



WILLETTON SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL BOARD

2019 BOARD CHAIR ANNUAL REPORT presented to the 2020 APM

2019 has been a year of transition and adjustment as we formally farewelled Mr Chris Booth as Principal, then selected and welcomed our new Principal Mr Trevor Hunter. During the transition period, Mr Colin Marshall played a significant role as Acting Principal, providing a fresh and communicative approach, continuing to drive the school toward excellence across the educational services provided, to ensure opportunities exist for all. Nathan Harvey as Acting Deputy aptly supported him, and of course, the many staff who took on additional tasks and roles to fill the needs of our school. The school leadership, teaching and support staff are commended on their persistent efforts, adaptation to change, continuing to foster an engaging and innovative learning environment in alignment with the school's motto Inspire, Empower, Achieve.

As a Board we believe the school fulfilled 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 2019 continue to be at or above targets and the ongoing work to improve well-being of all Willetton students continues whilst continuing ongoing work to improve the well-being of all Willetton students with programs aimed to develop increased resilience and self-management. Throughout the later part of 2019 and into early 2020 we have overseen the development of a concise and comprehensive new three-year business plan, with the school review scheduled for term three 2020.

The Board itself finalised constitutional change in 2019 holding a special general meeting in term four to merge our two incorporated entities, changing our incorporated name to align with our operational name 'Willetton Senior High School Board Incorporated', and adopted the Department of Education issued constitution to meet our obligations under the Associations Act 2015. The Board also reviewed and updated their operational guidelines to align with our new constitutional requirements. This process was a compilation of significant efforts by a number of people over a number of years, and ultimately the concerted efforts of Board members to scrutinise documentation to ensure a robust framework for the Board to operate in years to come.

The roll on effects of funding cuts continue to present challenges to the administration of the school, doing more for less and those at the interface carry the heaviest burden, our Teachers. The Board recognise and sincerely thank Teachers and those that support them for their efforts over the year. The way we adapt to the environment in which we operate is a reflection of the Willo community, our students who

strive for their personal best, the teachers and staff that guide them on their learning journey, and the families that nurture and support both students and staff. These attributes saw *The West* newspaper brand our school as the number one school in Western Australia, and reflects the pride we have in a school that strives for each child to have a well-rounded secondary education.

The School Board is one part of this collective effort with members volunteering their time regularly to support, advise and work with the School Executive to enhance the learning environment for our students. I sincerely thank each member for their significant contributions throughout the 2019 academic year, each bringing their unique set of skills and expertise to support the school, contributing their time on numerous projects. We also thank our dedicated Willo volunteers that also run our second hand uniform shop and bookshop, as well as the Willo Parent Group who coordinate thought provoking and insightful presentations, as well as catering for events throughout the year. In addition, the Rotary Club of Willetton continues to be a significant part of the Willo community, providing many ongoing opportunities and awards for our students, sustained over many years for which we are extremely thankful. Special thanks, as always, must go to Helen Wong our Executive Officer who is the glue keeping us together and on task.

The School Board continues to provide sound governance and oversight for the school. We are committed to finding new ways to support the school administration, teachers and ultimately our students in meeting their aspirational goals, as well as a vision for the future ensuring our students have the necessary life skills to participate in our community as respected and valued citizens.

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, sporting prowess but also in their charity work. Thanks to the teachers and school staff for their enduring commitment to our children.

2019 saw the end of our last Year Eight starting cohort graduating. Our thanks and gratitude to each of them, for their unique contribution to the culture and the history of our school, and Mrs Andrea Wheeler who guided their journey over the past five years. Their footsteps of respect, excellence and care lead the way for future students.

Dr Paola Chivers

Board Chair