



Education

PUBLIC EDUCATION
FOUNDATION 
We Give Life-Changing Scholarships



NSW MINISTER'S
AND SECRETARY'S
AWARDS
FOR EXCELLENCE

2023



WELCOME

It is my great pleasure to welcome you to the NSW Minister's and Secretary's Awards for Excellence 2023. These Awards showcase the wonderful people and extraordinary talent across NSW public education – schools, students, teachers, employees, and parents.

The Public Education Foundation's mission is to celebrate the best of public schooling, and these Awards are a highlight of our annual calendar. The Foundation is proud to host the Awards on behalf of the Deputy Premier and Minister for Education and Early Learning the Hon. Prue Car, as well as the Secretary of the NSW Department of Education, Mr Murat Dizdar PSM.

Public education is the cornerstone of the future of NSW, and I am so proud that today is about recognising excellence, not just in the performances and the personal stories but also in the achievements of students, teachers, and school staff from across NSW.

Today we will recognise amazing students, teachers, and school staff as well as outstanding achievements and breakthrough initiatives from across the state; from a partnership with the Australian Chamber Orchestra (ACO) at St Marys North Public School providing all Year One to Year Three students with daily music instruction in string instruments, to the Resilience in our Teens (RIOT) program at NBSC Mackellar Girls Campus supporting student wellbeing.

Since last year's Awards the Foundation has continued to work hard alongside the NSW Department of Education and other partners to support disadvantaged students, providing scholarships to students to ensure they have the opportunity to participate in all aspects of their education and school life. This year we are supporting over 700 scholars with more than \$1.9 million in scholarship distributions.

We at the Public Education Foundation are honoured to stage this very exciting Minister's and Secretary's Awards event which ultimately demonstrate the best of public schooling. We would like to thank our colleagues within the NSW Department of Education for working so closely with us to assist in producing this major event celebrating excellence.

Finally, a reminder that our 2024 scholarship round for primary and secondary school students is now open. We offer many different scholarships, from refugee and Indigenous student scholarships to scholarships for students studying VET subjects in schools and those pursuing creative pathways. Our educator scholarships are also open, with scholarships for Early Career teachers, Principals and our new Toyota Community Trust STEM Teachers Scholarship. Head to our website and take a look!

Enjoy the event.

David Riordan
Chief Executive Officer
Public Education Foundation



DAVID RIORDAN

We recognise the Ongoing Custodians of the lands and waterways where we work and live. We pay respect to Elders past and present as ongoing teachers of knowledge, songlines and stories. We strive to ensure every Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander learner in NSW achieves their potential through education.



ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS

PRE SHOW ENTERTAINMENT THE MILLENNIUM MARCHING BAND

THE PLUMPTON HIGH SCHOOL
TAIKO DRUMMING ENSEMBLE

MC

JANE CARO AM

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

OPENING REMARKS

DAVID RIORDAN

MINISTER'S REMARKS

THE HON. PRUE CAR
Deputy Premier
Minister for Education
and Early Learning

PRESENTATIONS

Minister's Award for Excellence in
Student Achievement
Minister's Award for Excellence in
Teaching

PERFORMANCE

SUITE HELLENIQUE
Performed by
THE BOULEVARDE QUARTET
featuring:
JOSHUA GODDARD
Normanhurst Boys High School
RIVER KIM
Hornsby Girls High School
ISABELLA TAYLOR
Sydney Secondary College –
Blackwattle Bay Campus
JASMINE ZAITSEV
Burwood Girls High School

SECRETARY'S REMARKS

MURAT DIZDAR PSM
Secretary, NSW Department
of Education

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

PRESENTATIONS

Secretary's Award for
Excellent Service
Secretary's Award for an
Outstanding School Initiative
Secretary's Award for School
Achievement
Public School Parent
of the Year Award

STUDENT SPEECH

ASHLEE DAWSON
and RYAN WOODS
West Wellsend High School

PERFORMANCE

ABSOLUTELY EVERYBODY
Schools Spectacular featured
artists:
RENE BAGTAS
Robert Townson High School
MICAH JUNE
Newtown High School
of the Performing Arts
ABI MORGAN
Asquith Girls High School
MOLLY OWEN
Quirindi High School

The Public Education
Foundation thanks the
students from Sir Joseph
Banks High School who have
volunteered their time as
ushers at this event.



JANE CARO AM

Jane Caro AM is a Walkley award winning writer, author, lecturer, mentor, social commentator, columnist, workshop facilitator, speaker and award-winning advertising writer. She has a BA in English Literature from Macquarie University and has published over a dozen books. Jane regularly contributes articles and opinion pieces to a number of publications and appears as a panelist and an expert commentator on commercial and public broadcasters.

**TUESDAY
5 SEPTEMBER 2023**

**5-7.30PM
SYDNEY TOWN HALL**

EXCELLENCE IN STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

MINISTER'S AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Recognising outstanding Year 12 students who have excelled in their secondary years across academic excellence, sports, cultural, community and leadership.

DYLAN ADAMS

Caringbah High School

KHAWLAH ALBAF

Young High School

PRISHA ARAVIDAN

Girraween High School

MAISY BELL

NBSC Mackellar Girls Campus

SAMUEL BLOOMFIELD

Merewether High School

NOAH BROWN

Warners Bay High School

MANHISHTHA BUCKTOWAR

Penrith High School

JOSHUA CHAN

North Sydney Boys High School

ANNEKE CORRY

NBSC Mackellar Girls Campus

MARC COTTERILL

Tuggerah Lakes Secondary College – The Entrance Campus

C-K CROSBIE

St Johns Park High School

ASHLEE DAWSON

West Wallsend High School

NATALIE DUONG

Fort Street High School

DECLAN ESHMAN

Coonabarabran High School

CAMILO GONZALEZ MONARDES

Narrandera High School

CHARLI GRANT

Brisbane Water Secondary College - Woy Woy Campus

SAMUEL GRIFFIN

Bega High School

MICHAEL HAWKINS

NBSC Manly Campus

JACK HESLEHURST

Endeavour Sports High School

GABRIEL JAMES

Wagga Wagga High School

CHARLOTTE JONES

The Forest High School

BEATRICE JUSUF

Girraween High School

DAKOTA KELLAR BRIDGART

Warners Bay High School

HARVEY LEW

Denison College of Secondary Education – Bathurst High Campus

JOVANA MARKELIC

Lambton High School

AVA MEARES

Denison College of Secondary Education – Bathurst High Campus

DANIELLA NAGI

Tuggerah Lakes Secondary College – The Entrance Campus

SOFIA NOLAN

Strathfield Girls High School

KIARA RISNES

Leumeah High School

RYAN ROBINSON

Lambton High School

SHAFIN SALIM

Coonabarabran High School

DEV SHAH

Penrith High School

CRYSTAL TA

Canley Vale High School

PATRIK TAVOULARIS

Yandelora School

ANITA THIVAKON

Inverell High School

CLANCY TOMLINSON

Corowa High School

ELEANOR WATERS-JONES

Wagga Wagga High School

JOSEPHINE WIREDU

Merrylands High School

RYAN WOOD

West Wallsend High School

SINDY ZHANG

Sydney Girls High School

EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING

MINISTER'S AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING

Recognising teachers who deliver the highest quality education to their students and contribute to their professional communities.

ELIZABETH ALEXIS

Revesby Public School

MATTHEW BARKER

Asquith Girls High School

GRACE BRAND

Kemps Creek Public School

RENEE BRAZIER

Cobbitty Public School

CHRISTIE CARR

Berala Public School

LIEN CHAI

Lansvale Public School

KAREN CHRISTOPHERS

Leumeah High School

FIONA DONNELLY

Granville Boys High School

BIANCA EDWARDS

Curran Public School

LIAM EDWARDS

Prestons Public School

HANNAH GERMANTSE

Wagga Wagga High School

JAIMIE GOUCHER

Warilla High School

HENRY HUYNH

Elizabeth Macarthur High School

LYNNE JOHNSTON

Burrumbuttock Public School

TIANA KANE

Prestons Public School

VERONICA LUCKMAN

Warilla High School

JODIE MASON

Portland Central School

SARAH MINOL

Wyndham College

BERNADETTE MONTGOMERY

Narellan Vale Public School

CLAIRE MULLIGAN

Elderslie High School

LISA-JOSEPHINE PARISI

Prairiewood High School

SARAH PARKINSON

Berala Public School

AMANDA PLEASH

Heaton Public School

KATHRYN ROSS

Glen Innes High School

LILY SCHIRRU

NBSC Freshwater Senior Campus

NICHOLAS SHIRLAW

Normanhurst Boys High School

REBECCA SMITH

Denison College of Secondary Education – Bathurst High Campus

WAFATAOUBE

Tempe High School

JACQUI THOMPSON

Leura Public School

SARAH THORNCRAFT

Bathurst West Public School

ZOE TIERNAN

The Rivers Secondary College – Kadina High Campus

DANIELLE TULLY

Yandelora School

ALANNA VELLA

Cambridge Gardens Public School

DANNI-ELLE WALL

Shell Cove Public School

ANDREW WESTERHOF

Brisbane Water Secondary College – Umina Campus

TONI WILLIAMS

Ulladulla High School

TIFFANY YEAMAN

Elderslie Public School



EXCELLENT SERVICE



LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

MURRAY KITTERINGHAM

SECRETARY'S AWARD FOR EXCELLENT SERVICE

Recognising NSW Department of Education employees (teaching and non-teaching) who have shown outstanding effort in improving the quality of teaching, learning outcomes and/or school environments in the NSW public education sector.

KEN BARWICK OAM

Denison College of Secondary Education – Bathurst High Campus

ANGELA BROCKLESBY-SATTLER

Nashdale Public School

MAREE BURTON

Wattle Grove Public School

REBECCA COOPER

Brisbane Water Secondary College – Woy Woy Campus

SUSAN CRAIG

Fairfield Heights Public School

DR KEN EDGE

Miller Technology High School

BRONWYN JEFFREE

Tarrawanna Public School

KEVIN KEELER

Coonabarabran High School

KIM LATTER

Cambridge Gardens Public School

FRANCES LAWSON-COHEN

Quakers Hill High School

PATRICK O'KEEFFE

Havenlee School

TINA PARASIRIS

Revesby Public School

NIKKI REEDIE

Camden South Public School

SALLY REID

Eugowra Public School

MATTHEW RYAN

Oran Park Public School

RHYS THOMAS

Griffith East Public School

RENE'E THOMPSON

Manning Park Public School

MARK WATSON

St Ives High School

KATHRYN YATES

Broken Hill North Public School

SHELLEY YOUNG

Ulladulla High School



Harrington Street Public School



Fairfield West Public School

OUTSTANDING SCHOOL INITIATIVE

SECRETARY'S AWARD FOR AN OUTSTANDING SCHOOL INITIATIVE

The award is presented to NSW public schools demonstrating – via a specific program, event or initiative – their commitment to teaching and learning outcomes, leadership, supporting the students and/or creating a sustainable learning environment.

ANSON STREET SCHOOL

Skills House

AUBURN NORTH PUBLIC SCHOOL

Developing the Mathematician Project

AURORA COLLEGE

Virtual Opportunity Class

BLAKEBROOK PUBLIC SCHOOL

BROADWATER PUBLIC SCHOOL

CABBAGE TREE ISLAND PUBLIC SCHOOL

CONDONG PUBLIC SCHOOL

CRABBES CREEK PUBLIC SCHOOL

EMPIRE VALE PUBLIC SCHOOL

LISMORE SOUTH PUBLIC SCHOOL

MULLUMBIMBY HIGH SCHOOL

MULLUMBIMBY PUBLIC SCHOOL

THE RIVERS SECONDARY COLLEGE – RICHMOND RIVER HIGH CAMPUS

TUMBULGUM PUBLIC SCHOOL

WARDELL PUBLIC SCHOOL

Wellbeing Support – Flood Recovery

CABRAMATTA HIGH SCHOOL

Partner A Class

CARINGBAH NORTH PUBLIC SCHOOL

Leadership Pathway

CROMEHURST SCHOOL

WILLOUGHBY PUBLIC SCHOOL

Integration Buddy Program

ELIZABETH MACARTHUR HIGH SCHOOL

Students Transitioning and Achieving Results (S.T.A.R)

GRANVILLE BOYS HIGH SCHOOL

Robotics

JAMES COOK BOYS TECHNOLOGY HIGH SCHOOL

Learning Through Reading and Writing

KOTARA SCHOOL

Quality Teaching Round Special Education

LEUMEAH HIGH SCHOOL

Circle of Strength

LIVERPOOL BOYS HIGH SCHOOL

Take Over Two

MURRUMBIDGEE REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

New South Wales Virtual STEM Academy

MURWILLUMBAH PUBLIC SCHOOL

Comprehension Initiative

ROUSE HILL HIGH SCHOOL

Student Led Attendance Monitoring (SLAM)

ST MARYS NORTH PUBLIC SCHOOL

ACO Foundations String Program

SYDNEY SECONDARY COLLEGE

SYDNEY SECONDARY COLLEGE – BALMAIN CAMPUS

SYDNEY SECONDARY COLLEGE – BLACKWATTLE BAY CAMPUS

SYDNEY SECONDARY COLLEGE – LEICHHARDT CAMPUS

T Centre Program

WHITEBRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL

VET Student Pathways for the Future

WINDSOR HIGH SCHOOL

Improved Attendance Initiative

WOODBERRY PUBLIC SCHOOL

Strong Stars Program

SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENT

SECRETARY'S AWARD FOR SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENT

This prestigious award recognises NSW public schools that have successfully created a sustainable learning environment through a whole-of-school project. Schools receiving this award must demonstrate significant improvement in learning outcomes and opportunities, excellence in student learning, maximising learning opportunities for all students as well as community leadership.

