for the chooks, energy saving by turning off lights and fans, recycling of cans, bottles, paper and cardboard
- Our major project of teaching students to be “On Task” during learning time
- Students having an improved understanding of school being a “Learning Zone”
- Goal setting in Reading and Maths by students
- Coaching of all staff including the Leadership Team
- Parent workshops by one of our teachers
- The opening of The Gray Family Centre building
- Successful whole school events such as Blokes Big Masterchef Breakfast, School Performance Night, Twilight Sports, Harmony Day, National Simultaneous Story Time, Book Fair
- Successful programs operated by The Gray Family Centre – Reading is as Easy as ABC, Families and Schools Together, Family Yarns, Healthy Lunches
- SRC fundraising
## Our Academic Results
### NAPLAN - Year 3

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## Our Academic Results
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Our Academic Results
- Quicksmart Literacy

- 25 students were enrolled in Quicksmart Literacy
- Students averaged a jump of about 5 reading levels in the year – this is what would be expected
- 13 of the 25 students jumped 5 or more levels in the year, 2 students jumped 15 levels, one student went back 2 levels
Our Academic Results
- Quicksmart Numeracy

- 28 students were enrolled in Quicksmart Numeracy
- Last year we did not pretest the students so we cannot do a comparison
- However, we know that the majority of students improved their grading on their school reports

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Our Academic Results

– Mini Lit

- 8 Year 2 students enrolled for this program
- Students jumped an average of 4 reading levels in the year
- Students jumped 4 word attack levels in a year
- Mini Lit was also conducted in one transition class for the year and will be conducted in both transition classes all year in 2014
The Gray Family Centre

- Wonderful to be in their own building
- Kylie now coordinates the PEGS meetings
- Kylie had an extremely busy calendar for the year organising events such as Go, Grow and Glow Healthy Lunchbox program in Early Years classes, Family Fun Friday during National Families Week, Class Meet and Greets, Breakfast with PEGS Information Sessions, 1-2-3 Magic, FAST and FASTWORKS, Family Yarns, Reading is as Easy as ABC, as well as supporting families
Strategic Plan 2014-2017

- The Strategic Plan was drawn up from feedback from parents, staff, students and community
- The Strategic Plan follows the department school review headings
- The plan is for three years
- Copy available on our website and as a handout here tonight
Operational Plan for 2014

Our Operational Plan for 2014 is taken from our priorities from the Strategic Plan. Key focus areas are:

- Continued development of SWPBS
- Speech Therapy program in Early Years
- Reading Coaching program in Years 2-6
- Aligning our assessment, curriculum, pedagogy and reporting
- Creating brochures for parents
- Differentiation of classroom learning for students
- Tutors for reading and maths groups
- Providing feedback to students
- Engaging parents in school life
Our Finances

- We remain in a fairly good position with money in the bank through sound investments
- We still have some Commonwealth Grant money to spend up until end of June 2014
- We need to be careful around spending in the future as Commonwealth monies will not be available after June 2014
- NT Govt is tightening our budget every year
Thanks

Gray School could not operate so efficiently and effectively without the support and hard work of the staff, the students, the community and the School Council.

On behalf of the staff thanks to all who have so willingly served on School Council over the past year/s and especially to Susan Bokelmann, our retiring Chairperson.