DIOCESE OF SALE
SMARTER SCHOOLS NATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS
SCHOOL UPDATE

OVERVIEW

The CECV, in response to a new initiative of the Victorian Government, has developed a Program Plan for the use of funding that supports school improvement, for implementation in the second half of 2010 through to the end of 2011.

The Facilitation and Reward Program for School Improvement (the Program) is a new initiative established under the Victorian Non-Government Schools Funding Agreement 2010-2013. The Program will distribute $20 million in facilitation and reward payments (between 2010 and 2013) to the Catholic Education Commission of Victoria (CECV) and Independent Schools Victoria (ISV), in line with the conditions established in Victoria under the Australian Government’s Smarter Schools National Partnerships (NPs).

In the Diocese of Sale, this means that some of the initiatives established under the Literacy and Numeracy Smarter Schools National Partnerships will be deepened. It also allows for the inclusion of five additional Primary Schools to access the National Partnerships initiatives. These schools were selected based on an analysis of the 2008 and 2009 NAPLAN diocesan results in Reading and Numeracy. Meetings have been held with the Principal of each of the selected schools. They will be developing their school plans early in Term 3, to then access some of these initiatives.

ReThink: Aspirant Principals
(VIP Initiative 1)

The Aspirant Principals initiative continues to support 16 participants from across the diocese (12 from Primary and 4 from Secondary School settings). They are supported by their School’s Educational Consultant. The four secondary participants have identified exciting projects in the areas of staff and student performance, each with its own unique “flavour”.

A report has been received that highlighted the effectiveness of the two day workshop held during the last school holidays. The program comprised sessions designed to introduce different styles of leadership and the importance of their development and implementation. The ReThink workshop also explored the impact that the different leadership styles have on various elements of school culture and the impact this has on school outcomes. As part of the program, participants also received personalised feedback in the form of a 360° feedback report on their leadership capabilities, as well as team and self feedback on their leadership styles and the team culture they create. In order to consolidate information presented and to bring aspects of leadership and culture to life, the program also delivered a number of simulations, exercises and case studies.

Prospective participants, who are interested in undertaking this two year course from 2011, should contact their school’s Educational Consultant to express initial interest. This EOI process will be formalised next term. This course is intended for those who are considering Principalsip within the next five years.

Contact:
Primary:
Central – Paul Lomas (5622 6616)
West – Vincent Carr (5622 6631)
East – Cath Briant (5622 6658)
Secondary:
Rosemary Copeland (5622 6611)

Building a Performance and Development Culture
(VIP Initiative 1)

Jo Osler presented a workshop at the recent GCPPA Conference for Primary Principals, which focussed on building an understanding of leading a “Performance and Development Culture” in their schools. The session was enthusiastically received by those who attended.

The Performance and Development Culture projects continue to be implemented in eleven schools across the diocese, both Primary and Secondary.

Any school considering involvement in this initiative should express their interest, in the first instance, through their Educational Consultant who will assist schools to evaluate their readiness to participate.

Contact:
Program
Primary – Jo Osler (5622 6647)
Secondary – Sam Franz (5622 6654)
Readiness
Primary:
Central – Paul Lomas (5622 6616)
West – Vincent Carr (5622 6631)
East – Cath Briant (5622 6658)
Secondary:
Rosemary Copeland (5622 6611)

Data Literate Leaders
(VIP Initiative 1 & 2)

Planning and preparation is underway for the commencement of this initiative in Semester 2, 2010. The initiative is targeted at Principals of all Schools.

Contact:
Liz McQuade-Jones (5622 6609)
External Coaching
(VIP Initiative 2a)
The Learning Pathways Team (LPT) members are acting as External Coaches in identified National Partnerships Schools to apply the learning of the Oral Language 3-5 and the EMU 3-5 PD. LPT Cluster Officers are currently working with school Project Leaders to, in turn, support teachers in applying the PD into the classroom setting.