AUBURN NORTH PUBLIC SCHOOL

Assisting All Teachers To Become Their Very Best

BLAYNEY PUBLIC SCHOOL

Parent Partnership Program

BRISBANE WATER SECONDARY COLLEGE – WOY WOY CAMPUS

HSC Growth – Significant Improvement in Learning

CABRAMATTA HIGH SCHOOL

Literacy Strategy

DAPTO PUBLIC SCHOOL

Sustained Improvement In Writing

ENDEAVOUR SPORTS HIGH SCHOOL

High Expectations Policy

FAIRFIELD HEIGHTS PUBLIC SCHOOL

Reaching Greater Heights Project

FAIRFIELD WEST PUBLIC SCHOOL

Collective Learning Project

FORBES PUBLIC SCHOOL

Forbes Public School Hub

GOVERNOR PHILIP KING PUBLIC SCHOOL

Transforming Curriculum for Student Achievement

HARRINGTON STREET PUBLIC SCHOOL

Unleashing Reading Excellence

HUNTER RIVER HIGH SCHOOL

Improving HSC Results

MARSDEN ROAD PUBLIC SCHOOL

Excellence in Teaching and Learning

MILLER PUBLIC SCHOOL

The Miller Mindset

MINCHINBURY PUBLIC SCHOOL

Achievement in Numeracy

NBSC MACKELLAR GIRLS CAMPUS

Resilience in Our Teens (RIOT)

REVESBY PUBLIC SCHOOL

Rivers, Waterholes and Campfires for Learning

ROOTY HILL HIGH SCHOOL

Professional Practice

ROYAL PRINCE ALFRED HOSPITAL SCHOOL

Quality Hospital Teaching and Learning

SARAH REDFERN PUBLIC SCHOOL

Excellence in Wellbeing and Engagement

WALLERAWANG PUBLIC SCHOOL

Sustained Growth in Reading Improvement

PARENT OF THE YEAR



PUBLIC SCHOOL PARENT OF THE YEAR

The Public School Parent of the Year Award is a prestigious award presented to parents, guardians and caregivers who have made a significant contribution to their local NSW public school community.

BELINDA ADAMS

Cambridge Gardens Public School

REBECCA BROWN

Naradhan Public School

KRISTIE CARTER-SMITH

Elderslie High School

NICOLE HILDER

Terrigal Public School

SU KING

Delegate Public School

YVONNE LIANG

James Ruse Agricultural High School

MICHELLE PEARCE

Picnic Point Public School

SEAN RICHARDSON

Petersham Public School

LUCY SARTO

North Sydney Public School

KATE SIMPSON

Tuggerawong Public School

TAM VU

Harrington Street Public School

STUART WILKINSON

Figtree Heights Public School



Brisbane Water Secondary College – Woy Woy Campus



Woodbury Public School



Leumeah High School



Forbes Public School



Liverpool Boys High School



James Cook Technology High School



Blayney Public School



Marsden Road Public School



Cromehurst School



Murwillumbah Public School

Minister's Award for Excellence in Student Achievement

RECIPIENT CITATIONS



Dylan Adams
CARINGBAH HIGH SCHOOL

Long-standing SRC member, now school Vice-Captain and Youth Parliament member for the Rockdale electorate, Dylan Adams demonstrates outstanding leadership skills combined with consistent high-level academic performance and a deep engagement in the performing arts, including jazz ensemble and orchestra and a major role in our recent musical production, *'Into the Woods'*. Dylan's extensive expertise in public speaking and debating includes state and national-level success in both disciplines, and extends to long-standing engagement in United Nations initiatives such as being selected as a delegate to the 2022 United Nations Youth National Conference. Dylan has been a selfless, enthusiastic and industrious school leader during his time here at Caringbah High School.



Khawlah Albat
YOUNG HIGH SCHOOL

Khawlah Albat displays an outstanding degree of character and values, which she consistently demonstrates through her daily actions, serving as an inspirational role model. Her exceptional leadership and teamwork skills are exemplified by her ability to collaborate within a team, while consistently attaining remarkable levels of success academically and as a school leader. Khawlah's active involvement in state and federal youth leadership teams shows her dedication and commitment to making a positive impact in her community. Her perseverance, accomplishments and compassion for equity make her an excellent example to her peers and her school.



Prisha Aravindan
GIRRAWEE HIGH SCHOOL

Prisha Aravindan is an exceptional student who has made outstanding contributions to both the culture and school spirit of Girrawee High School. She has demonstrated excellence in her academic studies, community service, cocurricular and leadership endeavours. Prisha's service within the Prefect body has been exemplary and of the highest standard. She has initiated and led various programs to enhance social consciousness which have benefitted both students and the wider community. Prisha has actively demonstrated high-level abilities to balance her studies at an academically selective high school with a variety of cocurricular activities. She is a most deserving recipient of this award.



Maisy Bell
NBSC MACKELLAR GIRLS CAMPUS

Maisy Bell has distinguished herself in every aspect of her school life. As School Captain, Maisy has been exemplary; she is the consummate role model with strong leadership capabilities matched with a most caring, positive manner. She has consistently displayed the strongest leadership, integrity and responsibility and is always a proactive and productive individual. Maisy has distinguished herself academically and in her cultural pursuits at state level. Her exceptionally high standards and her contributions to the community make her an outstanding role model whose talent is further evidenced by her varied cultural and community achievements and her prolific fundraising for charity.



Samuel Bloomfield
MEREWETHER HIGH SCHOOL

Samuel Bloomfield embodies all the values we espouse in public education. He demonstrates the highest quality attributes as an exemplary student role model, setting high personal standards of excellence, integrity and collaboration. Samuel's remarkable achievements have extended into the domains of academic excellence, national sporting representation, community contributions and leadership endeavours. He has an outstanding academic record, achieving the highest grades in our selective high school. As an inspirational School Captain, Samuel has coordinated fundraising initiatives to support a national charity organisation by raising \$126,000. He is a shining example of what it means to excel in every facet of student life.



Noah Brown
WARNERS BAY HIGH SCHOOL

Noah Brown is an outstanding young person who has demonstrated resilience, courage and an extraordinary determination to succeed. He has distinguished himself in every aspect of his school life. Noah is a successful all-rounder, enjoying and excelling in all his endeavours whether this be in the classroom (academic excellence), leadership responsibilities (School Captain) or the swimming pool (elite swimmer). He is a highly respected leader and role model for his peers and within the broader school community. Noah readily and enthusiastically dedicates himself to all his commitments. He epitomises the values of public education through his practical application of excellence, respect, trust, integrity, care and fairness.



Manishtha Bucktowar
PENRITH HIGH SCHOOL

Manishtha Bucktowar is a highly gifted student, excelling across the curriculum. She is ranked equal 1st in English Advanced, 1st in Economics, 1st in Business Studies (HSC in 2022 – mark of 93), equal 4th in Mathematics Advanced (HSC in 2022 – mark of 95) and 4th in Chemistry; a great achievement in an academically selective high school. Her dedication to her studies, the high goals she sets herself and

her work ethic have earned her much success. Manishtha received the Melissa McIntosh Lindsay Quiet Achiever Award in 2022 for service to the school and community. She is most deserving of this award.



Joshua Chan
NORTH SYDNEY BOYS HIGH SCHOOL

Joshua Chan is a mature and highly capable student who has achieved excellent academic results and demonstrated a commitment to the school community. He is a well-respected leader who leads by example and is an excellent ambassador for the school. An active participant in several clubs and committees over the last six years, Joshua distinguished himself as part of the Premier's Debating Challenge team for five years. He exemplifies the school values of camaraderie, commitment, compassion, integrity and respect, and is a most worthy recipient of this award.



Anneke Corry
NBSC MACKELLAR GIRLS CAMPUS

Anneke Corry has distinguished herself and demonstrated a commitment to excellence in every aspect of her school life. As School Captain, Anneke consistently displays the strongest leadership, integrity and responsibility, and has a keen sense of the welfare of others and supporting them. Anneke has distinguished herself academically, excelling to the highest level in Years 11 and 12. Her highest level achievements at National Futsal and Football, individually and in teams, further evidence Anneke's commitment to excellence and broad talent. Anneke's exceptionally high personal standards and her contributions to the community make her an outstanding role model. Her charity work and fundraising efforts are prolific. Anneke is the consummate student.



Marc Cotterill
TUGGERAH LAKES SECONDARY COLLEGE – THE ENTRANCE CAMPUS

Marc Cotterill has shown that he is a determined, well-rounded student who strives for excellence in all areas of school life. His maturity and natural leadership have been evident at our school as a school leader and active and inclusive member of the school community. Marc has made significant contributions to the whole school community where he is a positive role model for all students. Highly respectful of others and respected by staff and peers, he has maintained his impressive application to his HSC studies while demonstrating fairness, cooperation and consideration for others when leading in all aspects of his life.



C-K Crosbie
ST JOHNS PARK HIGH SCHOOL

C-K Crosbie is an inspiring young woman who is motivated to succeed. She has demonstrated a love of learning and a commitment to achieve, both personally and academically. C-K is well respected and displays resilience, empathy and honesty. She has maintained an extremely high academic standard throughout her high school years and strives to achieve her goals. Held in high esteem by both her peers and teachers, she has fulfilled her role as School Captain with dignity. C-K possesses all the qualities of an exemplary student who is recognised for her motivation to overcome barriers and attain academic excellence.



Ashlee Dawson
WEST WALLSEND HIGH SCHOOL

Ashlee Dawson is an exceptionally proud Kamilaroi woman and an inspiring driving force to ensure a culturally inclusive landscape at West Wallsend

High School. Ashlee demonstrates a passionate commitment to community and an unwavering dedication to academic excellence. Her sense of integrity and qualities of kindness and care have given her a powerful voice and agency as a school leader. As School Captain and JAECG President, this has led to Ashlee creating meaningful and impactful change for her peers and school community.



Natalie Duong
FORT STREET HIGH SCHOOL

Natalie Duong has always been passionately dedicated to the Fort Street community across the widest range of activities. She has been an SRC representative every year, and played flute in the Instrumental Music Program throughout her school years. A talented sportswoman, Natalie has represented the school in basketball, futsal, cricket and zone athletics. She completed her Bronze and Silver Duke of Edinburgh awards, and was in the school's DoE leadership team. Natalie led student charity and Amnesty International committees and helped establish the "Future Leaders for Gender Equity" Fort Street branch, reflecting her commitment to creating a fairer future for all.



Declan Eshman
COONABARABRAN HIGH SCHOOL

Declan Eshman is a talented young man of integrity. Across his six years at this school he has led by positive example, always giving of his best effort, valuing and embracing learning opportunities within and beyond the classroom and generously sharing his gifts with his peers. He has achieved excellence in his studies and is rightly highly regarded by all members of our community.



Camilo Gonzalez Monardes
NARRANDERA HIGH SCHOOL

Camilo Gonzalez Monardes has shown he is a determined, well-rounded student who strives for excellence in all areas of school life. His maturity and natural leadership have been evident at school as 2023 School Captain, and he is an active and inclusive member of the school community. Camilo has made a significant contribution to the whole school community where he is a positive role model for all.

He has maintained his impressive academic record while immersing himself in all areas of school life. Camilo embodies fairness, inclusivity and compassion in all his interactions as a considerate leader.



Charli Grant
BRISBANE WATER SECONDARY COLLEGE – WOY WOY CAMPUS

Charli Grant is an exceptional young woman whose thirst for knowledge and understanding of policy, dedication to community service and passion for student advocacy has led to successful leadership and captaincy of both the junior and senior campuses of the College. Charli was successful in becoming a member of the Doves Minister's Student Council, and in her second year became a leader of the Council. Charli has successfully led student voice projects for change across the State in areas of mobile phone policy, equity in school resourcing and the role of students in policy and decision making around vapes in schools.



Samuel Griffin
BEGA HIGH SCHOOL

Samuel Griffin is a Bega High School Captain for 2023. He reflects the school values of respect, responsibility and effort in all aspects of his life. Samuel is a student of integrity, enthusiasm and leadership, representing his peers in a strong sporting capacity as well as motivating, encouraging and supporting all students at school. He encourages fairness and cooperation in his endeavours and strives for inclusivity as a respected member of his school cohort. Samuel's pursuit of excellence has been recognised in his chosen sport of rugby league with his selection in the Canberra Raiders team.



