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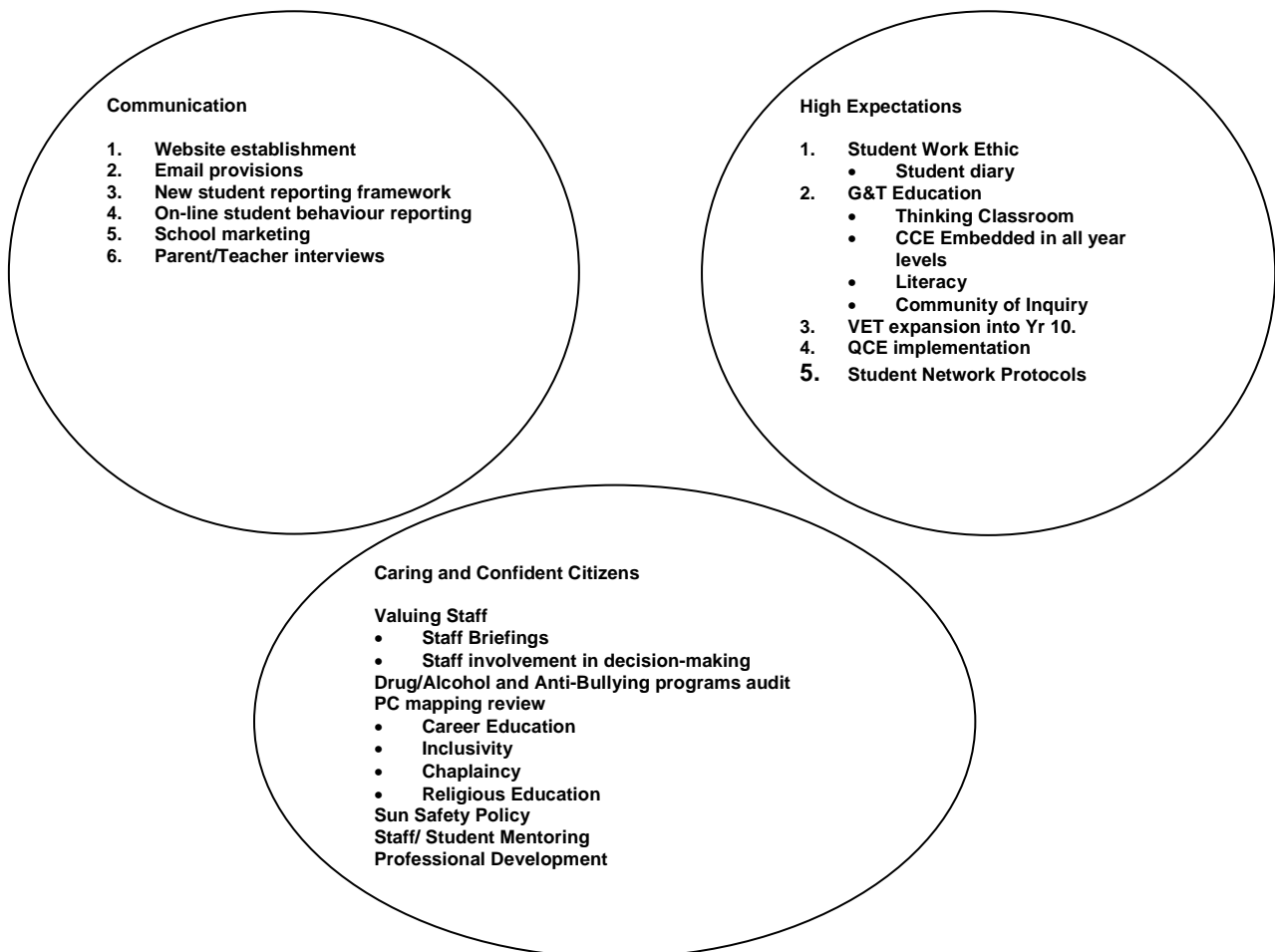
Principal's foreword

Introduction

The following report is a summary of Aspley State High School's performance through-out 2008. We are committed to providing parents with factual and transparent information about our school's progress and operations. Please do not hesitate in contacting the School Principal if you require any further information.

Future outlook

We completed our School review in 2007 that identifies our key strategies for the next three years (2007 to 2009). Our key priorities centre around; Communication, High Expectations for All and Caring and Confident Citizenship. The key focus areas under each of these headings are summarised within the following diagram.



