



Association of
Independent Schools
of South Australia

BULLETIN NO 4

22 June 2022

Important Issues

Message from the Board Chair, Mr Luke Ritchie

Those of you who were able to attend our AGM on Wednesday 15 June will know that I announced that the AISSA Chief Executive, Carolyn Grantskalns, has resigned and will leave the role no later than the end of February 2023. Carolyn has filled the role with distinction since 2013 and we will, of course, arrange an appropriate opportunity for you to farewell and thank her when the time comes. I would like to draw your attention to the [reflections](#) from the former State Government Minister for Education, the Hon. John Gardner on Carolyn's many achievements.

Following the AGM, the Board met immediately to begin the important process of appointing the next AISSA Chief Executive, the fourth in the history of the ISB/AISSA. We have no doubt that we will attract a strong field of candidates and look forward to announcing the successful candidate in due course.

Message from the AISSA Chief Executive, Mrs Carolyn Grantskalns

Thank you for all the lovely messages that I have received on the announcement of my resignation as Chief Executive of the Association of Independent Schools of South Australia (AISSA). It has been a great privilege to serve the AISSA's member schools, and the Independent school sector, over the last ten years and I look forward to continuing this work over the coming months.

AISSA Board Changes

Following the recent AISSA Board election conducted by the AEC and declared at the AISSA AGM, Mr Mike Potter and Mr John Proeve have been re-elected and Ms Shannon Warren (Principal, Woodcroft College) and Mr Paul Weinert (Head of College, Concordia College) have been elected. The Board farewelled, with sincere gratitude for their service, Mr Don Grimmett, Ms Rebecca Clarke, Ms Heidi Payne and Mr Marcel Rijken. The AEC will now conduct the election for the Office Bearer Positions of Chair and Deputy Chair. In addition, an application will shortly be submitted for the AEC to conduct a further election in respect to the three vacant Board member positions and the Board will appoint a replacement for Mr Luke Ritchie once he concludes at Annesley Junior School. Further updates to member schools will be provided on the changes as each of these steps is completed. The full list of current Board members is available via the [AISSA website](#).

COVID-19 Update

As previously advised, Professor Nicola Spurrier, Chief Public Health Officer, was unable to attend the Zoom meeting to discuss her vaccination advice due to being required to attend an urgent meeting. A number of questions had been submitted to Professor Spurrier in advance of the session and SA Health committed to providing written responses to those questions where it was in a position to do so. These have been forwarded to member schools (email from Carolyn Grantskalns, 9 June). No changes have been made to the current requirements. All COVID-19 updates are available on the [COVID-19 Updates for School Leaders web page](#).

National School Chaplaincy Program

This is the final year of the current National School Chaplaincy Program (NSCP) Agreement, and all funds must be expended by the end of the 2022 calendar year. Please contact [Bronwyn Donaghey](#) by no later than 25 July if your school will not be able to expend its total 2022 grant. Details of the next agreement are yet to be finalised by the new Australian Government and updates will be provided to member schools as soon as they are available.

Choice and Affordability Fund (CAF)

Transition assistance grants have been paid to eligible non-systemic schools. Applications have also been received for the Business Development Planning Program and work will commence soon. Please contact [Carolyn Grantskalns](#) or [Bronwyn Donaghey](#) if you have any questions regarding CAF.

New Australian Government Minister for Education, Training and Skills

Following the election of the new Labor Australian Government, Mr Jason Clare has been appointed as Minister for Education. The AISSA looks forward to working with Minister Clare in a number of important areas. The AISSA thanks the former Minister and Acting Minister, the Honourable Alan Tudge and the Honourable Stuart Robert, for their work in the area.

2022 AISSA Leaders' Dinner

The 2022 AISSA Leaders' Dinner was held on Thursday 9 June. The Honourable Blair Boyer MP, State Government Minister for Education, Training and Skills, was guest speaker and outlined his vision for education in South Australia.