Michael Hawkins
NBSC MANLY CAMPUS

Michael Hawkins is an exemplary student who embodies the Manly Campus school ethos of academic excellence, personal best and giving back to the community. As School Captain he leads the SRC, working to ensure activities are seamlessly coordinated thus empowering others to demonstrate leadership aspirations. He has a genuine interest in raising awareness of important social issues and acting for those in need, such as the Rainbow Club where children with disabilities are taught to swim in an atmosphere of inclusivity. He is a most able sportsperson across a range of sports who always demonstrates the values of participation and fair play.



Jack Heslehurst
ENDEAVOUR SPORTS HIGH SCHOOL

Jack Heslehurst is an outstanding young man, and as Endeavour Sports High School's School Captain he leads by example. Jack not only excels in leadership, but is academic and an outstanding sportsman. Over many years he has earned the respect of staff, his peers and the entire Endeavour community with his actions and attitude. Jack is a wonderful ambassador for the school and is always willing to help others. Despite his outstanding achievements in all areas of school life, Jack remains humble and continues to apply himself, knowing the value of hard work in all pursuits. Jack will no doubt carry his much admired qualities beyond his school years.



Cabramatta High School



Gabriel James
WAGGA WAGGA HIGH SCHOOL

During his time at Wagga Wagga High School, Gabriel James has consistently displayed all the values of public education, being an outstanding student who is well respected by students and staff for his honesty and responsible approach to all aspects of his school life. He has shown through his strong sense of fairness and social justice that he has empathy for all regardless of their background. Gabriel has achieved all of this whilst managing the personal loss of his mother. WWHS considers Gabriel James to be an exemplary student who exhibits outstanding personal qualities of honesty, integrity and determination and we are proud to see him receive the Minister's Award for Excellence in Student Achievement.



Charlotte Jones
THE FOREST HIGH SCHOOL

Charlotte Jones is an outstanding young woman who possesses strong leadership skills and a likable and caring personality. Her involvement in a wide range of school activities and excellent communication skills resulted in her election to the important position of Performing Arts Captain for 2023. She has gained the respect of both staff and students with her mature approach to such a high profile role within the school community, whilst maintaining consistently high academic standards and specialised music commitments. Charlotte was the lead in our 2022 School Musical and she expertly co-coordinated a music festival in 2023 called the 'Festival of Lights'.



Beatrice Jusuf
GIRRAWEE HIGH SCHOOL

Beatrice Jusuf has demonstrated the highest quality attributes as a positive role model for public education throughout her school life. Her achievements have extended into the domains of academic excellence, community contributions, cocurricular and leadership endeavours as a School Captain. Beatrice's warm and friendly manner have ensured that she has set an outstanding example for younger students across the school in a variety of programs. Beatrice embodies the values of public education in all that she does. It is with the highest recommendation that Beatrice receives this award.



Dakota Kellar Bridgart
WARNERS BAY HIGH SCHOOL

Dakota Kellar Bridgart is an extraordinary young person who delivers exceptional results with passion and dedication. Whether in the classroom, on the sports field, or as a leader, Dakota consistently excels across all endeavours. As School Captain at Warners Bay High School, she is dedicated to serving others while pursuing academic excellence. Dakota's commitment and enthusiasm make her a role model for her peers. She strives for personal achievement and actively contributes to her school and community. Her embodiment of values such as excellence, respect, trust, integrity, care and fairness epitomise the ideals of public education.



Harvey Lew
DENISON COLLEGE OF SECONDARY EDUCATION – BATHURST HIGH CAMPUS

Harvey Lew is an exceptional role model to all students and the wider community. He presents as an approachable, committed and modest individual as a Vice-Captain and Youth Mayor of Bathurst. His obligation to the core values of public education is exemplified in his contributions to community and leadership programs. Harvey encourages others to stand up for what they believe in, while remaining respectful, which is rare in young leaders today. He encourages his peers to reach their potential, while displaying a selfless character, doing all tasks to an exceptional standard. Harvey is an outstanding student in our wonderful public education system.



Jovana Markelic
LAMBTON HIGH SCHOOL

Jovana Markelic is an extremely hard working member of the Lambton High School community. She has excelled in all aspects of her schooling life. Her academic record is first class, her leadership skills have been applauded throughout the school and the community and her care for her school community is exceptional. Jovana is part of our senior leadership group, setting high standards in academic success and leadership, whilst balancing her life outside school with various cultural and sporting activities. The school was immensely proud of her contribution to the community ANZAC Day ceremony in 2023. She is an outstanding leader and young woman.



Ava Meares
DENISON COLLEGE OF SECONDARY EDUCATION – BATHURST HIGH CAMPUS

Ava Meares' commitment to the core values of public education is unrivalled. Her dedication and positive attitude towards her school, community, academic learning and performing arts are exceptional. Ava's desire to focus on positive self-development and support for others places her in the top echelon of young people today. Exceptional leadership as Vice-Captain has allowed her to lead and manage people of her own age, while her outstanding academic success has placed her above all others throughout her secondary schooling. The Principal believes that Ava is one of the most impressive students he has worked with in 32 years.



Daniella Nagi
TUGGERAH LAKES SECONDARY COLLEGE – THE ENTRANCE CAMPUS

Daniella Nagi embodies excellence in all she does while upholding the values of public education. She has always been a high achiever and has demonstrated her commitment to both school and the community in a variety of ways as a most valued and respected leader as School Captain. Daniella demonstrates our values of respect, relationships and responsibility in everything she does – academically, on the sporting field, in the community, as a school leader, and in every interaction she has with her teachers and her peers. Daniella is an impressive student whose contributions to the community make her an outstanding role model.



Sofia Nolan
STRATHFIELD GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL

Sofia Nolan is an exceptional young Australian who has contributed with distinction to her school and local community. Her excellence in academic and sporting achievement, exemplary school citizenship, generosity of spirit and remarkable personal integrity make her a most worthy recipient of this prestigious award. As Vice-Captain, Sofia is celebrated by the entire school community as a committed and compassionate leader within and beyond the school. She has coordinated whole-school projects and community-based

fundraising initiatives that have positively impacted our school and offered immense service to external organisations such as the Leukaemia Foundation. Sofia is a most worthy recipient of this award.



Kiara Risnes
LEUMEAH HIGH SCHOOL

Kiara Risnes is an exceptional student who, in spite of her blindness, has always demonstrated positive engagement, an incredible work ethic, commitment and dedication to her academic pursuits. Kiara consistently achieves academic results at the top of her cohort and is excelling in Music 2. She aspires to attend university and pursue a career in music. She is recognised by her peers and teachers as an outstanding role model in our school and the broader community. Kiara is an exemplary representation of Leumeah High School and the values of public education. She is a most worthy recipient of the Minister's Award for Excellence in Student Achievement.



Ryan Robinson
LAMBTON HIGH SCHOOL

Ryan Robinson is a humble leader and HSC student who represents Lambton High School with pride. He is currently School Captain, following a long history of service as a member of our Student Representative Council (2017-23). Ryan has shown deep care for all students, actively supporting our values of Respect, Excellence, Integrity and Responsibility. He has balanced his academic work with many sporting and cultural activities outside of school. He continually volunteers with activities that promote our school in the community, including being the MC at the community ANZAC Day ceremony in 2023. Our local community is extremely proud of Ryan's leadership.



Shafin Salim
COONABARABRAN HIGH SCHOOL

Shafin Salim is a compassionate and highly respectful member of our school community. His passion for music and science has underpinned his excellent achievement in these disciplines both at school and in a diverse array of extracurricular pursuits. His dedication to our school and generosity of spirit is evident in the strong thread of volunteering at school events which has characterised Shafin's time with us. Shafin has been an exemplary student.



Dev Shah
PENRITH HIGH SCHOOL

Dev Shah is an outstanding student who has set and maintained an excellent academic standard across the curriculum. His dedication to learning and his talent as a sportsman have earned him many wonderful accolades over the years. Dev is a respected and highly valued member of our school whose work, efforts and leadership were recently acknowledged by being elected as School Prefect 2022/2023. Dev has displayed exemplary commitment and contribution to community service at a school, local and national level and is most deserving of this award.



Crystal Ta
CANLEY VALE HIGH SCHOOL

Crystal Ta is an outstanding Year 12 student from Canley Vale High School. She is School Captain and leader on the Student Representative Council. Through her strong work ethic and commitment, Crystal has achieved excellence academically and as a sportswoman. She is an authentic leader, and as a proactive member of the school community she promotes trust and motivates others. Through her empathetic approach, personal integrity and commitment, she has built relationships to assist, support and guide members of the teams she has led. Crystal leads and inspires others to achieve the best version of themselves.



Patrik Tavoularis
YANDELORA SCHOOL

Patrik Tavoularis is a Year 12 student at Yandelora School for Specific Purposes and is the 2023 School Captain. He is a hard working, kind and committed student and a wonderful role model for all the students at the school. He is the friend of all his peers and is a valued member of the school community. The community is very proud of Patrik and his achievements at school. It is, however, his capacity to care for and support his peers that is valued most by all who know him.



Anita Thivakon
INVERELL HIGH SCHOOL

Anita Thivakon has shown an outstanding record of all round achievement over her whole schooling career. She has always been ranked 1st in her subjects, named Dux for the past five years and has a passion for high level mathematics and science. Anita has displayed a willingness to involve herself and model high expectations in all activities at school including learning, student leadership opportunities, community service and extracurricular activities such as the National Youth Science Forum. She is a most impressive student who is highly regarded by all the school community.



Clancy Tomlinson
COROWA HIGH SCHOOL

Clancy Tomlinson is an exceptional student whose commitment to academic excellence, sporting endeavours and community engagement is unparalleled. She is an outstanding leader and role model to her peers, particularly in the quiet determination she demonstrates in pursuit of both her own goals and those goals that will better her school and community. Clancy demonstrates all of the core values of public education - integrity, excellence, respect, responsibility, cooperation, participation, care and fairness - with a good dose of modesty to boot.



Eleanor Waters-Jones
WAGGA WAGGA HIGH SCHOOL

Eleanor Waters-Jones is a genuine all-rounder. She has demonstrated extraordinary commitment to her responsibilities, representing her school and peers with integrity and dignity. She has consistently demonstrated outstanding achievement in all areas of school life. As a senior student, Eleanor has shown leadership and maturity beyond her years and has made a significant contribution to the school community. In particular, her leadership as School Captain and with the arts, sets her apart from other leaders. Wagga Wagga High School considers Eleanor to be an exemplary student who exhibits outstanding personal qualities of honesty, integrity and determination.



Josephine Wiredu
MERRYLANDS HIGH SCHOOL

Josephine Wiredu is a safe, respectful learner who upholds the school ethos. She is a diligent and committed student who has demonstrated academic excellence across all her respective courses. Her academic report is a strong indication of her intelligence and the dedication she has towards her education. Josephine is a positive role model to her peers and has been recognised for her academics, leadership qualities and sporting and cultural achievements by her teachers and executive staff. Her contribution to the school is highly valued and she is a worthy recipient of this award.



Ryan Wood
WEST WALLSEND HIGH SCHOOL

Ryan Wood is an inspiring young Bunjalung man who has made an enormously positive contribution to the West Wallsend High School community. Ryan's sense of respect and care for others, coupled with attributes of empathy and a passion for social justice has allowed him to advocate for others with insight, sensitivity and perspective. As School Captain and JAECC President, Ryan's voice and positive impact throughout the school community will undoubtedly leave an immeasurable legacy.



Sindy Zhang
SYDNEY GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL

Sindy Zhang has been an outstanding contributor, leader and role model at Sydney Girls High School. Elected as School Captain by her peers, she is respected for her outstanding academic achievements as Dux, her engagement in a wide variety of school programs including athletics and table tennis, where she has excelled, as well as her strong sense of service both within and beyond the school. She has been the driving force behind reigniting the student commitment to Stewart House, as well as motivating her peers to raise funds for the Leukaemia Foundation and support the Lillian Howell Project. Her example has been inspiring as a scholar, sportswoman and sincere, modest leader.



Rooty Hill High School

Minister's Award for Excellence in Teaching



RECIPIENT CITATIONS



Elizabeth Alexis
REVESBY PUBLIC SCHOOL

Elizabeth Alexis is a worthy recipient of the Minister's Award for Excellence in Teaching. She is an extraordinary teacher who demonstrates dedication, passion, innovation and excellence in teaching through her work within the classroom and within the school setting. She builds a collaborative school culture focused on teaching and learning. Elizabeth consistently delivers beyond the seven Standards and across the three domains of teaching in the Australian Professional Standards for Teachers. She has developed collaborative, responsive and respectful relationships with students, staff and the broader community, demonstrating a caring and committed attitude to student learning and an open and honest communication style.



Matthew Barker
ASQUITH GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL

Matthew Barker is an exceptional and devoted educator who demonstrates a profound commitment to students' education. He has tirelessly nurtured the minds and hearts of his students, empowering them to embrace knowledge, challenges and strive for greatness. His genuine care for the wellbeing of each student shines through in every interaction, creating a safe and inclusive learning environment. Through his guidance, inspiration and unwavering support, he has paved the way for countless students to achieve remarkable academic and personal success and yielded remarkable outcomes for Year 12 students. Matthew is truly a beacon of inspiration and a catalyst for positive change in the lives of all his students.



