

Community Annual General Meeting - Thursday 26 November 2020

College Board Chair's Report

Good evening and welcome to Salvado Catholic Colleges Annual General Meeting for 2020. Thank you for taking the time to attend tonight's meeting. My name is James Moles, my wife Sarah and I have three children currently attending Salvado and I have been lucky enough to serve on our College Board for the last 4 years and as Chair for the past 3 years.

The existing Catholic School Board Constitution directs that the Boards general objective is to help the Catholic school fulfil its educational responsibilities in accordance with the Catholic Education Commission of Western Australia (CECWA) and the Dio-ce-san religious education program.

As from January 1st 2020, Catholic Education Western Australia (CEWA) became incorporated and commenced operating as CEWA Ltd. This resulted in changes to governance including in the areas of delegation of authority, planning, budgeting, reporting and expenditure approval.

The existing CECWA Catholic School Board Constitution is currently under review and since January 1st, the College Board has been referred to as the School Advisory Council. Earlier this month, CEWA Ltd released the 'Catholic School Advisory Council Transitional Terms of Reference (2020 – 2021)' which is in effect until the 31st of December 2021 when the new Constitution is expected to be implemented. These transitional terms of reference is what the newly elected School Advisory Council members will initially be guided by.

Our College's values are based around that of our patron, Bishop Rosendo Salvado - Peace, Justice and Compassion - values that have been and continue to be, kept at the front of mind by all of our Advisory Council members when considering and making decisions for our Colleges future and with how we interact with our school community.

This year many topics were raised, debated and settled upon by the board including:

- The College's overall ongoing strategic direction
- Financial management, including endorsement of the 2021 budget and school fees
- The College's building maintenance schedule
- The ongoing maintenance from the Stage 2 build
- Planning for Stages 3B and 4 of our new high school
- Ongoing negotiations with Shire regarding a Shared Use Agreement
- The approval of the new 'Head of Junior School' position for 2021
- Marketing of our College, particularly for Secondary beginning next year and
- The continued engagement of our College community

Whilst it is fantastic to see the Stage 3A building coming to life, much work has continued on the following stages to ensure the secondary facilities the College provides for our secondary students is the best it can possibly be. The Advisory Council represented the College community in panel visits, compliance meetings and other planning meetings focused on the stages 3B and 4 builds.

Advertising for secondary enrolments was a focus this year and will continue to be into 2021. We would encourage all parents to continue to actively promote our College in the wider community especially in spreading the message about our secondary commencing next year.

I would like to thank this year's School Advisory Council members for taking the time out of their busy lives to contribute and for their valuable input. Thank you to Renee Pettit, Taren Singh, Max Keogh, Pat Kellet, Santino, Marissa, Keith and Sam. Thank you once again to Rebecca Furfaro for her work as Board Secretary and to Shane Easton for his work as Treasurer.

We would like to thank the Friends of Salvado for their amazing efforts in 2020. In a very difficult year FOS successfully organised a number of events and should be very proud of what they have achieved. The success of these events and the substantial donations made, contributes directly to providing our children with the best resources available to give them the opportunity to develop and thrive along their learning journey.

I would also like to acknowledge the importance of participation by our parents, families and extended community in the events which helps to strengthen our College identity.

We would like to thank all those parents, grandparents, siblings, extended family, friends and all others who helped out in any way this year, for your efforts in participating and taking the time to contribute towards the growth of the College.

I would also like to take this opportunity to encourage you to continue to participate in College events into 2021 and to motivate others in the community to also support our FOS and our College events.

We would like to thank our groundskeeper, Nathan, who works very hard to keep the College grounds a presentable and safe space for our children. He has faced some challenges this year particularly with the water tank issue but I am sure you will all agree the grounds looks as great as ever.

We would like to thank Kasey, Judy and Julie for all their work in administering and keeping the college community informed. It is a vital role in the continued growth of our College community and their efforts are appreciated.

We would like to thank our Finance Officer, Sam for her tireless effort in managing the College's finances. It seems a year has not gone by that Sam has not had a major challenge in terms of changing systems and processes and this year again was no exception. Sam's understanding of the accounting systems and her clear explanations allows the council to understand the College's finances to ensure we are fully informed when making decisions for our College's future.

We would like to thank Fr Mark for his continued spiritual guidance through this year. 2020 has been a difficult year for the parish however Fr Mark has been available for all whenever required. We look forward to further developing our relationship with Fr Mark in 2021.

2020 and the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic has and continues to provide families with many challenges. I was very proud of the way our College conducted itself, particularly early on during our lockdown period. With all the uncertainty of the time, it was reassuring to have had constant and consistent communication from the College updating us with how they would continue to provide quality education to our children in the midst of the pandemic and with many of us in

lockdown.

On behalf of the Advisory Council, we cannot thank enough Santino, Keith, Marissa and all of the Salvado teaching staff for their efforts during the year but particularly during the lockdown period. I cannot begin to imagine the disruption the lockdown had on what you all had planned for our children and yet they were still provided the high level of learning opportunities we have come to expect here at Salvado through that very difficult time. At a time when it would have been easy to drop the ball, Santino and the Salvado staff have shown once again that the best interests of our children are their highest priority. Thank you.

We wish those staff moving on from Salvado the very best and trust that they will treasure their time spent at Salvado.

Finally, on behalf of the Advisory Council, we would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy and safe new year.

Thank you
James Moles
Salvado Catholic College Advisory Council Chair