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## Principal's foreword

### Introduction

The school renewal process implemented at Maroochydore State High School in 2007 has continued to bear fruit. The emphasis on academic rigour and standards has produced very good outcomes in 2008, while the renewed focus on Vocational Education and Training has resulted in much improved outcomes. Key activities in 2008 also focused on the improvement of flexible pathway options for senior learners with planning for the introduction of a four-day senior timetable, the continued development of Science as a focus and driver for innovation and excellence and significant curriculum reform in the middle school.

Our school continued to develop expertise in biotechnology, firmly embedding it into the senior Science curriculum and sharing our innovations state-wide. In 2008, Maroochydore State High School won the State Showcase Award for Excellence in Innovation for its Biotechnology Program. Maroochydore State High School also took a significant lead role in Science professional development and on the Sunshine Coast it was the lead and coordinating school for the Sunshine Coast Science Centre for Innovation and Professional Practice. The Cricket Academy and Centre for Creative Industries also continued to flourish.

### Future outlook

In 2009 a significantly revised curriculum has been introduced into the middle school. Based around Learning Quests, it has a focus on engaging students, developing strong positive relationships and laying the foundations for success in the senior school. The emphasis in this curriculum is upon improving fundamental literacy and numeracy standards and upon the development of higher order thinking and problem solving skills. In 2009 a senior four-day timetable has been introduced, with a dedicated flexible learning day specifically aimed at improving student pathways.

The 2008 – 2010 Strategic Plan provides the agenda for a bold program of school renewal at Maroochydore State High School over the next three years.

## Our school at a glance

### School Profile

Maroochydore State High School is a public co-educational secondary school located near the centre of Maroochydore, drawing students largely from five feeder primary schools around Maroochydore and north of the Maroochy River. In 2008, there were 1217 students enrolled from Year 8 to Year 12.

### Curriculum offerings

Our distinctive curriculum offerings :

- Classes of excellence and development in the middle school focusing on academic excellence, music excellence, creative industries and sport.
- A middle school curriculum that utilizes “learning quests” as the basis for curriculum planning, teaching and learning.
- In Year 11 and 12 three sporting development programs are offered – Cricket, Rugby League and Surfing.
- Cricket Academy.
- Biotechnology and Marine Studies are particular features of the senior Science curriculum.
- Japanese is offered from Year 8 to 12.
- National Beacon Foundation school with a heavy emphasis on career education and planning particularly in Year 10.
- Strong School Based Traineeship and Apprenticeship program
- Ten different AQTF certificates in Years 10 to 12, ranging from Cert I to Cert III.
- International Students’ Program

Extra curricula activities include:

- Maroochydore High has a strong tradition of involvement and success in sports. A variety of sporting activities are offered to male and female students - an important aspect of which is that most are team sports. Students in the middle school participate in summer and winter interschool sports against nine other schools. Year 10 students have a year-long program of recreational sport activities. There are three inter house events during the year - Swimming, Cross Country and Athletics Carnivals.
- A student leadership program operates at all year levels with specific service and community development activities a feature of each year level.
- The Instrumental Music Program is very popular with a number of ensembles performing regularly. Cheer leading is also a popular extracurricular activity. Drama, Music and the Visual Arts also showcase their talents in the school musical, talent quests and concerts.
- There is a very active Student Council that operates in both the senior and middle school and a comprehensive Year 12 Committee structure that organizes lunch time activities, school discos, the graduation, student yearbook and a range of other events.
- Public speaking, debating and the Opti Minds Quest are also very popular. Students

## Our school at a glance

actively participate in a range of national Mathematics, Science, English and Computing competitions.

- A range of major excursions is offered including a bi-annual cricket tour to New Zealand, an annual humanitarian tour to either India or Cambodia as well as regular music tours.

Computers and digital technology play an integral part in student learning. Maroochydore High has over 500 computers (all linked to the Internet) dedicated to student learning, nearly 50 data projectors and interactive whiteboards (in fact there are now only 7 classrooms yet to be fitted with a data projector). The use of computers and digital technology is integrated throughout the curriculum. The senior curriculum also includes three subjects dedicated to the development of skills in Information and Communication Technology.

The Information Centre has thirty computers available for student use and opens for an hour before and after school to facilitate student use. "Moodle" is a web based computer server that allows students 24/7 access to the school and is a source of homework, extension and revision activities and a site for assessment items.

### Social climate

Maroochydore State High School uses a year level structure as the focus for student welfare, developing positive student-teacher relationships, managing student behaviour and ensuring the maintenance and development of a supportive school learning environment. The primary reason for adopting this structure is the commitment of the school to ensuring quality student-teacher relationships. Positive relationships based on students and teachers knowing each other, relating to each as people and caring about each other lead to improved behaviour, better self esteem, more focused learning environments and improved learning outcomes.

Each year level has a number of Heads of Year who along with a Deputy Principal, oversee the welfare for the students of the year level. Heads of Year oversee the welfare of approximately 80 – 90 students within their year level. The Head of Department Social Justice is responsible for coordinating student care and welfare activities, leading and coordinating a range of specialist support personnel who provide proactive and responsive support to the full range of students enrolled. Maroochydore High's inclusive environment also provides support for students with special needs and indigenous students.

A carefully planned and implemented pastoral care program develops from Year 8 through to Year 12. In the middle school, the emphasis focuses upon personal development and positive relationships gradually shifting to more of an emphasis on career education in the senior school. A strong responsible behaviour and anti-bullying theme is woven throughout the program in all year levels.

### Involving parents in their child's education.

Our parents actively participate in the life of the school through the Parents' and Citizens' Association, School Council, committees, canteen helpers and Learning Assistance Program volunteers. A fortnightly newsletter is emailed to parents with an email address and a monthly summary newsletter is posted to parents without an email address. Student progress reports are provided at the end of each term and parent teacher interviews take place at the end of term one and term two. A parent evening is held early in the year for parents of students in Years 8.