Grace Brand
KEMPS CREEK PUBLIC SCHOOL

Grace Brand, an early career teacher, is a deserving recipient of the Minister's Award for Excellence in Teaching. Grace's instructional competence and extensive pedagogical knowledge are exemplary, showcasing her unwavering dedication to providing exceptional education. Her ability to create a welcoming and inclusive classroom environment fosters active student engagement, igniting their passion for learning. Grace's skilled implementation of evidence-based teaching strategies greatly enhances student outcomes, while her commitment to continuous professional learning and reflective practice demonstrates her unwavering dedication to public education. Her exceptional communication skills and collaborative nature ensure a nurturing and supportive community for students, parents and colleagues.



Renee Brazier
COBBITTY PUBLIC SCHOOL

Renee Brazier is a dedicated educator who strives to enhance the academic, social and emotional needs of all learners. She has established a culture of collective responsibility for student learning and success across the school. Renee's ability to develop positive and collaborative partnerships with families enables her to plan and implement holistic programs, effectively catering for the individual needs of students and ensuring that adjustments lead to improved learning. She leads colleagues to develop, deliver and evaluate teaching strategies by analysing current, evidence-informed research through professional learning and reflecting on practice. Renee regularly reviews school policies to ensure students with a range of abilities and diverse backgrounds can access the curriculum.



Christie Carr
BERALA PUBLIC SCHOOL

Christie Carr is an exceptional teacher who displays an unwavering commitment to ensuring all students are known, valued and cared for. She consistently goes above and beyond to create a nurturing and engaging learning environment for her students. Christie's innovative teaching methods have fostered students' critical thinking and problem-solving skills. Her ability to connect with students on a personal level and provide individualised support has led to significant academic growth and increased confidence among her students. Christie is a true role model and an outstanding educator deserving of this prestigious recognition.



Lien Chai
LANSVALE PUBLIC SCHOOL

Lien Chai is an exemplary classroom teacher at Lansvale Public School (LPS). She is one of the school's preschool teachers and her successful teaching and leadership has been the main driver in the school being re-awarded an Excellent rating by ACECQA. As a result of Lien's leadership, LPS was the first NSW DoE preschool to be re-awarded this rating. Lien is a member of the Fairfield Network Aboriginal Education Team, and a key leader in Aboriginal Education at LPS. Her leadership has supported strengthened teaching and learning for both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal students. Lien is highly professional and demonstrates commitment to excellence.



Karen Christophers
LEUMEAH HIGH SCHOOL

Karen Christophers' dedication and expertise in teaching music is reflected in her commitment to providing equal accessibility for all students at Leumeah High School. She utilises varied resources to deliver rich learning experiences for a blind student who can't see music notation. Karen has dedicated her free time to learning the Music Braille code, using Music Braille Manuals and attending a Braille Camp. She collaborates with specialist Braille teachers and external supports to ensure her student accesses the curriculum at the same level as sighted peers. This commitment is reflected in her student's success and aspiration to pursue her studies in music.



Fiona Donnelly
GRANVILLE BOYS HIGH SCHOOL

Fiona Donnelly has excelled in improving the learning, engagement and academic outcomes of students at Granville Boys High School. Her professional practice in leading the introduction of robotics at our school has had a lasting and visible impact on the school as well as the entire community. Her commitment to public education and our students is outstanding, and has led to an increase in student participation and achievement in practical courses. Fiona has also sought to improve her practice by engaging with industry experts, a mark of a truly excellent teacher.



Bianca Edwards
CURRAN PUBLIC SCHOOL

Bianca Edwards is a talented educator driven to improve educational outcomes for all students through evidence-based practices. Her zest for learning is infectious as she inspires students, colleagues and the community to achieve excellence. Bianca strives for continual improvement, which has resulted in measurable shifts in the literacy and numeracy results of her students. Her expertise and passion for leading the creative arts has provided students with opportunities to shine through performances such as Wakakirri. Bianca has a positive impact on students and motivates them to achieve their potential as a result of her ability to develop strong connections and through the delivery of a rigorous curriculum.



Liam Edwards
PRESTONS PUBLIC SCHOOL

Liam Edwards has proven himself to be an outstanding early career teacher who demonstrates a deep commitment to the learning and wellbeing of his students. His classroom practice is exemplary and he has quickly earned the respect of students, families and colleagues across our school through his engaging lessons and the strong connections that he builds with his students and colleagues. Liam ensures that students, both in his classroom and across the school, feel known, valued and cared for at all times. He is a passionate and dedicated member of our school and is highly respected by our whole school community.



Hannah Germantse
WAGGA WAGGA HIGH SCHOOL

Hannah Germantse is an innovative, well respected teacher who provides students with a quality education in the classroom environment and beyond. Values are the cornerstone of her teaching and whole school involvement. Hannah creates opportunities for students to develop their values and skills so they can make a difference in the world around them. Her wellbeing-based approach to her teaching career has meant that she has had a positive impact on the lives of the students and staff she has worked with, as an English Head Teacher and as a member and leader of the whole school executive team.



Jaimie Goucher
WARILLA HIGH SCHOOL

Jaimie Goucher is a quiet achiever who deserves recognition but does not seek it. Her foresight and deep knowledge of how students learn supports them to become the best versions of themselves through understanding, acceptance and hard work. Jaimie is an education chameleon who adapts to the changing landscape of student learning. Students who would previously have 'fallen through the cracks' are seen, valued and uplifted. Passion for a collaborative approach instills life-long learning in Core Skills graduates and those who teach it! The results speak for themselves – academic, emotional and social growth all combine to foster excellence in education.



Henry Huynh
ELIZABETH MACARTHUR HIGH SCHOOL

Henry Huynh has been an exceptional classroom teacher who engages students in innovative and collaborative learning which feeds their passion for history. As part of the welfare team, he is a year adviser and participates in many welfare programs. He has been nominated for his role in co-designing the curriculum for the STAR program. Without his highly differentiated curriculum and relentless focus on literacy and numeracy, the program would not have been as successful as it is. This has led to positive educational outcomes for all students in the STAR program.



Lynne Johnston
BURRUMBUCK PUBLIC SCHOOL

Lynne Johnston has had a transformative impact on school culture at Burrumbuttock Public School. Her approach to leading and managing the school has highlighted the benefit and importance of fostering collaborative and authentic relationships, empowering teachers and embracing change in the pursuit of continuous improvement. Lynne's ability to communicate a clear, inclusive, precise vision and direction to all students, staff and parents is an exceptional quality that has been a catalyst to her success as well as the success of Burrumbuttock Public School.



Tiana Kane
PRESTONS PUBLIC SCHOOL

Tiana Kane has proven herself to be an outstanding classroom teacher, aspiring leader and colleague. Her classroom practice is exemplary, and she has earned the respect of students, families and colleagues through the high quality learning environments she creates and the strong and caring connections that she builds with her students. Tiana ensures that her students feel known, valued and cared for at all times. She is a lifelong learner and an aspiring leader who works with colleagues to support their professional development and share great practices. She is truly a most highly regarded and well-respected member of our school.



Veronica Luckman
WARILLA HIGH SCHOOL

Veronica Luckman is a passionate, experienced and highly skilled Visual Arts teacher. She is genuinely committed to ensuring all students access opportunities for learning growth and achievement. Veronica is committed to continual improvement of her own practice, and supports, guides and inspires colleagues to improve their own. Her exceptional work ethic has led to taking on a range of leadership roles within the school and beyond, which has contributed to improved professional practice and systems that embrace evaluative thinking. She is professional, ethical and well respected by students, colleagues and the community. Veronica is an outstanding public educator who is deserving of this recognition.



Jodie Mason
PORTLAND CENTRAL SCHOOL

Jodie Mason demonstrates exemplary leadership and quality teaching approaches that shape the learning for all students. She has mentored and guided teachers from graduate through to lead career teaching levels, providing a wide range of supports to ensure that high expectations are embedded. Her sphere of positive influence ensures the teaching domains of professional knowledge, practice and engagement are used to critically analyse her teaching to enhance student learning. Jodie is committed to the students and community of Portland and strives to improve their development, so they achieve their personal best. She is a very worthy recipient of the teaching award.



Sarah Minol
WYNDHAM COLLEGE

Sarah Minol is a most outstanding educator with an unwavering commitment to providing an exceptional learning experience for her students. Sarah exhibits remarkable instructional skills, incorporating innovative teaching methods that engage and inspire learners. She possesses a deep understanding of the dance curriculum and effectively communicates complex concepts in a clear and accessible manner. Moreover, Sarah fosters a nurturing and inclusive classroom environment, creating a safe space where students feel valued and motivated to excel. Her passion for education and dedication to student success is second to none.



Bernadette Montgomery
NARELLAN VALE PUBLIC SCHOOL

Bernadette Montgomery is an outstanding recipient of the Minister's Award for Excellence in Teaching. Her dedication and commitment to public education is unwavering and of the highest standard. Her delivery to the students in her classes over the past 20 years of service at Narellan Vale Public School has been outstanding. Bernadette works very hard and goes over and above to build positive relationships with her students. Through her friendly and caring disposition, she develops a deep understanding of each of her students including their likes, dislikes, hobbies, academic strengths and areas for further development.



Claire Mulligan
ELDRSLIE HIGH SCHOOL

Claire Mulligan's outstanding results in Society and Culture are consistently amongst the best HSC results at Elderslie High School. Claire's guidance of student leadership has resulted in sophisticated systems for cultivating students who demonstrate leadership qualities from Years 7 to 12. She creates opportunities for students to lead school improvement initiatives and has supported dozens of student fundraising programs at school as well as in the broader community. Claire creates visible student leaders who are equipped with the skills to make a difference, in readiness for their transition into the world beyond school.



Lisa-Josephine Parisi
PRAIRIEWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

Lisa-Josephine Parisi, a USYD BA/BEEd(Hons) graduate, NSW public education English teacher and HT T&L (PHS), is an exceptional professional, who consistently pursues and demonstrates excellence in the teaching of both her students (specifically, diverse academic students with significantly disadvantaged socio-economic backgrounds), and staff (within faculty, experience-specific, and whole school). Irrespective of the role, she is a consummate professional with a proactive, value-added approach that is strategic, data-informed and collegial in its delivery. Lisa-Josephine displays a passionate pursuit of excellence for students, which she executes in an exceedingly professional manner and achieves through intelligent, strategic delivery. Lisa-Josephine Parisi: proud to be public!



Sarah Parkinson
BERALA PUBLIC SCHOOL

Sarah Grey Parkinson displays an unwavering commitment to her students' growth and development and this is evident in her innovative teaching methods and tireless dedication. Sarah consistently goes above and beyond to create a supportive and inclusive learning environment, fostering a love for learning among her students. Her ability to tailor her approach to each individual's needs, combined with her infectious enthusiasm, motivates students to reach their full potential. Sarah's outstanding communication skills and ability to inspire critical thinking make her an exceptional educator. Her impact on students' lives extends far beyond the classroom, making her a shining example of teaching excellence.



Amanda Pleash
HEATON PUBLIC SCHOOL

Amanda (Mandi) Pleash has touched the lives of countless children in the most powerful way across her teaching career. Her ability to connect, nurture and ensure every child dreams big is at the foundation of all that she does. Her work at Heaton Public School has seen her inspire children from a range of socio-economic backgrounds, and many refugee students who come to school with a history of traumatic experiences. Mandi's outstanding ability to explain learning concepts, make learning fun and to support teachers and community make her an invaluable asset to the NSW Department of Education.



Kathryn Ross
GLEN INNES HIGH SCHOOL

Kathryn Ross' remarkable achievements in student learning and behaviour have been recognised through a comprehensive evaluation. Her three-year tenure as a multi-categorical class teacher has transformed students' self-perception and attitude towards school, with the majority excelling in mainstream classes and sharing positive MC experiences. This progress stems from Kate's genuine care and unwavering commitment to individual-centered learning. By fostering student self-awareness and meta-cognition, she has

improved work quality. Kate's personalised learning support and a pleasant, non-threatening classroom environment have notably reduced incidents among previously behaviourally challenged students. Her dedication to student-centered learning aligns closely with teaching standards, emphasising differentiation and student safety.



Lily Schirru
NBSC FRESHWATER SENIOR CAMPUS

As a second-year teacher, Lily Schirru is deserving of recognition for her unwavering commitment to delivering high-quality education and her significant contributions to the professional community. Lily's outstanding dedication to student success, exemplified through her leadership in implementing a college-wide common assessment in Legal Studies and her invitation to participate in the HSC Community of Engagement by the Teacher Quality and Impact team, sets her apart as an exceptional educator. Her passion, expertise and positive impact on students and colleagues make her a deserving recipient of this prestigious award. Congratulations, Lily, on this well-deserved recognition!



