

Advancing Partnerships

– Parent and community engagement in action

Bray Park State High School



Key theme: Students, teachers and parents learning together.

Achievements

- Increased student enrolments – up from 771 in 2014 to 871 in 2018
- Increased student attendance – up from 87.1% in 2013 to 91.1% in 2017
- Increased Indigenous student attendance – up from 79.7% in 2013 to 83.7% in 2017
- 100% of Year 12 students completing a QCE, VET, SAT or IBD¹ from 2013 to 2017
- Increased parent satisfaction – up from 89.7% in 2015 to 91.2% in 2017.

Strategies

- Traditional ways of involving parents (e.g. awards nights, parent-teacher interviews) are combined with new ideas such as celebration assemblies and parent workshops.
- Carefully selected and multiple communication channels with parents, including whole-school and individual emails, phone calls, Facebook and Twitter, and a fortnightly filmed Principal's blog. Emails advise parents about when assessment is due – allowing them to support their children's learning. Phone calls are often used to convey positive messages. Social media showcases students' work and activities within the school. Parents have indicated that the Principal's blog is more engaging than a traditional newsletter.
- Learning partnerships with parents – allowing parents to see how they can assist student learning. The school is educating parents about the Pedagogies for Deep Learning and you can see the benefits of this parent knowledge within the school.
- There is a focus on building collaborative relationships with parents of Year 7 students.
- In 2017 and 2018, the school trialled student-led conferencing with parents. Students identified their learning goals, aspirations and targets and then presented these to their parents during 20-minute conferences. The school received overwhelmingly positive feedback, with 92% of parents reporting that it helped them engage in their child's learning and that they had learnt something to support their child.
- Student representatives attend School Council and P&C meetings. Parents appreciate this student input.
- Students volunteer in the community, for example, with an aged care facility and the Wesley Mission. Through volunteering, students are getting to know their community and how they can contribute.

¹ Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE), School-based Apprenticeship or Traineeship (SAT), Vocational Education and Training qualification (VET) or International Baccalaureate Diploma (IBD)

Data contained in this case study is current as at Semester 1, 2018.



LOCATION
Brisbane

REGION
North Coast

SCHOOL TYPE
Metropolitan Secondary

STUDENT ENROLMENTS

871

INDIGENOUS ENROLMENT

7.1%



STUDENTS WITH DISABILITY ENROLMENT

7.3%

INDEX OF COMMUNITY SOCIO-EDUCATIONAL ADVANTAGE (ICSEA)

986



Advancing Partnerships – Parent and Community Engagement Framework



Queensland Government