School Management:
 School Finances- Asset Replacement and Maintenance processes
 Policies and Procedures- EGPA compliance, Student Management

Our school at a glance

School Profile

Aspley State High School

Total student enrolments for your school: 734
Year levels offered: Year 8 to Year 12
Coeducational or single sex: Co-Ed

Curriculum offerings

Our distinctive curriculum offerings

- In Year 8, students study a multi-discipline subject called MDS. This program is centred around the 8 K.L.A's with a strong emphasis on English and Mathematics, Science and Social Science. This subject encompasses one half of the week and allows our MDS teachers the time to develop strong relationships with students that assist in their transition to High School.
- For the other half of the week students select three traditional subjects of their choice, participate in compulsory inter-school sport and further studies in Literacy and Numeracy.
- A strong social development program is also included within the MDS subject. Anti-bullying, drug and alcohol awareness, team work and career education are embedded within the learnings of this subject.
- In semester 2, year 8, students select three different subjects allowing them to cover 6 distinct traditional subjects by the end of year 8.
- The MDS program continues in Year 9 semester 1. The MDS time allocation is reduced allowing students the choice of four traditional subjects within their studies.
- By the beginning of semester 2, Year 9, students will select six traditional subjects that parallel the senior curriculum in Year 10, 11 and 12.
- Our school offers three Vocational Education Certificate 1 courses in Year 10, that leads into a well established VET program in Years 11 and 12 that offers students pathways in School Based Traineeships and Apprenticeships, and Certificate 2 and 3 Courses in Hospitality, Business and Information Technology.
- We are also the district facilitator in a TAFE linked Accountancy and Legal Studies program that allows success within our school subject to be mapped with Certificate 3 TAFE qualifications.. Aspley also provides opportunities for students to study University subjects in Year 12. If successful students can gain automatic entry into QUT after Year 12, bypassing the O.P. system of entry.
- Our QCS preparation program ensures all OP students are properly prepared for their Year 12 testing. The QCS test is based on 50 Common Curriculum Elements which form the foundation of our curriculum planning across all 5 year levels. One star questions are embedded in Year 10 and 11 Subjects with the bulk of our preparation program existing in Year 12. By the time our students sit for their QCS exam they would have sat for two full trials, with marking and feedback, as well as smaller trials with Short Response and the extended writing task. Aspley SHS has performed above or on State Average in the QCS exam since this program was implemented in 2004.
- The only Visually Impaired Unit for secondary students in Brisbane North is based at our school. Along with an integrated Learning Support program our school supports all student learning in the classroom.
- Aspley State High School boasts a successful Indigenous program. A centrally located Indigenous room, a full time Community Education Counsellor, and a Teacher Aide supports our students with their study and finances. It also provides a wonderful link with our community elders, enabling our curriculum to capture the traditions of our native culture.

Extra curricula activities

- Aspley State High School has a proud tradition in the Arts and Sport.
- In term 4, 2008 the school introduced a compulsory school hat, selected by students.
- We conduct a school musical every 2nd year.
- Each year we host the Queensland Youth Music Association Competition for instrumental music. Our very talented and expanding Concert Band is an annual participant in this competition. Our bands practice on a Friday and in 2008 our "strings" program has continued to grow to and perform to wide acclaim.
- Our Middle School program promotes a "drumming troupe" that showcases our commitment to multi-cultural awareness.
- Aspley State High School continues its proud tradition of being one the most successful debating public school in Queensland. Again in 2007, we have reached the finals of this prestigious tournament. After being the last public school standing in 2005 and 2006.
- Aspley is a fierce competitor on the sporting field. Despite our size, we produce competitive and winning teams in the full range of sports we offer our students. Our sport ethos is founded on "fair play", effort and participation, and proud sportsmanship behaviour.
- Our swimming and athletic carnivals are "blasts from the pasts". With "war cries", "house songs", "march passes" and student/ teacher relays. Student participation and attendance on the day can match any school in Queensland.
- 2008 again saw our Science students take our sectional titles at the University of Queensland Science and Engineering Challenge.
- Aspley SHS also enjoys a partnership with The Aspley Leagues Club. In exchange for our grounds for training purposes after school and during holidays, the club has provided our school with a modern, fully equipped gymnasium, floodlit ovals, oval maintenance and hall re-furbishment , including a multi-media upgrade in our school hall.