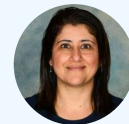
Nicholas Shirlaw
NORMANHURST BOYS HIGH SCHOOL

Demonstrating exceptional dedication to STEM education, Nicholas Shirlaw excels as an innovative teacher and educational leader. His work, far surpassing Australian Professional Standards for Teachers, embodies advanced pedagogical techniques, enhanced digital literacy and modern engineering practices. With accomplishments including pioneering the first Cisco NetAcad in Australian secondary schools and leading impactful CNC workshops, Nicholas fosters skill development and enriches learning environments. His collaborative spirit and commitment to mentoring, sharing resources and building relationships with broad professional networks significantly contributes to our evolving educational landscape.



Rebecca Smith
DENISON COLLEGE OF SECONDARY
EDUCATION – BATHURST HIGH CAMPUS

Rebecca Smith is a highly experienced Deputy Principal Inclusion and Support with a long history of growing staff capability to improve student outcomes. Her strengths are her extensive knowledge and understanding of syllabus content and her ability to differentiate learning to meet the individual needs of her students. Rebecca consistently demonstrates her capacity to collaboratively build educational programs, ensuring quality educational experiences for all students in her care. She does this through deeply knowing her students and how they learn, and valuing strong relationships with students and families. Rebecca is unwaveringly passionate about the learning diversity of her students and her leadership is student-focused, providing invaluable learning opportunities for all students.



Wafa Taoubé
TEMPE HIGH SCHOOL

Wafa Taoubé has been an excellent leader as Head Teacher English and relieving Deputy Principal at Tempe High School for eight years. She has encouraged students and staff to seek the highest possible outcomes. Wafa leads by example and as a result the school has achieved excellent results in debating and Extension English. She has led change that has improved literacy and HSC attainment. Wafa has outstanding communication skills with an infectious positive disposition which she puts to good use encouraging colleagues to try new approaches. She is relentless in the pursuit of excellence and a fine role model for both staff and students.



Jacqui Thompson
LEURA PUBLIC SCHOOL

Jacqui Thompson is an outstanding educator who is highly valued and respected across all sectors of the school community. As a collaborative, compassionate and professional teacher, she navigates the complexities of education with her students at the forefront of decision making. Her specialist knowledge has been instrumental in the implementation of a phonics-based approach

to learning in the early years. Jacqui's expert use of evidence-based data and valid teacher judgements supports purposeful, flexible program delivery and her work with individual students to successfully obtain individualised goals of high expectation. To work with Jacqui is to be inspired.



Sarah Thorncraft
BATHURST WEST PUBLIC SCHOOL

Sarah Thorncraft is an enthusiastic staff member who is an asset to Bathurst West Public School. Her positivity and passion for continually improving as a teacher is evident through her participation in professional learning. She participates wholeheartedly in all opportunities provided to her and puts her learning into practice to support her students' engagement in learning. Sarah provides a classroom environment that is positive and welcoming where students feel safe. Her students are engaged in learning as she designs tasks that are accessible for all students to meet their individual learning styles.



Zoe Tiernan
THE RIVERS SECONDARY COLLEGE –
KADINA HIGH CAMPUS

As the College Deputy Principal of The Rivers Secondary College and instructional leader, Zoe Tiernan has led professional learning for College teachers to improve classroom instructional practice. She has provided support for beginning and early career teachers to achieve accreditation and facilitated student and staff voice to inform College decision making. Zoe engages local community agencies and identities to support improved learning outcomes for students and has supported cultural awareness and humility for Aboriginal students. She epitomises the values of The Rivers Secondary College - Equity, Excellence and Engagement.



Danielle Tully
YANDELORA SCHOOL

Danielle Tully is well deserving of the 2023 Minister's Award for Excellence in Teaching. Danielle brings to her role a strong belief that every student has the capacity to learn and to be creative, and in her kind and gentle way she brings out the best in every student. Danielle connects with her students in a way that builds an instant relationship of trust. In her care students thrive. She treats every student with the utmost respect and care and in turn, the students show her respect and strive to meet their learning goals as students in her class.



Alanna Vella
CAMBRIDGE GARDENS PUBLIC SCHOOL

Alanna Vella is an exceptional classroom practitioner. She demonstrates an outstanding knowledge of curriculum and a skilled pedagogy ensuring student achievement. Alanna has exceptional skills in classroom management and confidently builds individual and whole class wellbeing. She has demonstrated the ability to share this expertise with her colleagues ensuring her influence is not just in her classroom but across the stage team and the whole school. Alanna has shown outstanding ability to be part of Department of Education initiatives, confidently reflecting on her practice and implementing the new syllabus with integrity as an example to all. She demonstrates excellence in teaching each and every day.



Danni-Elle Wall
SHELL COVE PUBLIC SCHOOL

Danni-Elle Wall is a deserving recipient of the 2023 Minister's Award for Excellence in Teaching. Her unwavering passion for children, commitment to Aboriginal education and dedication to fostering a love of learning through the library make her an exceptional educator. She goes above and beyond to create a nurturing environment where students feel valued and inspired. Danni-Elle's innovative teaching methods, combined with her genuine care for her students' growth, make her an invaluable asset to the education community. Her impact extends far beyond the classroom, positively influencing the lives of countless young learners.



Andrew Westerhof
BRISBANE WATER SECONDARY COLLEGE – UMINA CAMPUS

Andrew Westerhof is a dynamic, dedicated and inclusive educator. He inspires and challenges students to be the best they can be through his teaching of music. Andrew is generous with his time and actively creates opportunities for students to collaborate and engage with each other through performance. His passion for teaching and the arts is exceptional and his mentoring of students through music is inspirational.



Toni Williams
ULLADULLA HIGH SCHOOL

Toni Williams has been an exceptional teacher leader for more than 25 years, with her ability to enliven not only her syllabus of PDHPE, but also to explicitly teach to the strengths of her students. Her HSC results are proof of her successful teaching practice and knowledge to engage and motivate students to reach beyond their potential. Toni has been instrumental in revolutionising the active participation of our students, through an innovative change in weekly sport showing significant improvements for all students, 50% improvement in attendance at sport and a participation rate of 99%, showing outcomes multiply.



Tiffany Yeaman
ELDERSLIE PUBLIC SCHOOL

Tiffany Yeaman is an outstanding practitioner who demonstrates enthusiasm and passion for her classroom teacher role every day. She loves to share new learning with others, and she builds positive connections with students, staff and families. She is an exemplary role model and has demonstrated her brilliance beyond the classroom through organising whole school events, as well as zone sporting events. Her positive impact on students reaches beyond our school gates. We are very proud of her achievements and believe her to be a leader in the making. EPS staff are inspired by her and appreciate her knowledge and skills in many areas.

Lifetime Achievement Award



MURRAY KITTERINGHAM

Murray Kitteringham served the students of NSW with honour, passion, and care. Murray commenced his teaching career in 1993 and taught at seven schools across the Southwest Region for over 30 years. It was at Sir Joseph Banks High School where Murray's deep educational leadership was most impactful, having led the school community as principal from 2016 until his passing in 2022.

During the seven years that Murray led and managed Sir Joseph Banks High School, he collaborated with staff, students, and the community to improve school-based systems, procedures, policies and, most significantly, the strengthening of a culture premised on the notion of student success. Murray introduced a Vision of Excellence, Opportunity, Innovation and Success to reflect the aspirations of the community. As one example of significant cultural shift, 'school rules' were replaced with Positive Behaviour for Learning values: "Think, Respect, Learn" – to 'teach the behaviours we want to see.'

Murray commenced his principalship at Sir Joseph Banks High School already a fierce advocate. He believed in equity for all, was enthusiastic about public education, and worked every day to ensure that 'happy kids learn.' Sir Joseph Banks High School was amongst the highest growth secondary schools in NSW. He used his voice to bring awareness to important educational issues and cared deeply for every member of the school community. Murray's informed, experienced, and contagiously enthusiastic leadership was amplified across school networks, regions, sectors, and the state. As a respected and popular leader Murray was frequently invited to share his innovative and profoundly effecting approaches to school community capacity growth through local, regional, and state school networks. Further afield he travelled across NSW with the University of NSW Gonski Institute to share case studies that positively changed lives; shared strategies to redress inequities and skill development for leaders through the NSW Teachers' Federation Centre for Professional Learning; contributed to learning of others with

the NSW Secondary Principals' Council, Australian College of Educators and NSW University of Technology, all underpinned by wisdom, joy, intellect and humanity. Never leaving anyone wondering what he thought, Murray's energy, commitment, motivation, fervour for supporting students, colleagues and system was unrelenting.

Murray Kitteringham – teacher, leader, principal, educational influencer. A leader amongst leaders.



Secretary's Award for Excellent Service

RECIPIENT CITATIONS



Ken Barwick OAM
DENISON COLLEGE OF SECONDARY EDUCATION – BATHURST HIGH CAMPUS

Ken Barwick has had an extensive and exemplary 32-year career in education across NSW as a classroom teacher, executive and Principal in a range of school contexts. He has maintained the highest standards and made significant contributions to school communities with a particular emphasis on student wellbeing. As a Principal in the Bathurst Network for 11 years, initially serving Oberon High School and now Denison College of Secondary Education, Bathurst High Campus, Ken continues to display a passion for student wellbeing and has dedicated school funding to developing a wellbeing hub in collaboration with staff and wider community links.



Angela Brocklesby-Sattler
NASHDALE PUBLIC SCHOOL

Angela Brocklesby-Sattler works closely with staff, students and parents to enable students to achieve their very best. Of particular note were the online daily sessions during the COVID lockdown periods, where Angela was determined that the students at greatest risk of disengaging would have access to daily support. Nashdale Public School has achieved excellent results in literacy, and students demonstrate above average growth on internal and external data sources. The school consistently achieves above both State and similar school group results due to the intensive, targeted and responsive learning that occurs in literacy intervention sessions.



Maree Burton
WATTLE GROVE PUBLIC SCHOOL

Maree Burton is a valuable member of her school community, continuously going above and beyond in all her endeavours. She is completely student-focused and an exemplary leading learner. Her passion for student growth and achievement benefits not only the students she is directly teaching and supporting, but also the work of other School Learning Support Officers and teaching staff. Maree contributes to whole school culture through her positive demeanour, her outstanding collaboration and her constant quest to promote the achievements and the joy of Wattle Grove Public School life.



Rebecca Cooper
BRISBANE WATER SECONDARY COLLEGE – WOY WOY CAMPUS

Rebecca Cooper has led staff development and fostered a culture of continual improvement across the Brisbane Water Secondary College Woy Woy Campus since her appointment as Principal in 2018. Her significant contribution has focused on the areas of student engagement, inclusion, achievement and wellbeing. This cultural shift has led to a dynamic staff, driven to meet the needs of all students across the Woy Woy Campus and has resulted in improved learning environments, highlighted by significant Higher School Certificate growth (third highest in NSW – 2022) and Aboriginal student growth (second highest in NSW – 2022).



Governor Philip King Public School



Susan Craig
FAIRFIELD HEIGHTS PUBLIC SCHOOL

The joy, passion, commitment and calmness Susan Craig displays are strong features of her exemplary educational leadership. Possessed with high emotional intelligence, her ability to work collaboratively and authentically with senior and middle leadership is inspiring. Susan has facilitated the development of strong processes and structures that enable teachers to focus on their pedagogy in a safe and supportive environment. A clearly articulated vision for excellence in teaching and learning, her strength in both curriculum knowledge and leadership practices, coupled with an intelligent approach, inspires school community members to continuously improve. Susan possesses grace and wisdom and has a systems leader approach, sharing the school's practices across her network.



Dr Ken Edge
MILLER TECHNOLOGY HIGH SCHOOL

As Principal, Miller Technology High School for 10 years, Dr Ken Edge ensures equity and excellence through his expertise in quality teaching, diligence and unwavering integrity. His school is in the 98th percentile of disadvantage in NSW with high numbers of students with disabilities, refugee and First Nations backgrounds. He ensures consistent access to technology, with integrated quality teaching for all students through leading and heavily subsidising the Laptops for Learning program with embedded instructional and engagement dimensions for staff.

High expectations and agency through classroom learning and other enrichment opportunities pervade his warm and vibrant school, and his community is grateful for his exemplary and steadfast service.



Bronwyn Jeffree
TARRAWANNA PUBLIC SCHOOL

Bronwyn Jeffree has led the transformation of Tarrawanna Public School from a residualised low SES school into a high performing, highly regarded successful local school of choice. She has been integral in changing the narrative and perceptions of the school. Bronwyn has developed a culture of thriving leadership and professional growth of all staff and has been unrelenting in ensuring that all students access an aspirational, differentiated curriculum that allows them to learn, grow and articulate their self-directed learning goals in a school environment that values and enriches the whole child.



Kevin Keeler
COONABARABRAN HIGH SCHOOL

Kevin Keeler has shown outstanding commitment to students, staff and the community at both Coonabarabran High School and Coonabarabran Public School since 2008. His dedication to service is exemplary and he has positively enriched the learning environments, and through them the experience of staff and students in the Coonabarabran community.



