



2 May 2016

Board Communiqué

Hills Learning Precinct Cluster Meeting of 2 May

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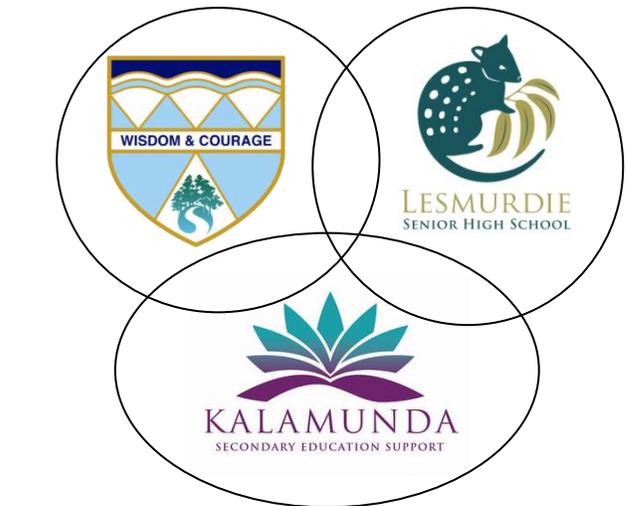
Hills Learning Precinct Cluster

The March Board Communiqué highlighted that Kalamunda Senior High School was part of a school cluster incorporating Lesmurdie Senior High School and Kalamunda Secondary Education Support.

The cluster was formed back in 2011 when the schools were considering obtaining Independent School status (IPS).

Given the close-knit nature of the communities using the secondary schools in the hills area it was considered detrimental for the schools to seek IPS status individually.

Consequently the three schools decided to form the 'Hills Learning Precinct Cluster'. The



aim was to present a unified approach to IPS and to seek opportunities to foster closer cooperation and share resources and expertise.

Importantly under the cluster approach each school maintained its unique identity, culture and autonomy.

Since the formation of

the cluster there have been several beneficial outcomes including:

- Shared curriculum development
- Increased skills for teachers to support students requiring educational support
- Shared professional teacher development in history and mathematics

Thanks to Lesmurdie for hosting the meeting

The Boards from the three schools held a joint meeting on Monday evening, 2nd May at Lesmurdie Senior High School to share information and discuss the cluster.

Thanks to Lesmurdie for hosting the meeting - it was agreed that the opportunity to meet the other school board members and share information was very useful.

Joint meeting discussions and thoughts

“A common theme was not to over complicate the cluster arrangement and to maintain school autonomy but take advantage of the cluster arrangement when appropriate and useful.”

KALAMUNDA
SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL



AN INDEPENDENT PUBLIC SCHOOL

School values:

- Learning
- Respect
- Resilience
- Pride
- Community

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As already mentioned the opportunity to meet the Board members from the other schools was great.

Discussion and thoughts from the evening includes:

- Teachers from the schools use the cluster arrangement to share ideas and develop different approaches.
- Given the smaller size and specialised nature of the Kalamunda

Secondary Education Support maintaining an active Board can be difficult.

- Both Lesmurdie and Kalamunda highlighted that operating a viable canteen service to the students is difficult.

(Fortunately the Kalamunda P&C is actively working on improving the viability of the P&C run Kalamunda canteen.)

- Lesmurdie is looking at establishing a past students association.

- Improving communications from the Board and building knowledge of the role of the school boards and increasing the level of information being provided to the school community was seen as important.

The meeting agreed that the Cluster arrangement was useful. A common theme was not to over complicate the cluster arrangement and to maintain school autonomy but take advantage of the cluster arrangement when appropriate and useful.

The School Boards concluded that the current cluster arrangement works well and that the cluster arrangements should continue. Given the success of the joint meeting it was agreed to meet occasionally as a cluster to share knowledge and information.

Next KSHS Board meetings

The next board meetings have been scheduled for:

- 11 May 2016
- 8 June 2016
- 16 June 2016