

School Board Report 2021

Hannah von Ahlefeld, School Board Chair

It has been such an honour to take on this role in 2021 from David Ford – and to spend the year getting to know and learning from our inspirational staff, students and fellow Board members. I'd like to thank everyone, especially Peter Lillywhite, for warmly welcoming me to the school.

Community is so important, especially in tough times. With COVID-19 casting its long shadow over us throughout 2021, our school community continued to demonstrate extraordinary resilience. I would like to applaud Pete, his Executive Team and all staff for their professionalism and commitment to keeping our kids safe. We will all get through this!

In 2021, I enjoyed discovering the rich opportunities provided by our school for all its students – and the deep commitment of our staff to finding the best fit for each and every child. For our future global citizens, nothing could be more important. Our Year 12 students just keep shining, especially in WACE where our school ranked 7th among public schools in WA, with solid performances in ATAR and VET certification. I would like to express my gratitude to our staff, who do their utmost to support students in their chosen pathway.

I have appreciated every opportunity to be present and active in our school in the past year – and to support strategic, collaborative and consensus-driven ways of working. My journey started with a successful meeting on transition support involving all of our partner primary schools, followed by a series of workshops with other Board members, staff and students to develop a new School Business Plan. With confirmation of the long-awaited commitment to Phase 1 of the School Building Project early in 2021, the Board was thrilled to work with staff, students and the P&C to develop the design vision for our school in collaboration with the architects and Department of Education. The Board has also lent its full support to the exemplary work of the Reconciliation Action Plan Committee and Act, Belong, Commit. As someone who is highly committed to developing student voice, especially around global citizenship, climate change and the UN Sustainable Development Goals, I have treasured my time working with our student leadership teams and passionate Climate Crew as they bring awareness and action to one of the most urgent global issues of our time.

I would like to thank the 2021 Board members for their contributions throughout the year: Peter Lillywhite (Principal), Justine Avenell (Manager Corporate Services), Louis Cheeseman (Staff), Sasha Brennan (Staff), Barbara Kamarudin (Staff), Hon. Mayor Albert Jacob (Community), Dr Helen Egeberg (Community), Kristian Ravn (Parent), Vilko Poznovia (Parent), Martin Flaig (Parent), Rebecca Newton (Parent) and Paul Stone (Parent). I'm looking forward to developing the School Board's working groups on Community Engagement and Alumni, and Opportunities for Students in 2022.