Kim Latter
CAMBRIDGE GARDENS PUBLIC SCHOOL

Kim Latter is an outstanding educator, providing support and inspiration to the students and staff of Cambridge Gardens Public School. She has implemented and sustained our QuickSmart mathematics intervention strategy for our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students for a number of years. She has been the driving force of this intervention, growing the initiative through her own observations and professional learning and sharing her knowledge and understandings with the staff of our school. Kim builds strong, caring, purposeful and supportive relationships with the students she works with, building their commitment and enthusiasm for their work and thirst to improve and succeed.



Frances Lawson-Cohen
QUAKERS HILL HIGH SCHOOL

Frances Lawson-Cohen has shown absolute commitment to improving outcomes for students over several decades of teaching in many schools including remote NSW. At Quakers Hill High School, Frances has been instrumental in a range of cocurricular and extracurricular learning opportunities for our First Nations students, our agricultural and textiles programs, and our Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme. She seeks to enrich school life for all our students through these opportunities and was instrumental in our recent External Validation assessment as Excelling in Wellbeing. Frances has always had students at the centre of her planning and decision making, and has had an enormous positive impact on our school culture.



Patrick O’Keeffe
HAVENLEE SCHOOL

Patrick O’Keeffe has devoted his life to helping young people with disabilities reach their full potential. He has worked at Havenlee School for Specific Purposes for 18 years. In this time, he has been relentless in his pursuit of finding ways to improve the lives of students at the school. He has expertise in technology, including computer hardware and software (specific to special education), augmentative communication systems and health care. He is always looking for ways to share his expertise with others around him, both locally and further abroad, to enable others to reach out to support students with disabilities.



Royal Prince Alfred Hospital School



Tina Parasiris
REVESBY PUBLIC SCHOOL

Tina Parasiris fosters a sense of belonging and connectedness. She demonstrates excellence through her work within the classroom and through her work as a valued staff member. She is an extraordinary teacher aide who demonstrates dedication, passion, innovation and excellence through her work within the classroom and within the school setting. She builds a collaborative school culture, and has developed cooperative, responsive and respectful relationships with students, staff and the broader community, demonstrating a caring and committed attitude to student learning and an open and honest communication style. Tina is an absolute asset to our team and her work is highly valued.



Nikki Reddie
CAMDEN SOUTH PUBLIC SCHOOL

Nikki Reddie is an exceptional school leader who consistently demonstrates passion and commitment towards leading educational excellence. Nikki strives to ensure that there is a prioritised focus on teaching and learning and that every child achieves their personal best through a quality educational experience provided by an expert teacher. Nikki has proudly nurtured leadership aspiration through a streamlined focus on quality mentoring and coaching, and providing feedback that is authentically presented through a structured model based on the development of strong relational trust amongst all members of her leadership team.



Sally Reid
EUGOWRA PUBLIC SCHOOL

Sally Reid is an outstanding School Learning Support Officer (SLSO) who went above and beyond her duties during the devastating flood event of November 2022 in Eugowra. Sally supported her community during evacuations and assisted many in the cleanup. After the flood, Sally ensured the wellbeing of students and families of our school was prioritised. Through her role as an SLSO, Sally has developed a wonderful rapport with students, staff and families. As President of the school's P&C committee, she organised complete sets of uniforms and essential items for students to transition easily back into school.



Matthew Ryan
ORAN PARK PUBLIC SCHOOL

Matthew Ryan is an exceptional educational leader who provides school and system leadership across Oran Park Public School and South Western Sydney schools, particularly in the South Western Sydney Schools Sports Association. Matthew leads a large number of staff and students and has provided significant opportunities for improvement, not only within the school but across the system. Matthew is a very deserving recipient of the Secretary's Award for Excellent Service.



Rhys Thomas
GRIFFITH EAST PUBLIC SCHOOL

Rhys Thomas is a passionate educator who has made a significant difference to the learning and wellbeing of many students at our school and beyond, most notably through his passion for music. His teaching expertise has enabled students from a rural primary school setting to learn to play an instrument in an ensemble with enjoyment, confidence and great success. He has created an inclusive, carefully planned band program that encourages and supports all students regardless of their background. Rhys devotes much of his own time to developing students' musical skills so that they can be successful. He has contributed substantially to professional networks that support young musicians across the state.



Rene'e Thompson
MANNERING PARK PUBLIC SCHOOL

Rene'e Thompson has shown dedication and commitment to the students and community of Mannering Park Public School. Her support for Aboriginal students and local Aboriginal community has been exceptional, and the impact of her work is evident through student wellbeing, engagement and improved learning outcomes. Rene'e values relationships and strives to ensure that every family and every student has a strong sense of connection and belonging.



Windsor High School



Mark Watson
ST IVES HIGH SCHOOL

Mark Watson is a dedicated and accomplished school leader, who successfully leads high quality teaching and learning for students at St Ives High School. Mark serves as an esteemed colleague amongst his peers and has built collective efficacy amongst the staff at the school by leading with respect and trust. Mark is renowned for his ability to foster a culture of academic excellence and sense of community, which has resulted in a high level of student, staff and community satisfaction. Mark embodies the values and principles that drive educational growth and achievement within the Department and is a worthy recipient of the Secretary's Award for Excellent Service.



Shelley Young
ULLADULLA HIGH SCHOOL

In her role as a School Administration Officer, Shelley Young has undeniably supported the wellbeing and learning achievements of our students, with support of students with disabilities. Her thoroughness with any task is outstanding and she always ensures the simple things are done well, in particular her commitment to school communications. Shelley has been responsible for the creation, coordination and publishing of our weekly 'Summit Times', circulated to 3,000 parents, 1,200 students and the wider community, containing celebrations of a learning culture, community, achievement and excellence, and which is a vital part of school operations that builds trust and community.



Kathryn Yates
BROKEN HILL NORTH PUBLIC SCHOOL

Kathryn Yates was nominated on behalf of the entire school community. She has consistently demonstrated outstanding community service to our students, staff and families. Kathryn's manner and day-to-day actions, and her respect, passion, commitment and dedication to her role at the school has proven to be paramount for the wellbeing of students, staff and families. Kathryn exceeds expectations and always goes beyond the requirements of her position. Her compassion, empathy and understanding for our school community is unsurpassable. Kathryn is a valued member of our school community and should be recognised for her humble and selfless dedication to all at Broken Hill North Public School.



Lismore Public School



Caringbah North Public School

Secretary's Award for an Outstanding School Initiative



RECIPIENT CITATIONS

Anson Street School SKILLS HOUSE

The Skills House is an exceptional initiative providing a safe and inclusive environment where students are supported to develop essential life skills to complement their unique abilities. The program's dedicated team of professionals works tirelessly to create personalised learning experiences that ensure each student is working towards their specific goals. Through a combination of explicit teaching, practice and support and transference of skills into real workplaces, the Skills House project empowers children to build confidence, improve communication and foster independence. The impact this project has on students' lives is immeasurable, offering a future filled with possibilities.

Auburn North Public School DEVELOPING THE MATHEMATICIAN PROJECT

Auburn North's 'Developing the Mathematician Teacher Professional Learning Project' was developed in response to the new K-2 NSW Mathematics syllabus and draft 3-6 NSW Mathematics syllabus. Strategies to increase teacher knowledge and skills in using the syllabuses to assist K-6 students achieve outstanding maths outcomes, especially in the 'working mathematically' strand, included development of school-based K-6 Mathematics Scope and Sequence, development of a teacher professional learning program and purchase of resources. Data showed the project increased the capacity of leaders and teachers to use the new syllabuses to develop exemplary maths programs and lessons and assisted students to achieve excellent maths learning outcomes.

Aurora College VIRTUAL OPPORTUNITY CLASS

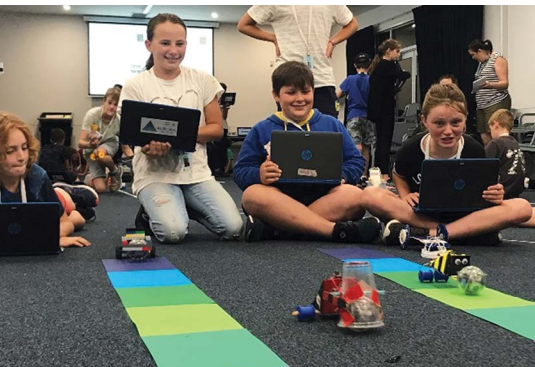
At the centre of the Rural and Remote Education Strategy is the goal of quality learning for all rural and remote school communities. The Aurora College Virtual Opportunity Class enhances the

Stage 3 curriculum offering for students who would otherwise not have access to an opportunity class. Not only has this provision led to improved student outcomes, it is enhancing the reputation of primary and central schools in rural and remote areas, and is acting as a retention strategy for families in these areas who may otherwise consider a boarding school, another non-government school or a move to a larger regional centre.

- Blakebrook Public School
- Broadwater Public School
- Cabbage Tree Island Public School
- Condong Public School
- Crabbes Creek Public School
- Empire Vale Public School
- Lismore South Public School
- Mullumbimby High School
- Mullumbimby Public School
- The Rivers Secondary College
- Richmond River High Campus
- Tumbulgum Public School
- Wardell Public School

WELLBEING SUPPORT – FLOOD RECOVERY

After the catastrophic flooding events across the Northern Rivers and Tweed areas in February and March 2022, group of principals was faced with leading their school communities through response and recovery. After ensuring students' basic needs were met, including food, clothing, school and classroom supplies, school staff set about establishing temporary learning environments in community and neighbouring school spaces. Strong wellbeing initiatives, programs and practices were developed to move from response to recovery, leading to improved attendance and a strong sense of engagement and belonging for children and young people.



Aurora College

Cabramatta High School PARTNER A CLASS

The Cabramatta High School Partner A Class program was co-developed with the Commonwealth Bank of Australia to provide Stage 6 Business Studies students the opportunity to engage with corporate mentors, develop a deep understanding of curriculum and address real-world business scenarios. 550 students have participated in the program over 11 years, with 90% of students subsequently enrolling in university study. The program has enhanced the aspiration and self-confidence of students, with many pursuing a career in finance and banking as a result of their positive experience in the program.

Caringbah North Public School LEADERSHIP PATHWAY

The unique Leadership Pathway program at Caringbah North Public School is based on the idea that leadership is 'more than a badge'. This initiative, which offers a genuine experience for students to develop practical leadership tools and skills, has evolved over the years based on the feedback of students. The sustainability of this program has been demonstrated through the collective belief from staff that it builds and develops a diverse leadership team, where every child has the opportunity to lead their peers. The Year 6 cohort become the leaders of the upcoming leaders, building relationships and social-emotional learning, as mentors and role models of their peers.

Cromehurst School Willoughby Public School INTEGRATION BUDDY PROGRAM

The Willoughby Cromehurst Integration Buddy Program is a very successful program that has been running for over 25 years. The students from both schools meet 1.5 hours a week and together they participate in buddy activities focusing on social skills, communication and well being. The Willoughby Public School students are paired with their buddy for the whole year, and form lovely friendships over this time. This program helps the Willoughby students to understand students with disabilities, and helps the Cromehurst School students with their communication and social skills. The program has had such great longevity and success over many years.

Elizabeth Macarthur High School STUDENTS TRANSITIONING AND ACHIEVING RESULTS (S.T.A.R)

The S.T.A.R program has changed the lives of all students who have participated in it. Students who have had years of disengagement from school have achieved positive outcomes from this program. They have graduated with a ROSA and have transitioned into work. Some have even re-engaged in school to the extent of staying on to complete the HSC. Rarely are programs with disengaged students this successful. More importantly, students find a sense of connection to school and others in the class and a sense of belonging and also finish school with a sense of achievement and success.

Granville Boys High School ROBOTICS

The Robotics program at Granville Boys High School has been a tremendously successful initiative at our school. It has improved student engagement, learning outcomes, retention and academic success. Furthermore, the successes of the initiative have enhanced community connections with the school and helped position Granville Boys High School as an outstanding public school, leading innovation in teaching and learning. The student achievements borne out of this initiative have given our students and school community an immense sense of pride and accomplishment. It is for these reasons Granville Boys High School's Robotics initiative is a worthy recipient of this award.

James Cook Boys Technology High School LEARNING THROUGH READING AND WRITING

The implementation of Learning Through Reading and Writing has made a significant impact on improving teachers' practice in delivering high-quality, explicit teaching of literacy to all students in all classrooms. The effect of this initiative on students' learning has resulted in them performing at or above expected growth against the State and Statistically Similar School Groups and meeting departmental and school set targets in literacy over the previous five years.

Kotara School QUALITY TEACHING ROUND SPECIAL EDUCATION

Kotara School's successful implementation of Quality Teaching Rounds (QTR) has led to significant improvements in teacher pedagogy, school culture and student outcomes. QTR has changed teaching practices, fostering collaboration and reflection among educators. Through structured observation and feedback, teachers have enhanced their instructional skills, resulting in improved pedagogical approaches. The positive impact on the school culture is evident, with a shared commitment to continuous improvement. Students have experienced increased engagement, deeper learning and improved academic achievement. Kotara School's dedication to QTR has undeniably elevated the educational experience for teachers and students alike.

