

2020 a different year.

Beverley District High school is thriving in the Independent Public School model after four years in the structure. The school is an exciting place to be with a great new school plan for 2020-2022. A large focus has been the introduction of the STEAM programme, both students and staff have shown abundant enthusiasm. The delivery and eagerness of students has been extremely positive and is proving a popular learning programme.

Early in Term one, a strategic 3-year grounds plan was developed to focus on a staged plan for our unused oval due to its poor condition. The state of the oval continues to be a common issue raised to the board by both parents and students. Returning the oval to a safe surface for Physical education and recreation time is a priority for the Board and school. There are several issues to address in the recovery of the surface along with securing sufficient funding, this process is likely to be quite lengthy.

Term One was cruising along when Covid-19 struck. The weeks to follow were uncertain and scary with rapidly changing scenarios facing the school daily. BDHS staff must be commended on the quick decisions made for students' safety and learning. The school proved to be innovative leaders in decision making during the shutdown period where upon release of directives from the Education Department, were often protocols that BDHS had activated days prior to the mandates.

During the holiday break our staff worked tirelessly to develop a program to deliver education to all students in a non-contact environment. Fortunately, we did not have to use this program as we returned to classroom teaching in term two. The BDHS planned response to the pandemic has been utilised by the Education Department to form procedure policy if a second wave should occur. The regional director, Mr Neil Darby commended the staff at Beverley for their rapid and well-planned strategies during shutdown. This further validates our beliefs that our school, delivers high education outcomes in a caring and safe environment.

The school year would now look very different moving into a modified plan for extracurricular activities and events with many school activities cancelled due to COVID-19 rules. However different the school still delivered education to all students at a high level. The whole community adjusted and adapted well, including the Board with Board meetings continued using online Zoom meetings.

At the end of term two Principal Ben Ratz, left Beverley to take a permanent Principals role in Collie. Ben was instrumental, along with staff, in developing our current business plan. Ben developed a great culture and enthusiasm in his 11 months at Beverley. Mr Adrian Lister was appointed Principal for the remaining 6 months of 2020. In such a challenging year of education both Principals have handled the circumstances extremely well and we have been fortunate for their endeavour to progress BDHS in such a professional manner.

After some relaxing of COVID-19 rules our student leaders Dale Byron and Olivia Lucas attended a board meeting. Having the student's ideas and opinions at a meeting is valuable to the Board in gaining feedback on educational strengths and weaknesses. The oval condition was a common theme along with some great suggestions to have more contact with other students from neighbouring schools. These great ideas along with other suggestions have instigated changes to programmes. Having students enjoy and feel heard will make BDHS their school of choice.

Term four is an extremely busy time with excursions, carnivals, camps and other extracurricular outings that were all cancelled early in the year. This makes for a very full Term 4. BDHS has

endeavoured to make 2020 as normal as possible to all year groups by not cancelling activities just rescheduling them.

The School Board say goodbye to two parent representative board members, thank you to Mike Fairclough and Lisa Blanch for their contribution during their time on the board. We also thank Simon Marshall for his contribution as a community representative. They all have represented the school in an ethical and productive manner.

The board encourage the school community to contribute to the board through voicing any concerns or gratifications so that we can continue to provide a high quality education to the children at Beverley. We wish you all a safe and happy Christmas and Summer and look forward to seeing everyone back for another successful year next year!

Damien Murray

School Board Chair