

Chair Report for AGM 2018

David Stockdale - Chairperson for the Board of Directors of Golden Hill Steiner School

“Our highest endeavour must be to develop free human beings who are able of themselves to impart purpose and direction to their lives. The need for imagination, a sense of truth, and a feeling of responsibility—these three forces are the very nerve of education.”

— Rudolf Steiner

Thankyou and welcome to all for making the effort to attend our AGM for 2018.

Thankyou Tegan and other staff for the preparation and set up of our shared afternoon tea and formalities for this AGM.

I would like to thank our fellow Board members for their individual and combined efforts throughout the year. I would especially like to thank their families for the support and patience they give that really goes toward helping all of us when we meet regularly, spontaneously, in confidence or even in the car park. We have been blessed with our new Board members Lydia Kenyon and Gillian Malata. We said goodbye to Kaye Holochek this year and were very grateful to Gillian who stepped up to fill Kayes position on the finance committee. Today we are also saying goodbye to Zdenka Underwood who has been on the Board for over 3 years now. We wish you all the best Zdenka and hope you will still be a happy face here at school events.

Thanks to Jacqui, Denise and all staff for their ongoing commitment to the students, the school and their own personal development. Also thankyou to Jacqui and Tegan for all your support to us, the Board, at all times throughout the year.

This last year has been tremendous for GHSS. Firstly, we have had a principal for the whole 12 months. The appointment of Jacqui Hamblin as Principal has proven time and again to be an outstanding choice for the school and all involved. Bruce Lee and Jennifer Byrne from the Perth Waldorf School visited early in Jacquis appointment and helped Jacqui and staff for a couple of days with communication, understanding curriculum, Steiner school management and leadership.

Since then, and with the full support of the Board, Jacqui and all staff have immersed themselves in Professional Development workshops and courses whenever the opportunity arises. The results are seen everywhere in the school. Student numbers are strong, finances are balanced, staff enthusiasm and attendance is high (I have seen myself how full and chatty the staff room is these days), the wider community are very interested and responsive to GHSS and we have many applicants for any position advertised.

Board and/or staff have had visitors like John Hoskin to guide us with our Ten Year Development Planning Project, Lachlan Shaw to help us understand finance, Valerie Gould from AISWA for light on understanding Governance, Lisa Romero for students, parents and teachers...and many others who support and help us each and every year.

Our newly created Board Calendar this year has helped us focus month to month on jobs we need to have completed as well as the work we wish to implement. Review of our Policies and Procedures is

a continual and time consuming task. I thank all Board members and staff for every effort in keeping up to date with this.

Our policies and procedures help us to clearly run the school as well as direct all enquiries and issues that arise. This year has seen a significant decrease in debt to the school due to us reviewing and following through on fee collection procedures. Thankyou to staff for the patience and sensitive communication in resolving these issues and thankyou to the parents and wider community for taking positive action toward resolution and help. It has been a great outcome for the stability and welfare of the school.

We have also been working on our Strategic Plan, School Improvement Plan and Pay Parity for all staff, implementation of our 10yr Plan for growth into an upper school...as well as IT improvements, work on our website, working toward being recognised as a Climate Change School

The last 12 months have also seen the traffic lights in front of the school up and running, trees removed respectfully, CGA loan approval for our proposed Administration block extensions, the Board Directors posting their profiles in the Quill, many happy Busy Bee days, Kristy McMullen workshop on Recycling and Reuse and the biggest of all – the work on our School Re-Registration. Our School Re-Registration is due this year and it is a very big task. Thankyou to Jacqui, Tegan, Staff and Board for all your help and/or support.

GHSS looks forward this year to our Spring Fair and the 30th year celebrations. It has been a long and adventurous journey for Golden Hill Steiner School since 1988. We thank everyone who has ever been involved in this school in any way whatsoever as you have all contributed to where GHSS is right now and where it will be in the future...please always remember that you are woven into the very fabric that wraps around the buildings, the lessons, the students and the ideals of Golden Hill Steiner School.

Yours Sincerely



David Stockdale

Chair, Board of Directors, Golden Hill Steiner School.

14/05/2017

“By seeking and blundering we learn.”

— Johann Wolfgang von Goethe