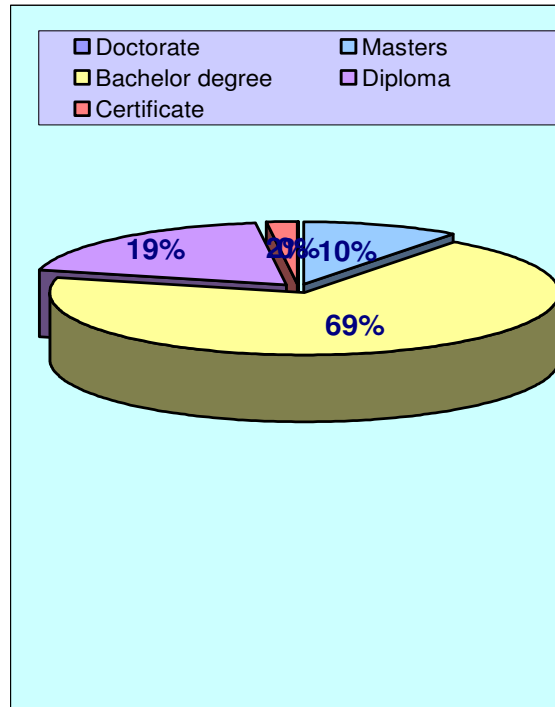
## Our school at a glance

The annual Enrichment Expo and Science Fair attract large numbers of parents as do the many cultural and artistic events. Year 10 parents participate in interviews with key school personnel as part of the development of the Senior Education and Training Plan and also for subject selection. A Subject Selection Expo is held for parents of students entering Years 9 and 11. Parents of Year 12 students play an integral part in their graduation celebrations during the final week of schooling. An Awards Evening is held in term four to celebrate student effort and achievement. Teachers are actively supported in contacting parents about their child's progress and Heads of Year play a key role in communicating with parents about their child's progress at school.

## Our staff profile

### Qualifications of all teachers.

Highest level of attainment	Number of classroom teachers and school leaders at the school
Doctorate	0
Masters	10
Bachelor degree	68
Diploma	19
Certificate	2



### Expenditure on and teacher participation in professional development.

- The total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2008 was \$59,309.
- The major professional development initiatives are as follows:
  - Information and Communication Technology – integration into the curriculum.
  - Middle Phase of Learning.
  - Literacy and Numeracy.
  - Essential Learnings and the implementation of the Queensland Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Framework.
  - Specific Queensland Studies Authority related to the implementation of syllabuses and programs, including Vocational Education and Training.
- The involvement of the teaching staff in professional development activities during 2008 was 89 %.

### Average staff attendance

- For permanent and temporary staff and school leaders the staff attendance rate was 96% in 2008.

### Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year.

- From the end of the 2007 school year, 92 % of staff were retained by the school for the entire 2008 school year.

## Performance of our students

### Student attendance

The average attendance rate as a percentage in 2008 was 88 %.

### Key outcomes

National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) results - our reading, writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation, and numeracy results for the Years 3, 5, 7 and 9.

Domain	Measures	Yr 3	Yr 5	Yr 7	Yr 9
Reading	Average score for the school				555
	Average score for Queensland	371.1	466.1	528.1	568.2
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008			90 %
Writing	Average score for the school				549
	Average score for Queensland	391.8	468.9	522.7	555.3
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008			82 %
Spelling	Average score for the school				562
	Average score for Queensland	366.7	462.0	528.0	567.8
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008			83 %
Grammar and Punctuation	Average score for the school				546
	Average score for Queensland	370.4	476.6	518.0	563.2
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008			82 %
Numeracy	Average score for the school				561
	Average score for Queensland	367.9	458.2	539.0	570.7
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008			92 %

## Performance of our students

### Apparent retention rates Year 10 to Year 12.

Year 12 student enrolment as a percentage of the Year 10 student cohort.	73 %
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### Outcomes for our Year 12 cohort of 2008

Number of students awarded a Senior Statement.	188
Number of students awarded a Queensland Certificate Individual Achievement (QCIA).	1
Number of students awarded a Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) at the end of Year 12.	156
Number of students awarded an International Baccalaureate Diploma (IBD).	N/A
Number of students awarded one or more Vocational Education and Training (VET) qualifications.	110
Number of students who are completing or completed a School-based Apprenticeship or Traineeship (SAT).	24
Number of students receiving an Overall Position (OP).	115
Percentage of OP/ IBD eligible students with OP 1-15 or an IBD.	72 %
Percentage of Year 12 students who are completing or completed a SAT or were awarded one or more of the following: QCE, IBD, VET qualification.	91 %
Percentage of Queensland Tertiary Admissions Centre (QTAC) applicants receiving a tertiary offer.	91 %

### Post-school destination information

At the time of publishing this School Annual Report, the results of the 2008 Year 12 post-school destinations survey, Next Step – Student Destination Report for the school were not available. Information about these post-school destinations of our students will be incorporated into this Report in September.

### Value added

In 2008, two Maroochydore State High School graduates achieved an OP1, 96% of students left school with at least one of the following - an Overall Position, School Based Apprenticeship or Traineeship, Queensland Certificate of Education or Vocational Education and Training (VET) Certificate. 59% of students achieved at least VET Certificate 1. 99% of the 2008 Year 10 students were earning or learning by March 2009.

## Performance of our students

### Parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school

There was a slight decrease in student satisfaction with the school, a slight increase in parent satisfaction and a slight increase in staff satisfaction. Student satisfaction levels are slightly above state averages while parent and staff satisfaction levels are consistent with state averages.