Applications for Commonwealth Capital Grants in 2024

The annual BGA Seminar for schools wishing to apply for a Commonwealth Capital Grant for 2024 has been changed from October to **Thursday 25 August 2022 via Zoom**. It is strongly recommended that key personnel from schools considering applying for the next round of funding attend this seminar. The new date for the seminar will give schools additional time to consider applications for future refurbishment and construction needs in line with the school's current Master Plan. The application for Stage 1 Notice of Intent for Capital Grant Funding in 2024 will be available for schools to download from 1 September 2022 and applications are to be submitted by 24 November 2022. Registration for the seminar will be available from early August. For further information please contact Jane Pike, Executive Officer, BGA on 8179 1421.

New Criminal Offences under the Statutes Amendment (Child Sexual Abuse) Act 2021

Information has been forwarded to member schools regarding the new Criminal Offences under the Statutes Amendment (Child Sexual Abuse) Act 2021 (email from Carolyn Grantskalns, 17 June). A copy of the updated AISSA Child Protection Policy Guidelines 2022 and a word version of the Child Protection Policy Template were attached to assist schools in ensuring that their policy is up to date with the latest requirements and are available on the [Policy Resources](#) page of the AISSA website (login required).

Allied Health Specialist Support Services program

The Allied Health Specialist Support Services program is now in its final year. This program aims to build the capacity of school staff to cater more effectively for students with diverse needs, especially for those who have been identified as 'at risk' in developing their educational potential. Schools that have an Early Learning Centre may also be assisted with the early identification of students with additional needs and be supported to provide early intervention strategies. For further information, please contact [Alice Duffield](#) or [Melissa Symonds](#).

Reporting Persistent Absenteeism

An email was forwarded to the Principal contact email address by the Department for Education on Thursday 2 June requesting confirmation of the appropriate person to login to the Smarty Grants system which has been set up to provide each school with a template to complete with data for any students enrolled in the school who have been absent for 10 or more days in a term, either authorised or unauthorised. Please contact [Bronwyn Donaghey](#) if you have not received this email.

Reporting School Performance Information

School performance reporting for the 2021 calendar year is required to be publicly reported on your school's website by 30 June 2022. The [information to be reported](#) (login required) includes contextual information about the school; teacher standards and qualifications; workforce composition; student attendance at the school; student results in NAP annual assessments; parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school; school income broken down by funding source; and, for a school that provides secondary education, senior secondary outcomes and post-school destinations. Reporting this information is a condition of funding under the Australian Education Act 2013.



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Compliance Dates

STATS	Commencement date for reporting Semester 1 Student Attendance on SchoolsHUB, 27 June Further Information: SchoolsHUB
Performance Reporting	School Performance Reporting – Annual Report to be completed by 30 June Further Information: DESE - Australian Education Act 2013
Financial Questionnaire	Financial Questionnaire to be completed and a copy of school's auditor's report to be provided to the Commonwealth Department (DESE) by 30 June Further Information: SchoolsHUB
Financial Acquittal	Acquittal certificates to be completed online by qualified accountant for the school or system (DESE) by 30 June Further Information: SchoolsHUB
Financial Accountability	Financial accountability requirements under the State Government Funding Deed to be completed by 30 June AISSA Contact: Carolyn Grantskalns or Bronwyn Donaghey
ACNC Annual Information Statement	2021 ACNC Annual Information Statement due by 30 June Further Information: ACNC – The Annual Information Statement
Commonwealth SRS Payment	Second DESE advance Commonwealth SRS payment due in July Further Information: DESE – Australian Education Act 2013
Changes in Operation	Approved system authorities must notify DESE of changes in operation for the following year by 1 July Further Information: DESE – Australian Education Act 2013
Staff Remuneration	Modern Award pay rises take effect from the first pay period on or after 1 July and payment summaries are to be issued to staff no later than 14 July AISSA Contact: Elizabeth Sexton
BGA	BGA Round 2023 Stage 4 Capital Grant applications close on 7 July Further Information: Capital Grants Program (BGA)

2022 compliance dates are available under the [Compliance Framework](#) on the AISSA website. Not all compliance dates may be applicable to all schools. Schools are advised to check with the relevant authorities if they are unsure.

Authorised by Carolyn Grantskalns, AISSA Chief Executive
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