



## Theodore Primary School Board Meeting Minutes Thursday 20 Feb 2025

<b>Attendance</b>	Susan Hough, Jacinta Margaronis, Emma Peel, Kim Jones , Alison Yialelgrou, Sue Farrelly & Rose Rodriguez (Minutes)
<b>Meeting</b>	Open 3.55pm
<b>Apologies</b>	Nathan Pepper & Charisse Enrique
<b>Conflict Interest</b>	Nil
<b>Student Leader</b>	Nil
<b>Minutes of Previous Meeting</b>	Approval completed term 4 2024

### Business Arising

**Open Action** School upgrades | SGP and preschool bathrooms & Junior playground

**Discussion** **Term 4 24** | Work on the SGP bathroom will hopefully commence at start of December 2024. Preschool upgrades will commence during school break and continue until term 1 2025. A meeting was held with Capital Upgrades and the Architect to discuss the design of the Junior playground area. Student input will be sought once the design is available. It is proposed to have the new playground completed mid-2025.

**Outcome** SGP bathroom upgrade completed early February and Preschool main building upgrade scheduled for completion early March 2025. Junior Playground is currently under planning stage with Capital Upgrades.

### Business Arising

**Open Action** Unit names and signage

**Discussion** **Term 4 24** | Discussion took place with ROJO Designs to determine colours and design of the building signage. A walk around the buildings determined the most suitable location of the signs on each building. ROJO Designs will provide templates of the designs with the aim to have final designs ready for production in 2025. Sarah Jane is consulting with EDU to gain confirmation of the chosen Indigenous names and is continuing to consult with the community.

**Outcome** School signs, building names are now confirmed moving to next stage with ROJO designing styles.

**Pass** Emma Peel **Second** Kim Jones

### Finance

Month Ending January 2025	
Operating Results	(116,227.61)
GST & OTHER Liabilities	1,799.76
Reserves	(75,000)
Provisions	(43,809.53)
Accumulated Funds	(360,590.68)
Total summary accounts	(593,828.06)
Bank account	593,828.06

**Pass** Jacinta Margaronis **Second** Sue Farrelly



## Teachers report Susan Hough

Smooth start to the year, students very settled across the school

What's been happening early term 1

- Hockey clinics
- Meet & Greet BBQ last week
- Raiders Blitz presentation
- Seniors house captain meetings / student parliament
- Constable Kenny has visited K-2
- Preschool team have visited Evelyn Scot preschool
- Preschool enrolments went up from 22 at the end of last year and up to 29 by the beginning of term
- Netball gala day
- Getting to know you interviews in week 4
- Swimming carnival week 4
- PCK Clinics commence in week 5 with Year 3/4 students

Pass

Jacinta Margaronis

Second

Sue Farrelly

## Principal's Report- February 2025

Welcome back to another school year! 2025 is shaping up to be another positive year, where I am optimistic all students will belong and thrive!

### School Improvement- Improve growth in spelling for all students

As was the case in 2024, our school will continue to have a narrow focus on improving spelling outcomes for all students in 2025. It is important to note that whilst spelling remains our priority, we will continue our 'business as usual' approach to student learning in literacy and numeracy, wellbeing and community connection and growing cultural integrity.

Through a focus on spelling, our vision is that students will:

- Have a range of **spelling strategies** that they can apply and use independently.
- Experience a **consistent approach** to spelling instruction throughout their years of schooling as outlined in the *Theodore Pedagogical Belief Statement* and schoolwide use of spelling strategies and metalanguage.
- Experience success by working towards **challenging yet achievable personalised learning goals** and receive ongoing specific feedback to further improve their learning.
- Will benefit from Professional Learning Teams (PLTs) that are designed to analyse, discuss and use **student learning data** to inform future learning in spelling.

In 2025, we have developed two key strategies which will guide our work:

1. **Personalised learning goals**- this year, all students will have personalised learning goals, with a particular focus on improving at spelling. Student goals will be negotiated between classroom teachers and students and be tailored toward the student's point of need. Student goals will be aligned to the Australian Curriculum's English Learning progressions and will be monitored by class teachers.
2. **Staff Capacity building**- throughout 2025, we will be focused on building the capacity of all leaders, teachers and support staff to deliver an evidence-informed approach to teaching spelling. Key components of building staff capacity will include targeted professional learning opportunities, embedding a 'walkthrough model' and introducing a whole staff coaching approach.



78 Lawrence Wackett Crescent,  
THEODORE ACT 2905



Contact: 02 6142 3100  
Email: [theodoreps@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:theodoreps@ed.act.edu.au)  
Web: [www.theops.act.edu.au](http://www.theops.act.edu.au)



## How will we know we are successful?

Each Professional Learning Team (PLT) has developed an action plan which has identified targets for student learning in which they are working towards achieving. These goals and targets are monitored throughout the course of the term and reported on to the rest of the school staff. I am looking forward to sharing these targets and how we are progressing at our next School Board meeting.

## Start to 2025

The start to 2025 has been quite successful with students and teachers returning ready for a productive year. To date, we have held our 'Welcome back' community BBQ in week 2, 'Getting to Know You' interviews in week 4 and our whole school Swimming Carnival.

## Strong Foundations

As reported on in 2024, Theodore Primary School has commenced its implementation of Strong Foundations in 2024 by being a pilot school for the Year 1 Phonics Check, introducing Sounds Write in K-4 classes and recently receiving additional funds to support the purchase of resources which support the implementation of research-based learning programs. These funds are currently being used to expand the school's existing catalogue of decodable readers as well as replenishing number kits for early childhood classes.

In 2025, Phase One will commence which is focused on policy and program development. Teaching staff have begun the year by engaging in a series of Professional Development modules to better understand Strong Foundations and what it means in the context of learners at Theodore Primary School.

## Camps

You may have recently heard of announcements from the Minister and Education Directorate regarding all students receiving a free camp during their school years. We are currently awaiting further details and how this decision implicates decisions made at the school level. Once we have a better understanding I would like to present all information to the School Board for your input and endorsement.

## Thank you!

As our week 3 meeting marks the final time the current board will meet in its current configuration, I would like to say thank you to all board members for your contributions over the past twelve months. A special mention to Charisse Enriquez, who has served as Staff Representative for the past two years, who has elected to step aside to allow another colleague the opportunity.

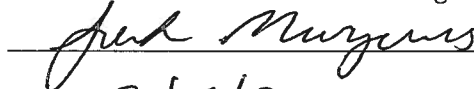
## General Business

- Indigenous Garden final planning stage Pond and Bridge . Recommended by board members reconsideration of pond , safety , ongoing cleaning and maintenance consider dry creek bed with Bridge.
- 2025 Board meetings , termly week 3 and week 7 Thursday commence at 3.45pm

Meeting Closed

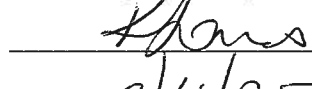
4.55pm

School Board Chair Jacinta Margaronis



Date: 3/4/2025

Assistant Board Chair Kim Jones



Date: 3/4/25



