



WILLETTON SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL BOARD 2018 BOARD CHAIR ANNUAL REPORT

The 2018 academic year has seen the school continue to adapt to the funding model changes that continue to impose significant financial challenges in the way in which the school endeavours to provide high quality education to all students regardless of background or future career pathway, catering across a range of learning needs, but particularly the pastoral care that is uniquely Willetton. The school leadership, teaching and support staff should be commended on their persistent efforts under these challenging circumstances to continue to foster a learning environment in alignment with the school's motto Give, Grow, Guide.

As a Board we believe that the school is well on track to fulfilling the business plan's highest priority to maximise academic and non-academic student outcomes. The school's Naplan, WACE achievement, VET full qualification results for 2018 were above targets and the ongoing work to improve well-being of all Willetton students continues with programs developing increased resilience and self-management. As a school we continue to strive and excel as we come to the end of another three-year business cycle, with a school review due mid-2019.

Throughout 2018, the Board funded a number of recurring, and one off initiatives, with the shade sails project the most significant investment, notably in response to an identified need by the Student Councillor body. Student Services, through the Staff Fellowship, have also embedded the Promoting Positive Education into the school, which aligns well with the school priority for promoting well-being. This current funding model of support is under review as the Department of Education imposes a new incorporated constitution and operational guidelines upon public School Boards and Councils. The Willetton Board will endeavour to work with the school and wider community to preserve the unique ethos, culture and beliefs of our school within this ever changing environment to ensure we value and nurture every student's academic, social and emotional potential.

The Board comprises many groups of people who donate their valuable time and expertise within the school community and we recognise and sincerely appreciate each contribution without which much of what we do would not be possible. Board members (parents, staff and community members) meet regularly to provide advice and oversight to the School Executive, working on several sub committees for finance, scholarships, policy and partnerships. Our Partnerships committee has been particularly productive organising merit rewards through Chatime, UWA-Technology Makerspace, Murdoch University-HaSS Year 10 Internship and Curtin University-Computer Science program. Our Willo Parent Group who provide a link to our parents and caregivers, coordinate thought provoking and insightful presentations, as well as catering for events throughout the year. Our second-hand uniform and book shop volunteers ensure these important services remain for the Willetton school community. It would be remiss not to mention the significant financial support provided to students at Willetton by the Rotary Club of Willetton, which has been sustained over many years and we are extremely grateful. To these and many others who support the school community we sincerely thank you.

The 2018 school year has also seen the recognition of some of the amazing achievements by members of our Board. Professor Tele Tan's Autism Academy for Software Quality Assurance has benefited Willo students and was this year recognised with a BHERT award for "outstanding collaboration for national benefit". Our own School Board Executive Officer, Helen Wong has also been recognised for her work above and beyond the call of duty, receiving Rotary's Paul Harris Fellow for meritorious and outstanding community and vocational service.

Our school would not be what it is without our students who continue to uphold the values of the school and grow to be model citizens in our community. They individually and collectively continue to shine across learning areas but also in their charity work. Thanks to the teachers and school staff for their enduring commitment to our kids. Thanks to Chris Booth and the executive team for constantly striving to provide the best possible educational opportunities for our students whilst adapting to the ever changing goal posts and financial challenges. A huge thank you to Helen Wong for everything that she does to support the Board, the school and the Willo community; her contribution is critical.

Our thanks and gratitude extend to each of the 2018 Year 12 cohort, for their unique contribution to the culture and the history of our school. Special thanks also to Josephine and Nikita, and the rest of the Year 12 student councillors for their strong leadership and representation of the student body in 2018. Their footsteps of respect, excellence and care lead the way for students in 2019.

Dr Paola Chivers
School Board Chair