Leumeah High School CIRCLE OF STRENGTH

The Circle of Strength program is a transformative initiative that prioritises the educational and personal growth of Leumeah High School's Pasifika and Maori students. The program addresses key areas such as attendance, student leadership, social, emotional and self-regulation skills, by creating a nurturing environment that fosters academic success, personal growth and improved student wellbeing. Through culturally responsive approaches and community collaboration, the program shapes students' educational journeys, empowers them to become leaders in their community and builds a foundation for future success.

Liverpool Boys High School TAKE OVER TWO

Take Over Two was the mechanism for teachers at Liverpool Boys High School to think about and explore alternate ways of delivering curriculum. It was as much about changing staff practices as it was about the experiences for students. Teachers

directed the program while also allowing students to take control of the learning. 350 students were empowered to choose what they did each day, own the decision and make it happen. This program is used to activate whole school change constructed with the idea that all choices should be based on what you're interested in, what you're passionate about and school should be that exploration of passion.

Murrumbidgee Regional High School NEW SOUTH WALES VIRTUAL STEM ACADEMY

The New South Wales Virtual STEM Academy (NSWVSA) is hosted at Murrumbidgee Regional High School. First implemented as a trial in 2021 involving eight students from four feeder primary schools, the NSWVSA will reach 500 students in 2023 from over 30 NSW DoE primary, secondary and central schools from all parts of NSW including the North Coast, Northern Rivers, Hunter, Central Coast, Illawarra, Southern Highlands, Riverina and Western NSW. The scope of the NSWVSA is to expand and enhance opportunities for students in Years 5 to 9 to experience enriching and challenging STEM learning of under-represented or disadvantaged groups, particularly girls, Indigenous and regional, rural and remote students.

Murwillumbah Public School COMPREHENSION INITIATIVE

The Comprehension Initiative at Murwillumbah Public School aimed to greatly enhance teacher confidence and proficiency in assessing, collecting data and teaching comprehension skills to improve literacy outcomes for students in Years 3 to 6. As a result of the initiative, teachers have gained significant knowledge and confidence in teaching comprehension strategies. The success of the initiative is reflected in continued outstanding NAPLAN and Check-in results, placing the school among the top schools on the North Coast. The school received a letter of recognition from Secretary Georgina Harrison regarding the school's impressive NAPLAN results.

Rouse Hill High School

STUDENT LED ATTENDANCE MONITORING (SLAM)

The Student Led Attendance Monitoring initiative has had an immediate and significant impact on improving student attendance for our junior students at Rouse Hill High School. Our Deputy Principal, Melanie Castle, and HT Secondary Studies, Joshua Cutting, have implemented data walls, differentiated parent contact emails and student goal setting to embed a student-valued attendance drive. This initiative is in the process of being scaled to include our Year 9 and 10 students. It has also been shared across a number of networks in order to promote a successful attendance initiative throughout our system.

St Marys North Public School

ACO FOUNDATIONS STRING PROGRAM

Music education has long been recognised as a valuable tool for the development of children's emotional and behavioural skills. Learning to play an instrument requires concentration, focus, and self-regulation, all of which are essential skills for success in school and beyond. The ACO Foundations String Program is a research-based program designed to improve cognitive, emotional and behavioural development in our students. Every student in Years 1, 2 and 3 at St Marys North Public School is provided with daily practice lessons in the violin or cello, with classroom teachers delivering video lessons produced by ACO instrumental teachers. Weekly lessons are provided by the instrumental teachers.

Sydney Secondary College

Sydney Secondary College

– Balmain Campus

Sydney Secondary College

– Blackwattle Bay Campus

Sydney Secondary College

– Leichhardt Campus

T CENTRE PROGRAM

The T Centre Program is an academic and wellbeing program targeting Stage 4 learners, aimed at re-engaging students in their learning and with school. The success of the program is due to the vision of Ian Bowsher and the hard work of Rachael Alonso, Dan Dominguez and Gabby Thompson, as well as the staff who initiated the program in 2022 – Rebecca Illiffe, Gabby Larrson-Cain and Llana Menzies. We are busy preparing to move the T Centre from Balmain Campus to Leichhardt Campus for Semester 2 2023 thus highlighting the portability of this program as a potential DoE wellbeing initiative.

Whitebridge High School

VET STUDENT PATHWAYS FOR THE FUTURE

The VET Student Pathways for the Future program has been a game changer for students at Whitebridge High School. The innovative curriculum model increases student engagement with a skills focus and direct industry credentialing. All students achieve dual credentialing hence maximising their employability. An inclusive program, it caters for all learners, from those requiring additional support through to high achievers. It actively engages young people directly with employers creating a whole community strategy to increase student outcomes. With 10 frameworks delivered within the curriculum on site, high levels of staff training and industry quality facilities and resources, this program ensures students are on track for a successful future.

Windsor High School

IMPROVED ATTENDANCE INITIATIVE

Ashlea Khalid has worked tirelessly to increase attendance at Windsor High School, aligned to our School Plan and the Department's Strategic Direction of increasing the proportion of students attending school at least 90% of the time. She has led the Wellbeing team, designing and implementing a rewards-based initiative for attendance. Additionally, she has been overseeing staffing, using strategies to ensure there is a teacher in front of every class. This has also impacted positively on the student attendance rate. The long-term effect will be maximised learning outcomes, as well as a sense of belonging, with expectations of success for all students.

Woodberry Public School

STRONG STARS PROGRAM

The Woodberry Public School Strong STARS Program is an outstanding example of a whole school community working together to improve outcomes for our youngest and most vulnerable learners. We have seen a huge improvement in the readiness to learn of Kindergarten students as they are highly supported through this transition program. By deeply understanding our children as individual learners at a very early point in their entry to formal schooling, we are able to individualise learning and support to best meet the needs of each individual and to build and strengthen partnerships with our families and learning partners.

Secretary's Award for School Achievement

RECIPIENT CITATIONS

Auburn North Public School

ASSISTING ALL TEACHERS TO BECOME THEIR VERY BEST

Auburn North Public School's 'Assisting All Teachers To Become Their Very Best' initiative was developed and implemented to improve the quality of the school's instructional leadership, assist all teachers to become their very best, and improve student learning outcomes. To improve whole school instructional leadership and teacher knowledge and skills so all teachers become their very best, Auburn North developed and implemented integrated, differentiated leadership and teacher professional programs, strategies and practices. Data demonstrates the quality of whole school instructional leadership and each teacher's teaching significantly improving, leading to students achieving outstanding learning outcomes.

Blayney Public School

PARENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

Blayney Public School is improving student achievement and wellbeing through strengthening community relationships as part of our Parent Partnership Program. This is achieved through working with families in partnership with the school equipping them with knowledge, skills and resources, as well as information about student data, and providing the opportunity for them to collaboratively set their child's learning goals and support their learning. The school used evidence informed practice and explicit teaching to play a vital role in tailoring the learning packs for individual students, as well as to focus and direct the ongoing explicit teaching and learning at school.

Brisbane Water Secondary College

- Woy Woy Campus

HSC GROWTH – SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENT IN LEARNING

Brisbane Water Secondary College Woy Woy Campus achieved significant and measurable gains in student growth in the HSC over the last two years. This improvement has been achieved by deliberate leadership through collaboration for school improvement, resulting in high impact professional learning, increased data literacy for all staff, shared understanding and responsibility for student success through Student Success plans for every student and ensuring the curriculum is fit for purpose. The deliberate focus on a cultural shift of success for every student through explicit improvement strategies is reflected in our campus meeting and exceeding all our HSC and Wellbeing system based targets.

Cabramatta High School

LITERACY STRATEGY

The Cabramatta High School Literacy Strategy is a multifaceted, evidence-based and data-informed approach to address the diverse literacy needs of students and improve learning outcomes. A team of literacy specialists created a comprehensive plan in collaboration with the school community. The strategy incorporates the explicit teaching of literacy with literacy lessons for all students in Years 7 - 10, combined with literacy strategies embedded across faculty plans and programs. University partnerships including the NSW Equity Consortium and Writing in Secondary project have enhanced pedagogy and professional learning. Cabramatta High School has been identified by ACARA as one of 20 high performing schools in NSW based on the 2022 NAPLAN results.

Dapto Public School

SUSTAINED IMPROVEMENT IN WRITING

In response to an identified need, Dapto Public School undertook a strategic plan to improve student outcomes in writing. While the impact was immediate, the real success of this plan has been in its ability to sustain the excellent writing results and outcomes for students. The writing program's quality is evidenced by the results the school has been able to achieve consistently. Significantly, Year 5 NAPLAN Writing results over time have demonstrated consistent student achievement at well above state cohort performance for consecutive years. As a school, we have put in place measures to ensure continued student achievement in writing.

Endeavour Sports High School

HIGH EXPECTATIONS POLICY

Endeavour Sports High School's High Expectations Policy established a framework for ensuring that all students receive the right encouragement and support to achieve academically, on the sporting field and in extracurricular activities. Since its implementation, it has been the centrepiece of the school's student wellbeing and academic systems, producing some of the best academic results in the state. Its effectiveness has been recognised by the entire school community, reflected in the 70% growth in student enrolments since its inception.

Fairfield Heights Public School

REACHING GREATER HEIGHTS PROJECT

The Reaching Greater Heights Project supports a culture of high expectations and community engagement, resulting in sustained and measurable whole-school improvement. Distributed instructional leadership at Fairfield Heights Public School maintains a continuous focus on improving teacher quality and student learning. As an identified High Value-Added school, the Reaching Greater Heights Project has embedded the eight drivers of school improvement into the school planning, implementation and reporting process while maintaining whole-school improvement as a focus. The Reaching Greater Heights Project has strengthened teacher capacity to deliver effective teaching practice driving ongoing student growth and attainment.

Fairfield West Public School

COLLECTIVE LEARNING PROJECT

Fairfield West Public School's bespoke Collective Learning Project demonstrates the positive outcomes achieved through a curious mindset, focusing on student improvement and prioritising

leadership development. This project was a collaborative initiative aimed at enhancing student learning and fostering leadership. Underpinned by inquiry, the design was contextually based to drive student improvement by focusing on the development of confidence and capabilities in leaders, to implement school improvements strategies and support teacher learning. The successes became evident through improvements in student learning outcomes, particularly in literacy and numeracy, with results surpassing system-negotiated targets. These achievements were recognised and acknowledged with the Department of Education and through published articles.

Forbes Public School

FORBES PUBLIC SCHOOL HUB

The Forbes flood event of November 2022 devastated the township of Forbes, causing widespread loss and destroying Forbes Public School. When faced with the traumas and challenges of their own personal devastation and in some instances homelessness, Forbes Public School staff made a choice to stand together for the children of their community, to provide for them a safe space, a place where the importance of routine could be continued, and where education and connection could be maintained. They created the Forbes Public School Hub. The Hub initiative proudly highlights the Department of Education in action when faced with adversity.

Governor Philip King Public School

TRANSFORMING CURRICULUM FOR STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

The staff at Governor Philip King Public School have worked tirelessly to improve student engagement, school-wide programs and assessments. Through high-quality professional learning focused on curriculum, pedagogy and explicit teaching, the staff have developed core programs, effective assessments and learning resources to differentiate learning for all students. Student attendance and engagement has increased across the school. Student wellbeing and welfare are priorities for our school. All students are valued, respected and belong. School results in 2022 were above state and local network averages. At Governor, 'Every mind is inspired, Every person is valued, and Every potential is fostered.'



Auburn North Public School

Harrington Street Public School

UNLEASHING READING EXCELLENCE

Literacy Leap: Unleashing Reading Excellence at Harrington Street Public School has been instrumental in significantly improving reading outcomes. Through a steadfast commitment to teacher development and instructional leadership, the project has fostered sustainable, evidence-based practices. The results have been remarkable, with students experiencing notable advancements in their reading abilities. The dedication to ongoing professional growth among teachers has played a pivotal role in this achievement. By implementing proven strategies and providing a supportive learning environment, Harrington Street Public School has successfully unleashed reading excellence, empowering students to thrive in their literacy journey.

Hunter River High School

IMPROVING HSC RESULTS

Hunter River High School fosters a culture of collective efficacy and instructional excellence, implementing evidence-informed pedagogical practices in every classroom. Shared responsibility, accountability and belief in students' potential have led to outstanding achievements. Wellbeing initiatives support academic and emotional growth, leading to higher attainment levels and post-school success. The project resulted in a significant improvement in HSC student achievement, with the average course marks decreasing from 9.9 marks below the state average in 2017, to just 1.3 in 2022. This translates to an average of 5.5 marks above similar school groups, highlighting the school's impressive progress.

Marsden Road Public School

EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AND LEARNING

Marsden Road Public School has successfully implemented a whole school curriculum approach that has led to outstanding uplift in student outcomes. The consistent school wide pedagogical approach along with systematic professional learning has seen the school culture transform to that of performance, responsibility, accountability and pride in teaching and learning. The school excels in all elements of teaching, learning and leading and is seen as a centre of excellence by educators across the country. High attendance rate, negligible suspension rate and continuous improvement in student outcomes are some of the highlights of the school's success story.

