

Australian Principals Federation



President's Message – Tina King

This term has traditionally seen an escalation in respiratory illness, and combined with the ongoing (and what seems to be never ending) Covid pandemic, schools continue to face challenges and ongoing demands particularly in relation to workforce shortages. It is without doubt that these are difficult times with challenges aplenty and it appears that the recent advice in relation to wearing masks has caused upset for some.

There will always be public opinion on the do's and don'ts on how to manage the pandemic and the associated key safety measures. Schools as public places, have an obligation to mitigate the risks with community members having a personal obligation for their health and wellbeing in addition to a communal responsibility. Whilst the request to wear a mask indoors is simply a recommendation and not a mandate, it is for the betterment of all and like all things in life, not everyone will adhere to the request. The mask wearing recommendation should not present as an item of debate for school leaders. If people wish to challenge the recommendation, remind them that as required, you are following the government's stated advice and implementing the employer's policies. Interestingly, some principals have reported a greater uptake of mask wearing recently as a result of the request as opposed to when masks were mandated.

The Minister of Education is holding a Roundtable with peak bodies to discuss measures and strategies that need to be adjusted or implemented in order to combat the adverse impact of the pandemic through the remainder of this year. I have consulted with APF State Council on this and welcome direct feedback from members in order to present your perspective at the Roundtable.



The term has also brought changes at the ministerial level and we welcome Ms Natalie Hutchins as Minister for Education and Minister for Women. The APF looks forward to working with Minister Hutchins for the benefit and furtherance of our education system and in particular our school leaders.

I would like to take opportunity to thank former Deputy Premier and Minister for Education, James Merlino for his service and commitment to education over an extended period of time. During his stewardship as Minister, Mr Merlino inspired and delivered immense reforms through the Education State agenda. We extend our gratitude for his dedication to build a world class education system across Victoria and wish him the very best in his future endeavours.

T. King



EBA Update

Notification has been received from the Fair Work Commission advising that the Commissioner has approved the VGSA 2022 with the Agreement effective from 25 July 2022. By way of implementation, there is still lots to work through, particularly Time In Lieu, translation of ES, enhanced leave provisions, just to name a few. DET implementation advice will be forthcoming with some resources already available [here](#).

The APF will run webinars on the implementation of the VGSA 2022 with session dates to be published in the next newsletter.



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APF Website
<https://apf.net.au>

The Union exclusively for the Principal Class

APF Executive Officer (EO) Vacancy



For those that may not have caught up with the news, our EO Gemma and her husband Corey are expanding their family, with baby Needs due to arrive in a few months. Gemma will commence leave from September and we are in the process of recruiting for her replacement. The position has been advertised on [SEEK](#) and will suit someone wishing to work part time and with flexible work options. If you know of anyone who may be suitable and interested, please refer them to the position description which is available on our website www.apf.net.au or invite them to contact us at the APF office for further details.



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Tel: 0412 584 002

Tax return time.

**See my note on
this page about
your membership
receipt.**

**Any errors or
problems please
email or ring me.**

APF State Council Vacancies

As a result of retirements, we have two current vacancies on our State Council – one for Statewide Comprehensive Sector and the other for North West Region Primary Sector. The Comprehensive sector category is inclusive of Specialist Schools and P-12 Colleges. If you wish to consider nominating, please contact Tina King (0418 478 807) or tking@apf.net.au to express interest.

2021-2022 Tax Receipts, Gemma Needs, Executive Officer

Please note the 2021-2022 tax receipts have now been sent and you should have received these in your nominated email on the 18/07/2022. If you are not in receipt, please check your junk box, and contact me should you be unable to locate it.

*We have had some errors with the receipts this year, with many receipts sent blank or with the incorrect amount allocated. If this has occurred, please contact me directly by phone or email **0412 584 002** gnaylor@apf.net.au and I will be able to issue you a revised statement.*

I thank you all for your patience and wish you the best for the remainder of the term.



Gemma Needs
APF Executive
Officer

gnaylor@apf.net.au

Join the APF

<https://apf.net.au>

*Forms can be
completed on-line.*



SAVE THE DATE

Annual General Meeting & Seminar

Thursday 27 October 2022

9:00 AM – 3:30 PM

Riversdale Golf Club

(Details to follow)

School Community Safety Scheme

The Department of Education and Training has strengthened the legal protections available to all Victorian schools in response to unacceptable behaviour from parents, carers and other adults in the school community by introducing the School Community Safety Order Scheme.

Established under the [Education and Training Reform Amendment \(Protection of School Communities\) Act 2021](#), the Scheme provides new measures and actions when inappropriate behaviour is levelled towards people in our school community.

