

Yanchep Rise Primary School

2023 School Board Chair Report

Kaya kwoop keedela noonakoort, nunge koort-warra djinnang keedela, nunge koort mooditch djiripin keedela, nunge bullakin Yanget Yirrabiny Board Birrdiya.

Hello and good morning everyone, my heart is a little sad today as well as being super happy as I leave the Chair position of Yanchep Rise PS. Please allow me to explain a little about these quite different feelings.

It has been my pleasure to have served as the inaugural school board chair for our school, a role that I've thoroughly enjoyed over the last 3 years of operating. From our early days as a Parent's reference group, through to a more formal school board, we, as a diverse Board, have been able to assist our school leaders and staff to provide a better experience for our children.

2023 has been another big year of growth for Yanchep Rise as we have more families coming into our community, bringing more students, and requiring more teachers and other staff to help keep our school functioning with this growth. It hasn't always been an easy task and our school leaders have had to be wise and thoughtful in how they set about achieving our goals, needs and wants, and I would hope that as a Board, the advice and thoughtful consideration on topics has been of assistance in this regard; for example ideas around the HUB and connections with the Telethon Kids Institute's Moort Danjoo Kaadadjiny project team, various policies and guidelines either being developed or reviewed, funding streams and sources, and feeding in to performance review of Ms Demiris (which felt like it would be a never ending process...)

And when we have the right conditions that are developed and nurtured, including reflecting upon and adjusting for changes in best practice, our teaching staff are able to help guide our children in the earliest stages of, hopefully, the lifelong learning journey (yes, you should keep learning as you grow older, though it may be in different ways as you become adults). To this end, as a Board we were able to share in the wonderful results that our school community has been able to achieve as various initiatives and programs have been able to assist our children, and Board would like to acknowledge our staff for these outcomes, Thank you all.

As I made mention last year, in order for our school board to be as effective as possible, it's important to have representatives with many different talents, backgrounds and experiences. Each member of our School Board makes a valuable contribution to the School and I thank them for all for their hard work throughout the year, and in particular Fiona and Rose for your many years of service (especially Rose, as we've been on this journey together from the start). On behalf of the School Board, I would also like to acknowledge the many parents and carers who have volunteered their time to help in classrooms, school events, and on the P&C, and yes Jo, I did indicate that you could have my support for 2024. All are a testament to the wonderful community that has grown around our children and embracing our RISER values. I would encourage you ALL to not only consider stepping forward for a role on the School Board or the P&C BUT to take the plunge and actually nominate. What better way to be a role model for your children in demonstrating and sharing your knowledge and skills to help build a better community of which they're a part.

So it is with a bit of sadness that I step back from the role of Board chair, but I do so reflecting on my beginning conversations with Helen, where in accepting the role I also gave her my exit plan of stepping back after 3 years to allow for the supported growth opportunity for the next Chair while I remain a board member to assist.

The really HAPPY part of this decision is the timing. I never thought that 3 years ago as one Barrow would be taking a step back another Barrow would be taking a step forward to help lead their student body. Many a time I've heard, 'shhh Dad!' combined with the side eye, or 'sit down Dad, I've got this' etc etc, clearly the time is right for me sit down and become a little quieter (not quite shhh yet) Lawson, your mum and I are super proud of you and will always be there to support you on your lifelong learning journey and I'm super fortunate as the current Board Chair to be able to congratulate you on becoming one half of what is set to be an awesome Head Student combination with Vatarlie for 2024, congratulations to you both.

Boordawan / Until we next meet,

Jason Barrow

Yanchep Rise PS

School Board Chair