Miller Public School

THE MILLER MINDSET

The "Miller Mindset" at Miller Public School has been instrumental in promoting positive, respectful relationships. This program has built the foundation for an engaging and inclusive school culture. A strategic and planned approach is consistently embedded, and processes exist that promote the wellbeing of all students, staff and community members. Through the external validation process conducted in 2023, Miller Public School was judged and validated as performing in the "Excelling" phase of the School Excellence in Wellbeing Framework. Strong evidence of impact exists across the entire school community of the visible change that this program has facilitated.

Minchinbury Public School

ACHIEVEMENT IN NUMERACY

Minchinbury Public School staff and community members strive to deliver the best educational outcomes for our students. There has been a focused and dedicated commitment to provide staff with high impact teaching strategies for numeracy. The last few years have seen the staff strengthen their expertise in teaching numeracy, and as a consequence, an increase in student growth data, results and conceptual understanding. Continuous professional dialogue and monitoring of student progress in numeracy has led to sustainable evidence-based practices embedded into daily numeracy lessons. We are very proud of our students' achievements and attitude to learning.

NBSC Mackellar Girls Campus RESILIENCE IN OUR TEENS (RIOT)

The implementation of RIOT (Resilience in our Teens) to complement our W@M (Wellbeing at Mackellar) Program has seen a marked improvement in student wellbeing across the school, as well as increased student engagement and attendance. Students and staff engage meaningfully in the psychology underpinning this program, as well as the practical tools for building resilience every day. The language and beliefs of the RIOT program and positive psychology, entwined in all we do, have resulted in an upward shift in resilience, independence and growth mindset. Students' sense of belonging, safety, confidence and understanding of dealing with their own and others' issues have blossomed; the program has resulted in outstanding outcomes.

Revesby Public School RIVERS, WATERHOLES AND CAMPFIRES FOR LEARNING

Our ecosystem model has impacted the whole school community. It has given us focus to achieve improved student outcomes across the school. With a clear focus on teacher learning and shared accountability we have celebrated much success. We used the learning from 3 Rivers for Learning - Ann McIntyre (innovation, inspiration and inquiry). We then developed 3 waterholes (leadership, collaboration and professional learning). The campfire was used to gain impact for every student, touch every classroom and ensure improvement for every teacher. Each part of our map was interconnected. We have built a culture where knowledge is constructed and where we use collective and continuous inquiry for ongoing learning.

Rooty Hill High School PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE

Over the last decade, Rooty Hill High School has designed, implemented and realised significant, evidence-informed improvements and innovations. It has been recognised in reviews, case studies, research, partnerships, leadership networks and publications for its strategic leadership and professional practice. This award acknowledges the importance of high-quality evidence informed professional leadership in sustaining the school's plans to demonstrate both best and next practice. The school's staff and staff

teams have demonstrated an ongoing capacity to design and evolve innovative, strategic projects that give students new opportunities and build confidence in the school's impact with students, parents, community, partners and the professional community.

Royal Prince Alfred Hospital School QUALITY HOSPITAL TEACHING AND LEARNING

The Royal Prince Alfred Hospital School is a small school with big ideas. Under the leadership of Principal Wendy Barwell, the team has transformed the educational provision to students during a short term hospital stay. The school has created sustainable systems of practice based on high expectations of all learners and staff. In particular, the RPA Hospital School has created online learning programs, data analysis systems and individualised learning plans for all students, which are reported to census schools, every lesson, every day. This impressive collaborative transformation has led to the strengthening of relationships with students, carers, NSW Health and local schools.

Sarah Redfern Public School EXCELLENCE IN WELLBEING AND ENGAGEMENT

All staff at Sarah Redfern Public School identified the importance of reconnecting with our students and community following the impact of COVID. Staff have been relentless in ensuring that our students are known, valued and cared for. Student and community wellbeing has been at the forefront of what we have been doing as a school. Strategic allocation of funds through our SIP has ensured that we have been able to provide a safe, supportive and engaging school, where staff have gone above and beyond to cater for the needs of students in our care, with outstanding results across the school.

Wallerawang Public School SUSTAINED GROWTH IN READING IMPROVEMENT

Wallerawang Public School provides an equitable and excellent education for students in a traditional coal mining and power generation village. Through creating a culture of high expectations where every FACE is known and owned, we have ensured shared responsibility and accountability for all our students. There has been a focused approach on student growth and attainment in reading, and as a result we continue to demonstrate improvement and growth through a data driven approach. The culture of the school is that every student is known, valued and cared for and collectively we can make a difference for all our students.

Public School Parent of the Year Award

RECIPIENT CITATIONS



Belinda Adams
CAMBRIDGE GARDENS PUBLIC SCHOOL

Belinda Adams is a most worthy recipient of recognition. Belinda shows drive and initiative for the benefit of our school community. She seeks solutions and advocates strongly for the needs of our students and school across our school community within the Department of Education and with those who have the capacity to solve issues. Belinda has been a long time member of our school P&C Executive, working closely with the school and understanding protocols and processes to run major and minor events. She works persistently with those who can make a difference, to make a difference. Belinda is a pleasure to work with and an asset to our school.



Rebecca Brown
NARADHAN PUBLIC SCHOOL

Rebecca Brown is an incredibly committed member of our school community. Her leadership as president of the P&C has encouraged significant positive increases in community and school engagement. We can always rely on her to get involved, get things done and provide support wherever and whenever it's needed. Rebecca doesn't volunteer for glory or recognition; she contributes because she knows the benefits to our school community and, most importantly, our students. She is brilliant at whatever she does, but humble and quick to credit others for their work and acknowledges team effort. Now it's time for Rebecca to shine.



Kristie Carter-Smith
ELDERSLIE HIGH SCHOOL



Kristie Carter-Smith has volunteered countless hours over the years to serve on the P&C via fundraising events, resulting in scholarships for students in need, and faculty and whole school resources. She initiated the school's use of Stymie, an anonymous reporting mechanism designed to provide an avenue for students to report bullying/wellbeing concerns. This is very popular with students and parents and alleviates anxiety created by a fear that a peer will learn that they have provided information. Kristie has also mentored other new members of the P&C and supported them to take on roles.



Nicole Hilder
TERRIGAL PUBLIC SCHOOL

Nicole Hilder has been an outstanding, dedicated and inspiring leader through her various roles on the Terrigal Public School P&C. She has provided quality input into school directions and goals, and has sought to be inclusive and listen to the voices of the school community. She has worked tirelessly to improve the facilities and resources available to enhance the learning environment for all students. Her energy and positivity is inspiring to others. She is a staunch supporter of, and advocate for public education and her tireless work and commitment to our school, over an extended period of time, make her a very worthy recipient of this award.



Su King
DELEGATE PUBLIC SCHOOL

Su King is the epitome of what the Public School Parent of the Year should be. Always doing her best to support our small school, regardless of whether decisions made have a positive effect on her own children or not. Su is a champion for ensuring all students never miss out on opportunities, and as such works tirelessly to fundraise to ensure equity for all. Su will be moving on at year's end, but her contribution for over seven years may not ever be matched.



Yvonne Liang
JAMES RUSE AGRICULTURAL HIGH SCHOOL

Since Yvonne Liang became P&C President in March 2022, she has had an unbelievable impact on our school community, most notably in terms of parent engagement and fundraising. Through her efforts we regularly get over 100 parents participating in our bitermly meetings; had 180 volunteers take part in the 2023 Multicultural Food Day; raising \$22,600 (\$12,000 in 2022) and sourced over 140 prizes for the 2022 annual raffle. However, it has been Yvonne's Herculean efforts to create a P&C canteen in response to the disappointing results of a canteen survey we ran in 2022, that have been truly outstanding.



Michelle Pearce
PICNIC POINT PUBLIC SCHOOL

Michelle Pearce has volunteered countless hours as the P&C President of Picnic Point Public School. She is dedicated to building the membership of the P&C in order to have a positive and profound impact on the students, staff and community. Michelle's work at the school has streamlined and improved every aspect of the P&C's responsibilities at the school from communicating and creating promotional material on the P&C's social media accounts to efficiently and effectively running the canteen, uniform shop and fundraising. The most impressive work was coordination of the three massive events to celebrate our 60th Anniversary. We can't thank Michelle enough for the outstanding contribution she has made to PPPS.



Sean Richardson
PETERSHAM PUBLIC SCHOOL

Sean Richardson epitomises the values of public education. He works with the school and parent body to meet common goals in order to achieve the highest possible social, emotional and academic outcomes for the students of Petersham Public School. Sean always demonstrates compassion and empowers members of the community to actively be involved in the school.



Lucy Sarto
NORTH SYDNEY PUBLIC SCHOOL

Lucy Sarto's commitment to our school make her the ideal recipient of this award. Lucy has been an integral part of our community for many years, actively engaging in various initiatives and tirelessly advocating for the betterment of our school. She has been a dedicated member of the P&C for a number of years, playing a pivotal role in organising fundraisers, coordinating events, promoting parent involvement and applying for various grants. She has spearheaded many initiatives which bring our school community together. Her ability to foster effective communication and build strong relationships has significantly enhanced the home-school partnership. Lucy's dedication, innovative initiatives and commitment have enhanced our school environment.



Kate Simpson
TUGGERAWONG PUBLIC SCHOOL

Kate Simpson is a long serving and dedicated member of the Tuggerawong P&C. Throughout her time here she has led the P&C to raise significant funds and secure grants to allow us to build a technology lab, and was also heavily involved in getting the on-site OOSH approved and operational. It is a pleasure to see Kate acknowledged for the valuable role she has played within our school community. Kate, your efforts are greatly appreciated!



Tam Vu
HARRINGTON STREET PUBLIC SCHOOL

Tam Vu is an exemplary role model and deserving recipient of the Parent of the Year Award. Since 2013, she has made exceptional contributions to the learning and wellbeing of Harrington Street children through dedicated volunteer work at the school. Tam's unwavering support for the school's strategic directions has strengthened family-school connections and promoted the values of public education. Within the P&C Association she holds various roles and consistently offers fantastic ideas, resulting in school-wide improvements and increased educational opportunities. Despite her demanding role as an emergency nurse, Tam actively participates in parent workshops, excursions, sport carnivals and fundraising activities, showcasing her unwavering commitment and dedication to the school community.

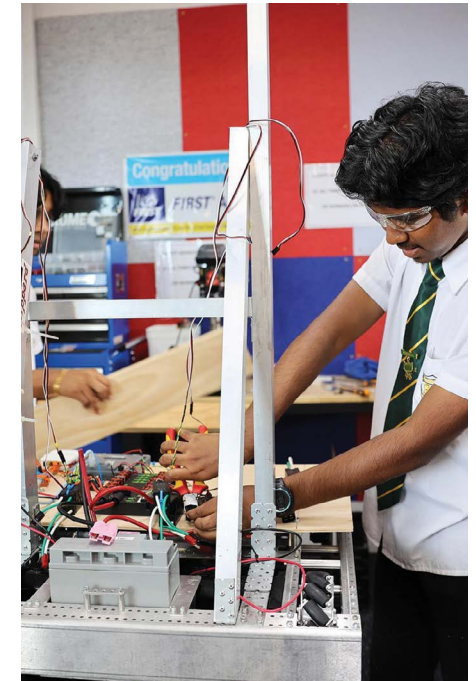


Stuart Wilkinson
FIGTREE HEIGHTS PUBLIC SCHOOL

As a long standing and highly active member of our school P&C, Stuart Wilkinson has supported, promoted and worked tirelessly for our school community. In his role as P&C President, he has most recently liaised with the relevant agencies to successfully have a pedestrian crossing installed for the safety of all, and secured grants through various foundations. Above all, Stuart builds a sense of community in all he does, extending even beyond our school through his work with our Out of School Hours before and after school care, servicing other local primary schools. He is a true asset to our school.



Elizabeth Macarthur High School



Granville Boys High School



WHAT WE DO

Support

students who face social and economic disadvantage to achieve their full potential through life-changing scholarships.

Provide

professional development opportunities to educators and school leaders to enable them to extend their leadership and teaching skills.

Enhance

the value and reputation of Australia's public schools, ensuring every Australian has access to a high-quality, inclusive education.

Investing in education

To support the vital role played by public education in ensuring fair, equitable and high-quality education for all, you can donate to the Public Education Foundation. Donations are tax deductible and can be made online at [givenow.com.au/publiceducationfoundation](https://www.givenow.com.au/publiceducationfoundation).

The Public Education Foundation brings together governments, schools, parents, students, individuals and corporate and philanthropic organisations who share a commitment to improving equity and excellence in education in Australia.

Find out how you can help students reach their full potential:
publiceducationfoundation.org.au.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Please look at our various **scholarship opportunities** on our website.

Our scholarships for Secondary students close on 12th September 2023 and for Primary students close on 19th September 2023.

All applications must be completed and submitted online.



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