Contact:
WEST: Cath Briant (5622 6658)
CENTRAL: Tamina Taylor (5622 6661)
EAST: Phil Rebbechi (5622 6646)

Pathways Into Teaching
(VIP Initiative 6)
Projects for Indigenous students across the Diocese of Sale have been planned as follows:

Day 1 is to be held in the East of the diocese, for Indigenous students from Year 6 through to Year 12. A day will also be held in the west of the Diocese, and will generally mirror what is being planned for the eastern sector.

A third day will be held at the Gippsland campus of Monash University, and this is planned in such a way that all the Indigenous Year 6-12 students in the Diocese will come together for the day. We are hoping that parents/carers can be part of this day too.

We are very grateful to Kylie from Monash University for her guidance and willingness to be part of this initiative. Meetings are also in process with other providers to add to the richness of the day for our indigenous students.

Contact:
Linda Mullett (5622 6623)
Rosemary Copeland (5622 6611)

Literacy / Numeracy off-site Professional Development
(VIP Initiative 2b)
EMU: 3-5
The remaining EMU 3-5 day is planned for:

TERM FOUR:
Day Four: 8 October, 2010

Principals should be present for this final day of the EMU 3-5 program. It will be facilitated by Dr Ann Gervasoni.

A follow-up day will be held in 2011, for Principals and Numeracy Lead Teachers of these schools (tentatively, 18 March, 2011).

Contact:
WEST: Cath Briant (5622 6658)
CENTRAL: Tamina Taylor (5622 6661)
EAST: Phil Rebbechi (5622 6646)

Oral Language: 3-5
The remaining Oral Language 3-5 day will be facilitated by Hugh McCusker. It is fast approaching as we near the end of Term 2:

OLSMYL Day Four: 24 June, 2010

Contact:
WEST: Cath Briant (5622 6658)
CENTRAL: Tamina Taylor (5622 6661)
EAST: Phil Rebbechi (5622 6646)

Family-School Partnership Convenors
(VIP Initiative 10 & 11)
Four Family School Partnership Convenors have been appointed to commence immediately. They are employed through to the end of 2012. These people are employed by the Catholic Education Office and placed in the school. The following appointments to the role of Family School Partnership Convenor have commenced:

- St Kieran’s Primary School, Moe: Ms Monica Huffer commenced her role on 24 May, 2010.
- Sacred Heart Primary School, Morwell: Ms Jacqueline Nicholls commenced her role on 24 May, 2010.
- St Vincent de Paul Primary School, Morwell East: Ms Julie Kindelliam commenced her role at St Vincent’s on Monday, 31 May 2010.
- St Joseph’s Primary School, Orbost: Mr Dan Hession commenced his role on Monday, 31 May 2010.

The Family School Partnership initiative is funded for identified Low SES Schools under the Smarter Schools National Partnerships (Low SES Communities). The primary purpose of the role is to work with the nominated school and its community, through the Catholic Education Office, to initiate and coordinate projects that will strengthen the development of positive and inclusive partnerships between families, schools and the community so as to enhance student engagement and improve learning outcomes.

Contact:
Anne Speekman (5622 6606)

Student Intervention and Support: Reading Recovery and EMU
(VIP Initiative 9)
Extending Mathematical Understanding (EMU) intervention
Seven Teachers from across the Diocese are training as EMU Specialist Teachers. They have now completed four days out of the seven planned training days in preparing to implement the program. Nine student EMU groups are being taught by the training teachers.

Continuing Contact for previously accredited EMU teachers is well attended in the three locations of Warragul, Cranbourne and Bairnsdale.

Contact:
Carole Livesey (5622 6605)

Reading Recovery intervention
The training of four new Reading Recovery Teachers in the schools identified through the National Partnerships continues. Deirdre Thompson (as the Reading Recovery Tutor) is facilitating this training.

Continuing Contact for previously accredited Reading Recovery teachers is well attended in the three locations of Warragul, Cranbourne and Bairnsdale.

Contact:
Deirdre Thompson (5622 6641)