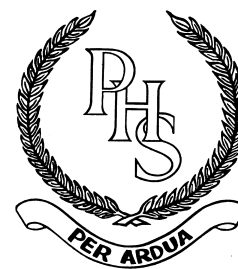


National Partnerships News Prairiewood High School

Locked Bag 46 Wetherill Park BC NSW 2164

No. 1: February 2010



NATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

Prairiewood High School was successful in receiving a funding of \$4 million over four years. The funding is allocated per semester based on progress made on improving results in NAPLAN, School Certificate and Higher School Certificate. The primary focus of this funding is literacy and numeracy.

The focus for 2010 :

- Analysing and interpreting data (Smart data and NAPLAN results)
- Testing students and reporting on identified weaknesses
- Implementing strategies which focus on specific needs
- Developing an improved whole school approach to literacy and numeracy
- Creating specific teams to drive the implementation process
- Developing leadership opportunities for students
- Collaborating with the primary schools to develop literacy, numeracy and gifted and talented opportunities
- Facilitating professional learning opportunities for staff both high school and primary school

What we have achieved so far ...

- Literacy, reading and comprehension testing of all year 8 students
- Employment of two additional full time learning support teachers – S Carballo and M Rubbi
- Nine teachers to tutor at the after school learning support centre to be held on two afternoons in the school library
- Elevate education – senior study skills seminar held in week 6 for year 12
- Funding provided for two teachers from Horsley Park primary school to be fully trained in *Habits of the Mind*
- First round of Low SES team meetings held in week 5
- Positive response from partner primary school principals to work with Prairiewood staff and students over the next four years

Primary Schools Meeting

A meeting was held at Prairiewood High School Thursday 11th February with the principals of Prairievale PS, William Stimson PS, Horsley Park PS, Smithfield West PS and John Pickering to discuss National Partnerships.

The aim of this meeting was to outline the program and to invite the principals to participate in this program with Prairiewood High School. The funding received will allow for a number of activities to occur with year 5 & 6 students in particular and students from Prairiewood High School.

This was acknowledged as a wonderful opportunity for leadership building, transition experiences, gifted and talented activities.

The funding will also extend to support primary staff with professional development opportunities with Prairiewood High School.

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2010 ... still to come ...

Appointment of new staff

- **Head Teacher Teaching and Learning** whose initial primary responsibility will be the review and development of all Teaching and Learning programs across the whole school
- **Two Community Engagement Officers, Aboriginal & Assyrian** – two days a week TBA next week
- **Additional ESL support** – there will be an additional teacher . If you know of any person who has ESL teaching accreditation, please speak to J Pickering or T Gandlgruber ASAP
- **Additional Learning Support** – an after school Learning Support Centre will operate on Monday and Thursday afternoons commencing 8th March. Students attending will have targeted support program in the areas of literacy and numeracy as well as assistance in the completion of set tasks. There will be 6 tutors available each afternoon.

School teams

There is still room if you have an interest in one of these areas. If you are unsure of what contributions you can make or what is involved, speak to the person in charge of the team.

Literacy – M Rodic , Team Leader

Numeracy – S Perks, Team Leader

Gifted & Talented – D Smith, Team Leader

ICT – R Benetel , Team Leader

Careers/Transition – J Pickering, Team Leader

Professional Learning – J Conroy, Team Leader

Proposals for consideration...

Smart Data & RAP Analysis:

- All staff able to understand & interpret this data.
- KLAs to specifically target areas of student weakness in literacy & numeracy in their teaching & learning programs

Literacy Plan:

- Investigation of resources to improve outcomes of middle range students
- Identification of student weaknesses in reading and comprehension through testing & data analysis
- Increased learning support

Numeracy Plan:

- Identification of student weaknesses in numeracy through data analysis
- Numeracy resource booklet and specific times set to highlight importance of this tool
- Increased learning support

2010 ... still to come ...

Term 1

- Premier Reading Challenge
- Full staff presentation by N Liberatore relating to NAPLAN results for Prairiewood HS students, 9th March
- GAT testing (Prairiewood HS year 8) Friday 12th March
- SMART data interpretation and software training session, 16th March with Maria Serafim, CEO - Data

Term 2

- Numeracy Challenge (Prairiewood HS & primary schools)
- Tournament of the Minds (Prairiewood HS & primary schools)

Term 3

- Going Potty (Prairiewood & William Stimson PS)

Term 4

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