Our school at a glance

How computers are used to assist learning

- Aspley State High School provides 370 computers for our 734 students. The majority of these computers are kept in six computer rooms located in A and H Blocks. 50 computers are located centrally in our School Library for student use. In 2003, close to \$ 3 000 000 was spent on the refurbishment of this facility.
- Computers are also located in classrooms around the school. Areas like, Science, Middle School and English have computer pods located in their buildings for access during normal lessons.
- Through our wireless technology 40 laptops are also available for staff to use around our school grounds.
- All computers are networked and have internet access.
- Computers are primarily used for research, data and information presentation, word processing and multi-media.

Social climate

- Students enjoy the support of our Guidance Officer, Teaching and Learning co-ordinator, School Nurse, Community Counsellors, Indigenous Education Officer and from October 2007 our School Chaplain. All support staff are available for students to make appointments to discuss current issues.
- We strongly enforce our school policies. Self-discipline begins with the correct school uniform, including jewellery and make-up, compulsory completion of all assessment items and respectful behaviour at all times.
- Aspley State High School's greatest strength is the pride and loyalty fostered within students for their great school. 734 students allows all students to be recognised for their individual gifts and talents, with plenty of opportunity for participation in school activities.
- The school is proud of an environment that our students protect. Through our involvement in environmental issues like Cabbage Tree Creek and our strong stance against litter and smoking, students who wish to breach our values don't just hide from 55 staff, but from the other 734 students who say NO to such behaviours.
- In 2008, Aspley State High School enjoyed the highest student satisfaction and parent satisfaction response for any High School on the Northside of Brisbane. These surveys are available for download from our school website.

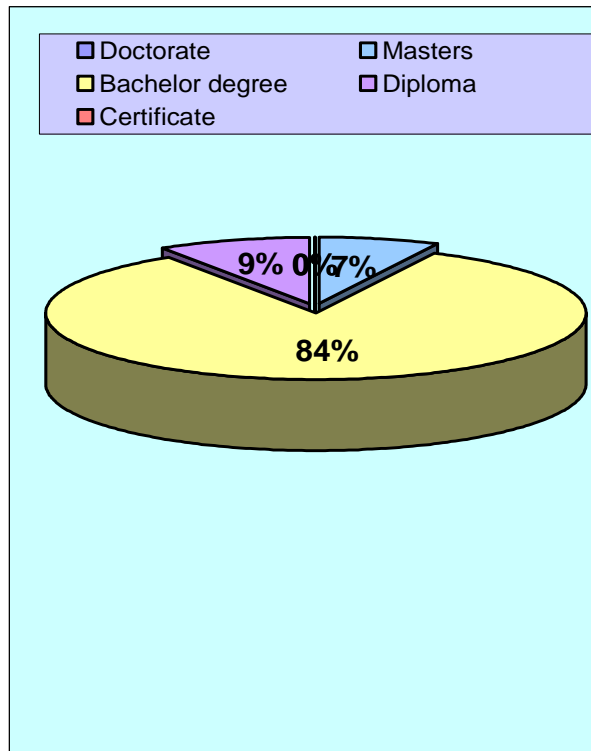
Involving parents in their child's education.

- Aspley SHS has completed significant upgrades to our school website. All assessment criteria sheets, workprograms, email links to curriculum leaders, school policies and school newsletters are some of the information available through our website. I encourage all parents to take the time to "walk through" our website. www.aspleyshs.eq.edu.au
- AspleySHS have an active P&C that meets every third Wednesday of the month in the school administration building at 7.30pm. The Principal attends these meetings and provides a monthly report to the parents. Parents may also ask questions of the Principal at this forum.
- Currently representatives of the P&C sit on the School Budget Committee, School Chaplaincy Committee, School Healthy Food Choices Committee and School Sun Safety Committee..
- Parents can also request the School Newsletter to be emailed to them once a fortnight. These email groups are also used to collect opinions from parents on key issues. The newsletter is available from our school website.
- The school provides written reports for all students at the end of each semester. Parent/ Teacher interviews are conducted in April and July, with bookings made directly on the internet or to the school office. In week 8, Term 1, a progress report is mailed home to all parents of Year 8 and 11 students. Attached to this report is a student self-evaluation form completed by each student during class time.

Performance of our students

Qualifications of all teachers.