The Scheme empowers authorised persons, including principals, to issue School Community Safety Orders to prohibit or limit unacceptable or unreasonable behaviour. These orders are a last resort option where they are the least restrictive option available to deal with the behaviour. You can watch a short video providing an overview of the Scheme [here](#).

For more information, access the [School Community Safety Order Scheme Policy](#) and the Department's [website](#), which also includes information tailored to students seeking more information about the Scheme.

Respectful Behaviours within the School Community Policy

The Scheme is just one part of the Department's initiatives to address work-related violence in schools. The Department's [Respectful Behaviours within the School Community Policy](#) on the new [Creating safer school communities page](#) of the Department's website communicates the shared responsibility staff, parents and other adults have in behaving respectfully.

We encourage you to familiarise yourself with the [policy](#) to understand what constitutes unacceptable or unreasonable behaviours and set expectations of respectful behaviour within your school community.

Documentary: Singfest - The Literacy of Music

SINGFEST
THE LITERACY OF MUSIC

TV PREMIERE 1/8/22

SBS ON DEMAND

Monday 1/8/22 @ 2pm SBS TV

After the TV PREMIERE the film will be screening for 12 months on SBS On Demand
www.sbs.com.au/ondemand

SBS

IMDb: imdb.com/title/tt5804394
facebook.com/SingfestMusicFilm

WINNER OF 18 INTERNATIONAL FILM AWARDS

2x AWARDS: 2019, 2020

4x AWARDS: 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022

5x AWARDS: 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023

This award-winning documentary was developed at Emerson School and showcases the importance of music literacy and the power music has in unlocking student potential. It truly is a credit to our great government schools that this



Support for members

We are here to support and offer advice to all members at any time.

However, from time to time you may be concerned about a colleague. Please do not hesitate in making contact with us so we can offer them appropriate support.

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Mark - 0418 551 375



industrialofficer@apf.net.au

Gemma— 0412 584 002



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record of educational excellence should be given international acclaim. We congratulate John Mooney, (Principal) and staff at Emerson School for sharing their passion and insights and for enriching the learning opportunities for students across the ten participating schools.

NEWS RELEASE

SINGFEST - THE LITERACY OF MUSIC WILL HAVE ITS TV PREMIER ON SBS TV ON MONDAY, 1ST AUGUST, 2022 AT 2.00 PM.

In 2015, students from nine schools in the Dandenong region gathered at Emerson School to explore and celebrate the importance of music and singing in the curriculum of learning, living and growing.

The day was an amazing success and was an inspiration to everyone who attended.

In 2017, a 49 minute not for profit documentary was released and placed on YouTube. It has now received 18 International Awards for documentary excellence including multiple Best Documentary Awards and Best Inspirational Film at the New York Film Awards in 2019.

The nine participating schools were from Primary, Secondary and Specialist fields across Government, Catholic and Private School sectors.

Dandenong North Primary School
St Gerard's Primary School
Silvertown Primary School
Lyndale Greens Primary School
Rosewood Downs Primary School
Wooranna Park Primary School
Lyndale Secondary College
Dandenong High School
St Margaret's School, Berwick
Emerson School

One student was heard to say ... "This has been the best day of my life!" This really sums up the feeling that was created on that special day.

On Monday, 1st August, 2022, "Singfest: The Literacy of Music" will be premiered on SBS television. After the TV Premiere, the film will be screening for 12 months on SBS On Demand.

It is wonderful that this documentary has captured the imagination of International Film Festivals and is now being celebrated on SBS television.

It demonstrates the importance of Music as an essential literacy in the development of all students. The warmth and excitement of that special day on Thursday, 3rd September, 2015 will live on in the memories of participating students, staff and musicians.

"Students get to decide when and how to invite us in. We need to accept the invitations. Embracing kids – understanding and accepting them – makes possible a more-compassionate pedagogy, one that *nourishes* and *guards* more authentically.

Embrace. Nourish. Guard. That's my code."

"The Code for Student Engagement" by Chad Prather in Educational Leadership, December 2021/January 2022

from Hippocampus,
an email publication of
Principal's Digest

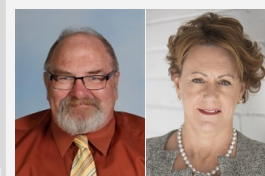


**PROFESSIONAL
DEVELOPMENT FOR
PRINCIPAL CLASS
EMPLOYEES
& Leadership
Teams**

We can devise a PD program to suit your needs, aligned to your Strategic Plan or any other specific need that your school might have.

Contact
dafinconsulting@optusnet.com.au or

David Finnerty
0412 927 007,
Julie Podbury
0419 103 664 or
Loretta Piazza
0418 597 069



The Union exclusively for the Principal Class