

## **SUMMARY OF MARCH 3 MEETING FOR THE WEBSITE**

The Catholic Education Commission, Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn met for the first time in 2015 on 3 March.

### **Introduction and Welcome**

Monsignor John Woods and Richard Sidorko were welcomed as new members of the Catholic Education Commission.

Archbishop Christopher Prowse accepted the resignation of Mr Daryl Smeaton as Chair of the Commission effective from the 13 May 2015. A new Chair will be appointed following a review of the Commission. In the interim Mrs Catherine Rey will be Acting Chair.

The Chair of the Commission and Archbishop Christopher Prowse acknowledged and thanked Mrs Mary Dorrian Head of RE and Curriculum for her dedication and commitment to Catholic education and wished her well in her retirement. Mary Dorrian has resigned as Head of RE & Curriculum effective from end of April 2015.

### **Major Agenda items included:**

#### **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

The Commission members were given a summary of the influences of society and the Catholic Church on Catholic Education in Australia and the Archdiocese leading up to the present time.

Commission members were given an update on Treasures New and Old and the many programs currently being run in this Archdiocese including:

- REC Networks
- Faith Formation
- Siloam
- Salt and Light,
- Link, Listen, Learn, Lead;
- Reflection Days
- Accreditation Courses

#### **Hopes for the future includes three key directions:**

Jesus is the greatest teacher and we need to have a commitment to this fundamental belief that is authentic and lived out in schools. Be proud of, articulate strongly and clearly our Catholic faith, especially through the power of story.

It is crucial that we continue to invest in our teachers to develop their faith and also religious knowledge through high quality and engaging professional learning programs so that Jesus is at the heart of our teaching.

Partner with Universities, especially ACU and other agencies to provide a continuum of learning for our teachers.

**NCEC Strategies for 2015 to 2017.** Discussions were held around the alignment of our Archdiocesan Catholic education priorities with those of the NCEC including:

- Funding, Governance and Regulation of School Education in Australia
- Catholic Identity and Mission
- Excellence, Equitable and Inclusive Catholic Schooling
- Strategies Partnerships

**NSW AND ACT PRELIMINARY CENSUS RESULTS FOR 2015** were analysed and noted.

#### **CEC ENROLMENT WORKING PARTY RECOMMENDATIONS**

The CEC notes and accepted the CEC Enrolment Working Party Recommendations changes to the Policy effective in 2015. To review the approved Enrolment Policy please visit the CEO website.

**BLOCK GRANT APPLICATIONS** will be forwarded to the Archbishop for the Temporal Goods Committee to approve.

**CEC SCHOOL FEES AND LEVIES WORKING PARTY.** The CEC noted the progress to date on the School Fees and Levies Working Party Review. The CEC expects recommendations by the Working Party to be submitted to the CEC, following a consultation period with the school communities, by September 2015.

**ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.** The CEC noted the draft Annual Financial Statements provided by the CEC Finance, Audit and Risk Committee.

**NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON 11 May 2015**