

2022 AGM (Annual General Meeting) - The Montessori School, Kingsley

2021 Board Report

- Acknowledgement of Board Directors and Principal and their commitment of time, effort, and skill during 2021, working tirelessly for the good of our School
- Thanks to all our staff for working with the Board throughout 2021. In June 2021 staff were asked to provide feedback on priorities to be addressed in development of a leadership team to work with the Principal. We received timely and valuable responses from all areas of the School.
- Thanks to the administrative staff, in particular Queenie, Julie, and Alison, who provided the Board with exceptional support throughout 2021
 - Queenie provides a Business Management report to the Board monthly, and has been instrumental in improving the financial sustainability of the School and securing Grant funding for building developments
 - Julie works with the Board to develop and review policies and procedures, and provides support for marketing and communications
 - Alison is incredibly generous with her knowledge of School management and provides logistical support for communications between the Board and the School Community
- Thanks to our sub-committee convenors and volunteers
 - Finance, Bushland, Capital Planning, Engagement & Communications, and Risk & Compliance sub-committees

COVID-19 Pandemic

- COVID-19 pandemic continued to affect the School significantly throughout 2021
- Impacts on the Principal, Teaching Staff, Administrative Staff and Board Directors at a personal and professional level
- Impacts on School Community with everyone experiencing their own personal and work-related stressors in relation to the pandemic
- There continued to be a need for COVID-related meetings, decisions, and policy development and implementation, on top of the usual workload involved in running a School

Strategic Planning September 2021

- Strategic Planning Day held September 2021
- Reflected on the progress that had been made since the 2020 Strategic Planning Day with many items being progressed or completed including:
 - Development of 3 year and 5-year budget projections
 - Provision of Physical Expression and Creative Expression programs
 - Improved IT infrastructure and support
 - Increased car parking space
- Areas of discussion and planning:
 - Continued development of leadership structure within the school
 - Delivering IB (International Baccalaureate) Careers-Related Program to compliment IB Diploma Program
 - Continued development of the School's Vision, Mission & Values
 - Bushland preservation and development

- Growing the work of the new Risk & Compliance sub-committee
- Development of staff and student alumni network

Annual Board self-evaluation 2021

- Continued high level of engagement and commitment demonstrated by all Directors

Professional Development - Board

- AISWA (Association of Independent Schools of Western Australia) Briefing the Board conference March 2021 – Principal, Chair, Business Manager, Treasurer, 3 Directors attended
- Financial education session provided to all Directors by Treasurer

Board changes since 2021 AGM

- Hannah Zhang – joined Board March 2020 and accepted position of Treasurer – Hannah has done an exceptional job as Treasurer. She adds the most helpful side notes to every financial spreadsheet she writes, has a knack of presenting financial data in a way that facilitates understanding and decision making, and can create budget projections for any scenario. We are so grateful to Hannah for all the work she has done as Treasurer. She will step away from Board but continue on the Finance sub-committee, supporting transition of the new Treasurer into the role.
- Melinda Shreeve – joined Board 2020 AGM and accepted position of Secretary – Melinda brought her organisational talents to the Board and did a superb job as Secretary. Her efficiency is unsurpassed. We very much appreciate all the work Melinda did on the Board over the past year, not only as Secretary but also volunteering as co-convenor of the Engagement and Communication sub-committee and digitally archiving historical documents and photographs for the School in the lead up to our 60th Anniversary this year.
- Mahesh Advani – joined Board 2020 AGM – continues to serve on the Board providing valuable insights during discussions, often pulling together everyone's input into a succinct summary that helps us move forward to more effective action plans. Mahesh also volunteers on the Capital Planning sub-committee. We thank him for his continued commitment to the Board.

The Montessori School Kingsley Vision, Mission & Values Statements

Our Board has Heritage Directors positions which must be filled by people who have a long-standing connection with the School and deep understanding of Montessori education. Currently these Directors are Jarrod Burns and Alex Zavros. Both are alumni of our School, attending from PP through to graduating the IB, and both now have their own children attending the school. You may remember Alex presenting the work that had been done on the School's Values at last year's AGM. In October 2021 Jarrod and Alex led a workshop with key Life Members of our Association, staff, and parents to explore and refine the Vision, Mission, and Values.

Here are the working drafts which are nearing completion:

Our Vision (working draft)

The Montessori School Kingsley was founded by Mrs W M Duyker de Vries in 1962, a student of Dr Maria Montessori, and is the longest running Montessori School in Australia.

Our vision is that our school continues to lead the way in the evolution of the Montessori Method in modern society and strives to further demonstrate our learning environment is ideal for children.

We believe Montessori as an educational experience will further the improvement of life on our planet by respecting the human potential of every child through an education that provides for the child's needs and tendencies.

Our Values (full list - draft)

1. *Respect for the child*
2. *Genuine Montessori Practices & Principles*
3. *Individuality & Independence*
4. *Interaction with the Natural World*
5. *Creative & Critical Thinking*
6. *A Sense of Community*
7. *The Power of Freedom*
8. *Peace, Openness & Respect*
9. *Intrinsic Motivations*
10. *A Global Perspective*

Our Mission (working draft)

To treat every child as an individual and nurture every aspect of their development, providing the guidance, inspiring the curiosity, and nurturing the knowledge, resilience, and love of learning they need to thrive today and into the future.

This Vision, Mission and Values Statement will not be tucked away in a drawer somewhere. It will be shared widely with our School Community, use for induction of new staff and welcoming new families to our School, presented at School Open Days and Information Mornings, placed on the table at Strategic Planning Days for the Board to refer to, used by staff to reflect on their purpose and direction in teaching the children.

Looking Forward 2022

We all come to this School for the unique approach to education for our children and an integral part of that education is the community in which the children learn. This community is not just the teachers and students in the classroom, it is the whole school community including parents and carers. This Vision, Mission and Values is reflected in the codes of conduct we have for staff, students, Board directors, and volunteers, and you will all have seen the recent addition of a code of conduct for parents. These are a way for us to share our values and the expected behaviour of members of our community with current and prospective parents. These allow us to reflect on our own behaviour and ensure we treat others in our school community with the care and respect that we expect to be treated with, and the care and respect we expect our children to show to others. They allow us to keep each other accountable, to say when someone isn't upholding our shared values, and to give that person the opportunity to gain insight into how their behaviour is affecting others and take a different approach.

This year is the 60th anniversary of our School. One of the great things about having Des join our community is his passionate interest in the history of our School. He has connected with so many Alumni and learnt their stories to share with others, and he has dug up photographs and art works that give such insight to all that has been done to create the School that we know and love today. Special thanks to all the staff and parents

volunteering their time to organise the 60th anniversary celebrations, including the Gala at the end of July this year. We hope to see you all there.

Submitted and presented at 2022 AGM by Angela Chew (Chair)