

**CHAIR'S REPORT: SANTA CLARA SCHOOL
TUESDAY, 2 DECEMBER 2025
Luke Webster**

Good evening, everyone, and welcome to our Santa Clara School Annual Community Meeting. My name is Luke Webster, and along with my wife Kate we have Ollie in Year 2 and Charlee in Pre-Primary and are very proud to be part of the Santa Clara community.

As the Chairperson of the School Advisory Council, I am honoured to be here with you tonight to guide the ACM.

Before we go any further, can I invite Andrew forward to lead us in the Acknowledgement of Country.

1. Acknowledgement of Country: Andrew Gaudoin

Thanks Andrew. I'd also like to acknowledge that we meet tonight on Whadjuk Noongar Boodjar and recognise that education has been occurring on these lands for thousands of years. We are lucky at Santa Clara to be continuing education on this Country.

It's been another massive year and I acknowledge that the teaching staff have just finalised reports so I'll do my best to land this all within the hour.

2. Apologies

- Sharon Ang (SAC Secretary)
- Stacie Lawrence (P&F)
- Kim Barnett (P&F Secretary)

3. Accepting the meeting minutes from the 2024 ACM

Call for acceptance of the 2024 ACM minutes

4. Chairperson's report 2025

For those who aren't familiar, our School Advisory Council plays a vital role in creating a true spirit of partnership within our school community. The Council supports the principal and school leadership by bringing the voice of the community into Leadership's decision-making.

This year, we met twice a term, and, together, we worked on projects that supported the well-being and safety of our children while also helping ensure the school's financial health.

While Julie will cover much of this in more detail, I just briefly wanted to mention some of the highlights from 2025:

New look leadership team

With any change in leadership there comes change and growth. I want to acknowledge Julie, Andrew and Denise for their role in ensuring a smooth transition for the school community this year, with Julie stepping into the Principal role.

Our students and families experienced a very smooth start to 2025, so while things were changing behind the scenes, it is a testament to the leadership team that this year, our teaching staff have continued to be well supported and the welfare of our students has remained the core focus for the school.

Maintenance

On her arrival, Julie was presented with a few unexpected surprises, which included some of our historical architectural records being hard to locate, and a need to ensure the school was compliant from a Health and Safety perspective and certain building codes. This led to an unexpected focus upon capital elements of the school and increased planning for some large capital projects over the next few years, including the reconstruction of the main toilet block and the construction of a new Kindy building. Julie will explain further, but there has been much discussion this year about how to ensure Santa Clara continues to provide a safe and fun learning environment, while responsibly planning for capital projects on the horizon.

Father Richard and the Parish

In 2025, the school and leadership team have worked hard to strengthen the school relationship with Father Richard and the Santa Clara parish, and there have been great results with the school and Church working closer than ever to support students having access to Catholic sacraments, events and support. It has been great to have the parish well represented in our SAC meetings.

OSHC

This year, Tahlya and the OSHC team have undertaken a huge amount of work to ensure our OSHC remains compliant with changing government policy. This has been a massive piece of work for Tahlya in particular. Ensuring that our OSCH meets new governmental guidelines has been tricky and nuanced work. How lucky we all are to have such an amazing OSHC team working in partnership with our school to offer an extremely high quality and comparatively low-cost support to our school community.

Thank you Tahlya and all the amazing OSHC team for all that you do, we greatly appreciate it!!

Community based projects

I'm sure everyone here is well aware there is currently a lot happening around the Santa Clara campus!! You've likely experienced it while waiting in the car for school drop off or pick up or heard the noise if you live in the immediate area.

Development WA's (state government) new Heartwood development is occurring right on the doorstep of Santa Clara. The project is set to bring hundreds of new families to the area. Development WA held a range of consultations with the local community to develop a place plan for the new development, and it's been an honour to make sure Santa Clara has been factored into some of the government planning for our suburb and neighbourhood. It's also allowed the school to look forward to provisions for increasing our support for families in the area.

We have also been actively consulting with the City of Canning to improve school parking, to ensure that our students are safe near the roads, that our neighbours are happy and traffic can flow.

On top of this, there have been a number of local groups coming forward to offer the local community more support, particularly with many people struggling with cost-of-living issues, such as People Helping People.

Plus much more.

Thanks

Most importantly though, on behalf of the Santa Clara community, I want to offer a massive heartfelt thanks to all the amazing people here in the room:

- our passionate teachers and support staff,
- our talented canteen team led by Sonia Thiel,
- and our Directors of First Impressions in the front office—Suzanne Walker, Jacqueline Wilson, Michelle Kinsman, and Sonia Thiel.
- out-of-school care educators, canteen assistants, parent helpers, carers, and maintenance workers all playing a vital role in making this community thrive.

You can feel it when you step on campus that there is an incredible energy here at the school. It's visible in the smiles, the tireless energy you pour into everything here at Santa Clara, and in the high energy dance presentations at the Christmas party.

We have the privilege of being surrounded by educators who work tirelessly to create engaging learning environments and build meaningful partnerships with families, you are the true rock stars!

We know you are tired, and we truly appreciate all the love, care and focus you offer on our children.

A big thank you to Mai Yau, Michelle Kinsman, and our P&F Executive! On behalf of the Council and the whole school community, we're so grateful for your passion and dedication—not only for fundraising but also for “friend-raising” within our community.

Colour runs, discos, family events don't just happen without a passionate team of parents working with staff to make it awesome.

Making sure our community is connected and that together we play a role in supporting this amazing school is hugely important. So, a big thanks to all the P&F volunteers who offer their time and energy for everyone's benefit.

Michelle – a big thank you for the many, many years of service you've given through the P&F.

Lastly I want to thank the School Advisory Council members for their dedicated commitment throughout the year, Father Richard, Sharon Ang, Luke Webster, Nathan Jaskola, Mai Yau, Andrew Gaudoin and Denise Gretch. Your commitment of time and expertise to our community is appreciated.

Tonight, we say farewell to four of our School Advisory Council members:

- Renae King
- Sharon Ang
- Nathan Jaskola

Thank you also to Pyi Paing Aye Win and Wing-Yip Yau for their brief time on the SAC this year.

Nathan thank you for many years of service and support.

Sharon has done a phenomenal job working with the school on the financial side of things for the past X years. We are deeply appreciative of the time and attention she's given to make sure the school stays in a strong position.

Renae thank you for leading the School Advisory Council for the past few years and for your support for me to take on the role. We extend our heartfelt appreciation for your service and the countless hours you have devoted to enhancing the educational journey of our children at Santa Clara.

If you are interested in joining SAC or P&F

If you are interested in becoming part of the School Advisory Council, or the P&F we are always in need of more awesome parents and carers – so come have a word if you are.

Thank you all for another exceptional school year, and may you all have the most well deserved Christmas with family and summer break.

Thank you!