



schoolpost

Journal of the South Australian Association of State School Organisations Term 2 2007



Federal Election 2007

This Federal election promises to be one of the most intriguing in many years. Most importantly for parents, it will be one where education is a central issue.

For the Australian Council of State School Organisations (ACSSO), of which SAASSO is a member, there are opportunities to ensure that public education is not pushed to the outer limits of the media.

One of our key roles is to make sure we have influence with all major parties. This

was shown last election when ACSSO was influential in negotiating the Investing in Our Schools programme with the Coalition Government, which will put over \$800 million into public school capital works. The Government was wise enough to ensure that parent organisations such as SAASSO were involved in the selection of projects both at the local and state level. It was indeed a win for parent power and parent responsibility.

But, what will we get this time?

Continued on page 7 >

Inside



Aboriginal Education



DECS - "Be active, Let's go"



Education in 2007

Your Association



SAASSO's Role

The South Australian Association of State School Organisations is the peak training, support and advisory body for state school Governing Councils and Pre-School Management Committees.

SAASSO's Clients

Our clients are the affiliated schools and governing councils and pre-school management committees. SAASSO represents more than 90% of state primary and secondary schools.

SAASSO's Purpose

Our purpose is to support Governing Councils acquit their roles & responsibilities, to improve and enhance student well-being and achievement.

SAASSO's Services

Professional Development for Councillors:

The governance of a school is a demanding task, with numerous responsibilities. SAASSO provides a range of training courses, specifically designed to address the skill set required by Governing Councils.

- Governance – School & Pre-School
- School Budget – School & Pre-School
- Out of School Hours Care
- Canteen

- Meeting Procedures
- Principal Selection Panel

Advisory Service:

Governing Councils are required to adhere to the Education Act, a constitution and the DECS Administrative Instructions & Guidelines. Pre-schools are bound by the Children's Services Act. The amount of information and legislation can be overwhelming. SAASSO provides, to its Affiliates:

- a repository of useful and required information on the SAASSO website
- up to date information, data and research via School Post
- a telephone advisory service for specific queries.

Representation:

Despite the recent advancements in local governance of schools, there is still much to be achieved. Through its staff and volunteer board, SAASSO represents Governing Councils on literally dozens of committees, boards and research bodies to further enhance the quality of education and student well-being in South Australia.

Mediation & Lobbying:

As an independent, not for profit association, SAASSO can work for and

on behalf of education and individual Governing Councils in issues with DECS, The Minister and the Federal Government, ensuring that the voice of parents and the needs of local communities are heard.

Grants:

SAASSO is directly involved in several financial education grants and provides expert advice on a range of financial assistance packages available to schools and students.

Canteen Network:

Formed in 2001, the Canteen Network assists school canteens to provide nutritional meals to students, consistent with Australian Dietary Guidelines. The network also helps schools manage the associated infrastructure and staff issues involved in providing this service to students.

Unit 2, 124 Carrington Street,
Adelaide SA 5000

PO Box 6178 Halifax Street,
Adelaide SA 5000

Ph: (08) 8223 2266

Fax: (08) 8223 2488

Website: www.saasso.asn.au

Email: info@saasso.asn.au ■

Contents

FAQs

Page 3

Aboriginal Education

Page 5

Federal Election

Page 7

Education – 2007 – High School Perspective

Page 10

Training – Time To Start Work On Your '08 Budget – Ready?

Page 13

Be Active – Let's Go

Page 16

Special Needs Education

Page 18

Education – 2007 – Preschool Perspective

Page 20

Committee Report – ACSSO

Page 22

OSHC – Secondary Service?

Page 24

Book Reviews - Improve your literacy

Page 26

School Post

School Post is published each term by SAASSO. For a subscription to the magazine, please call Crystal on (08) 8223 2266.

If you have an idea for a story in School Post, or would like to enquire about advertising, please call Crystal on (08) 8223 2266 or email info@saasso.asn.au

Advertisements appearing in the magazine are not necessarily endorsed by SAASSO. The views expressed in the articles are not necessarily those of SAASSO or its affiliates. ■