13 September 2024 - meeting 2:

**Ministerial Student Advisory Council**

**13 September 2024**

**Meanjin (Brisbane)**

**School Solutions to Vaping**

### **What Schools Are Doing Around:**

**Prevention**

* Vape detectors in toilets.
* Teacher supervision.

**Education**

* Focused wellbeing sessions in the curriculum.
* School assemblies.

**Consequences**

* Restorative conversations.
* Parents are contacted.
* Police intervention when necessary.
* Challenges: Vaping occurs outside of the school.

Harm Minimisation

* Nurses and GPs in schools.
* Guidance officers.
* Student leadership programs.
* Newsletters.
* Posters explaining the harm.
* Websites to help you quit.

There are various online resources for schools to use for Year 7-12

### **What Else Is Needed?**

* More education, more often—start early: Year 7.
* More practical/hands-on approach in curriculum learning
	+ SEE the problem, don’t just ‘hear’ it, e.g.,
		- A heart & health consequences
		- What’s in a vape
		- How to recognise addition
		- How to quit
* Provide **support & education** instead of focusing on punishment.
* Treat the cause → **STRESS teach stress management**
* Provide opportunities for kids who’ve disengaged.
* Awareness and education for parents → monitor spending.
* Detectors & scanning devices.

### **The Medium and The Messenger**

* **The Medium:**
	+ Social media.
		- Videos by people who have quit
		- Guest speakers
		- Raw and real presentations
		- Health consequences and support to quit
		- Hands-on engagement.
* **The Messenger:**
	+ Real-world experience:
		- Young people/uni students → sharing **Lived Experience.**
	+ People who are post addiction
	+ Sports people, musicians – impact on their capacity to perform
	+ Life after school focus.

### ****Parent/Carer & Community Engagement****

**The term parent refers to parents, carers, guardians and people who exercise parental responsibility for a child**

**Good Parent Communication**

* In-person & repeated digital reminders:
* Shared comms portals
* Parent-teacher interviews.
* Student achievement cards.
* Events calendar → updated weekly and easily accessible.
* OneSchool (platform/app).
* Social media.
* Newsletters
* Clear avenues to contact people at the school.

**What School Decisions Should Parents Be Consulted On?**

* Everything entailing additional expenses:
	+ Excursions.
	+ Sporting competitions.
	+ Uniforms.
* Parents and Citizens’ Association.
* Changes to school structure and infrastructure.
* Career paths and Uni offerings:
	+ Understanding career pathways.
	+ Subject offerings.
	+ How things are taught.
* Parental feedback should be sought on:
	+ Parent-student events.
	+ Public transport and parking.
	+ Uniforms.

### **Having Parents Involved in Your Learning Journey**

* Peace of mind for parents
* Planning **and support**—by being aware of upcoming events & assessment, they can:
	+ Support you with time management.
	+ Reassure you when you are stressed.
	+ Offer support instead of criticism.
	+ Build trust and open communication.

### **Schools Collaborating with Their Communities**

* Capstone projects + leveraging Alumni → **Meaningful, real-world work experience**
* Scholarships, apprenticeships, and certs.
* Open + transparent comms → inviting feedback.
* Engaging in community and Council events → Fundraisers.
* Connecting with Unis and Career expos.