Highest level of attainment	Number of classroom teachers and school leaders at the school
Doctorate	0
Masters	4
Bachelor degree	46
Diploma	5
Certificate	0



Expenditure on and teacher participation in professional development.

- The total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2008 was \$25338. This represents 25% of our general grant .
- The major professional development initiatives are as follows:
 - Behaviour Management
 - Learning Styles
 - Literacy and Numeracy
- The involvement of the teaching staff in professional development activities during 2008 was 92 %.

Average staff attendance

- For permanent and temporary staff and school leaders the staff attendance rate was 96% in 2008.

Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year.

- From the end of the 2007 school year, 93% of staff were retained by the school for the entire 2008 school year.

Student attendance

The average attendance rate as a percentage in 2008 was 87%.

Key Outcomes

National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) results

Domain	Measures	Yr 9
Reading	Average score for the school	547
	Average score for Queensland	568.2
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008 85%
Writing	Average score for the school	519
	Average score for Queensland	555.3
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008 79%
Spelling	Average score for the school	551
	Average score for Queensland	567.8
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008 79%
Grammar and Punctuation	Average score for the school	516
	Average score for Queensland	563.2
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008 75%
Numeracy	Average score for the school	532
	Average score for Queensland	570.7
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008 84%

Apparent retention rates Year 10 to Year 12.	
Year 12 student enrolment as a percentage of the Year 10 student cohort.	91 %

Outcomes for our Year 12 cohort of 2008	
Number of students awarded a Senior Statement.	105
Number of students awarded a Queensland Certificate Individual Achievement (QCIA).	0
Number of students awarded a Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) at the end of Year 12.	58
Number of students awarded an International Baccalaureate Diploma (IBD).	0
Number of students awarded one or more Vocational Education and Training (VET) qualifications.	78
Number of students who are completing or completed a School-based Apprenticeship or Traineeship (SAT).	12
Number of students receiving an Overall Position (OP).	64
Percentage of OP/IBD eligible students with OP 1-15 or an IBD.	52
Percentage of Year 12 students who are completing or completed a SAT or were awarded one or more of the following: QCE, IBD, VET qualification.	88
Percentage of Queensland Tertiary Admissions Centre (QTAC) applicants receiving a tertiary offer.	90

Post-school destination information
At the time of publishing this School Annual Report, the results of the 2008 Year 12 post-school destinations survey, Next Step – Student Destination Report for the school were not available. Information about these post-school destinations of our students will be incorporated into this Report in September.

Performance of our students

Value added

Aspley State High School prides itself on our inclusive curriculum. We cater for all of our students based on academic, vocational, multicultural and disability needs, equally and without prejudice.

Our transition program from year 7 to 8 ensures students enter high school free of the anxieties usually associated with this transition. Our dedicated and trained middle school staff nurture our students in a caring and supportive environment. Our integrated curriculum in Year 8 and semester 1 Year 9 engages students in real world and connected activities.

Gifted and Talented students are identified and challenged within the classroom and in special programs designed by our G&T co-ordinator.

Students requiring learning support or adjusted programs through our special needs unit are treated with the dignity and compassion required to ensure they feel included within mainstream education.

Our multi-cultural focus centres around our Harmony Room and our two Multi-cultural school captains that lead cultural celebrations across our school site.

Since 2004 our VET program has expanded from one school based subject to fourteen in 2009. Each year we award an Academic and Vocation Education Dux to highlight the value both pathways have in our school curriculum.

Our school size ensures most of our challenging Academic Subjects like Chemistry, Physics, Maths C, Accounting and IPT are below fifteen in student number. Our school is committed in ensuring these subjects remain an integral part of our senior curriculum regardless of student enrolments.

The facilities of Aspley SHS are second to none. In the past 5 years we have seen major renovations within our Manual Arts Building, Tennis Courts, Volley ball Courts, Parent Drop-off Zones, Pool Shade Cloth, School Hall, Tuck shop, Library, lecture Centre, Gymnasium and General classrooms. Our school can cater for 1300 students, with 734 students our facilities provide Learning environments that the children of the Aspley Community richly deserve.

Parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school

Aspley State High School continues to enjoy the highest Parent and Student Satisfaction of any High School in the Brisbane North district. These opinion surveys are available for download from our website.

Our enrolments have grown from 619 in December 2004 to 761 in February 2009. This increase recognizes the confidence parents and students have in our school curriculum and school staff.