



WILLETTON SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL BOARD

2020 BOARD CHAIR ANNUAL REPORT presented to the 2021 APM

2020 has been a year like no other. The Board sincerely thanks all the teachers and support staff for the tenacity and sacrifices that have been made to ensure our students continue to have the best learning outcome in this very challenging year. Teachers and staff worked together to foster an environment where students' well-being and sense of social responsibility are celebrated as much as their academic achievements.

In 2020, we witnessed one of our teachers, Mr Darren Hamley winning the Prime Minister's Prize for Excellence in Science Teaching in Secondary School. Mr Hamley carries with him such a passion for imparting the love for Science to the students. This is evidenced in his solar car project, robotic telescope, successfully growing the Western Australian Christmas trees (*Nuytsia floribunda*) and near-extinct Wollemi Pine seedlings in his greenhouse nursery. Willetton SHS is fortunate to have many teachers like him, who are passionate about teaching and education.

This year, the Board continues to support the achievement of the school 2020 Business Plan to maximise academic and non-academic student learning outcomes. Since 2015, our school has consistently performed well above the average of like schools in all assessments for Year 7 and Year 9 NAPLAN. For 2020 WACE, our school attained achievement of 99.5 per cent, which was higher than the Business Plan improvement target of 98 per cent. We achieved a median ATAR of 87.75 per cent, which is within the like school range and was the top four highest ranked public school in WA. Our VET Year 12 performance in 2020 achieved a 99.17 per cent successful completion rate across all enrolments.

Furthermore, special thanks to all the Board members, staff, community and parent representatives for their valuable service and contribution to the Board. I am also grateful to Helen Wong and Sam Newman, our Executive Officers, who both work tirelessly to make sure the Board functions seamlessly. Likewise, thank you to all our volunteers who sacrifice their precious time to help run the second-hand uniform shop, bookshop and the Willo Parent Group.

In addition, this year marked a key milestone as the Board launched the very first Alumni newsletter and in September, held the inaugural Alumni network social event. We saw many ex-students coming back to reminisce their time at the school and met with the new Principal. Many of the Alumni expressed an interest in mentoring, and provide work experience placements for our students.

Finally, congratulations to all the students who have successfully made it through 2020. It has truly been a challenging and unique year, but you have risen to the challenge and I applaud you for tenacity you have put in. So step into the new year with confidence knowing that you have it in you to excel and to overcome whatever hurdles that may come your way.

Mr John Yeo
Board Chair