Board Chair Report
Annual General Meeting
2015

Our Vision
Create a vibrant Catholic school which is Christ centred involving the parish, school and wider community that is highly regarded for our academic excellence and contribution in actively serving the community in which we pray, work, live and play.

Our Mission Statement
As a community of learners: parents, staff and students we strive for excellence, fostering the full potential of each individual, developing confident, respectful and independent learners. As we journey together with Christ, we seek to share the joy and wonder of learning through celebrating God’s love in our lives.
School Board

2015 marked an amazing year for our School Board Members; as it was our first full year, I believe we have had a massive learning curve as most of us have never been involved in an endeavour like this. However, we continue to learn and strive to be the best we can for our school, our students, staff and parents and for Catholic Education WA.

I would like to thank our Board Members for the time they have put in to making the St Elizabeth’s Catholic Primary School Board a success.

Our Board consists of the following members.
Trish Ryan - Treasurer, Claudia Fazari - Secretary, Dan Button and Michelle Colavecchio - Board Members. Trish Sykes Parish Council Representative and our P&F Representative Claudia Fazari.
Making up the Board is our Principal, Carmel O’Shaughnessy and of course our own Father John Daly, our Parish Priest.

These Board members continue in their endeavours to assist in any way they can and their efforts are greatly appreciated.

This year, 2016 we commence our second year of School Board duties and look forward to the opportunity in meeting more of the parents throughout the coming year.

It is our hope to remain as open and transparent to all, however at times the parents must understand that there are certain aspects and facets of the information we are privy to, that is not for general broadcast or dissemination to parents.

We hope you understand that some things are privileged information and there are many things that even the School Board are not privy to in the day to day running of a Catholic Primary School.

I have immensely enjoyed my first year on the Board and it is my endeavour to continue on your School Board Chair and hope our Board Members enjoy the experience as much as I do.
The 2015 School Year – special highlights

1. Our Open Day was held on the 23 September 2015, and we were honoured to have several special guests including Dr Tim McDonald, Mr Luke Simpkins MP, Hon Peter Collier MLC, Mr Paul Miles MLA for Wanneroo, Mrs Marie Taylor, Traditional Land Owner and Tracey Roberts Mayor of the City of Wanneroo. The day was a great success and the children played a special part in the proceedings, giving us a wonderful performance!

2. The P & F Association got underway in Term Two and immediately set to work organising the Master’s Sausage Sizzle and the Quiz Night just to name two of their events. Belinda will share more information with you when she reads her report next.

On behalf of the School Board Members, I want to sincerely thank the P & F Association Executive and Committee Members for your hard work. Your role is an important one, in that it helps to develop a culture of ‘parents as partners’ in your child’s education. Your work also builds a sense of community in our school. Thank you and we wish you every success this year, 2016.

3. In term four we celebrated our first St Elizabeth’s Catholic School Community mass at St Anthony’s Church with the parishioners providing a wonderful morning tea. This initiative will continue once a term this year, 2016 as we are within the St Anthony of Padua’s Parish. Father John is committed to the staff, parents and children of St Elizabeth’s CPS community. We know he is very busy, however he makes time to visit here and attend the liturgies with the children.

Initiatives for 2016

- We look forward to the introduction of the 3-year-old program commencing later this year. We have only just received the news this week that we are now registered as Pre- Kindy to Year Six. The three-year-old program will start when we have sufficient numbers, which is about twelve students.

- We have developed an Advertising Program to assist us with increasing our enrolments. This is imperative if we hope to develop a financially viable school. Although Catholic Education WA will continue to provide financial assistance through the co responsibility fund until we are financial.

- The School Board members continue with a firm uniform policy after consultation with the Principal.
Finances
Stage 1 of our building program is completed. It may be some time before we commence Stage 2 of our build, however I believe that it will not be long before our school grows, which will enable us to commence the next stage with additional classrooms and the library.

The School Board Members remind parents and families that if you find the fees unmanageable, we urge you to contact the Principal to work these matters out.

Staff
Naomi Clarkson (The Arts & Physical Education) and Jenni Brown (Year One) join us this year and we wish them well during their time with us and hope we can make their journey in teaching truly a time to remember.

Staff continuing their employment
Kim Manov- Kindy, Kate Masaeri- Pre Primary, Joan Martino, Lea Hardie and Caitlyn Irwin our experienced Education Assistants. Robert Agacy works part-time as our gardener and maintenance person and Mel Dimond our Finance Officer.

Thank you to all staff and Carmel O’Shaughnessy, our Principal for the continued dedication you have shown and in your efforts with the children throughout 2015.

On behalf of the School Board Members, I welcome you back for 2016 and wish your time here at St Elizabeth’s to be enlightening and enjoyable.

Rick Goodfield
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School Board Chair
February 2016