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Principal's foreword

Introduction

This report contains information about our school's progress towards the stated goals in the 2008 Annual Operational Plan. Throughout 2008 our promotional slogan was 'Nyanda the next Decade... After ten years of operation the school is facing some major challenges. In 2008 we set ourselves some big goals. The most important being, improving the educational outcomes of all students. Our Senior Schooling Team worked hard to ensure we realized our goal, that no student would exit Nyanda without a QCE, an OP or a VET Certificate. The year 12 students of 2008 were the first student group to work towards and receive a Queensland Certificate of Education. We are proud of our Year 12 results in 2008 and they are detailed later in the report. Another major challenge facing our school community is a declining enrolment. A major focus of our work in 2008 was building and supporting a school culture that is positive and respectful. The School Wide Positive Behaviour Program continued to be implemented throughout our school community. This work is ongoing and the team is being expanded in 2009 to include all year coordinators. The QCAR framework provided a long waited for systemic structure in which to place our curriculum and teaching and learning reforms. Again this work is ongoing, with 2008 seeing audits of our KLA's to ensure that the essential learnings and essential standards were well aligned in our Middle Phase (8-10) years.

Future outlook

National testing in Literacy and Numeracy in year 9 will continue to shape the way we structure our curriculum in years 8-9. 2008 was the first year of these tests and we have been able to implement a more rigorous test preparedness program in 2009 in response to our experiences of the new testing regime. In 2009 our students were well prepared and confident as they participated in the tests. We are hopeful that our NAPLAN results in 2009 will reflect this preparedness and confidence.

While we were proud of our year 12 achievements in 2008 we are well positioned in 2009 to ensure that all our Year 12 students leave Nyanda with a QCE, an OP or a Vet Certificate. Learning throughout the school, but in particular in the Senior years, is becoming more personalised. Our Senior Schooling Team is constantly monitoring the progress of students and providing counselling and suggesting adjustments to student's programs' in order to ensure success. 2009 will see a complete review our senior curriculum to ensure that we are providing the best possible subjects and courses for our students.

Work with our feeder primary schools will continue to develop in 2009 as we provide extension programs in Maths, Science and the Arts. We are hopeful that this work, combined with a more strategic marketing plan in 2009 will see an increase in our enrolment in 2010.

Our school at a glance

School Profile

Total student enrolments for this school 418

Year levels offered 8-12

Coeducational or single sex Co-educational

Curriculum offerings

Our distinctive curriculum offerings

In Years 8-10

- Our School curriculum is based on the eight key learning areas.
- In year 8 students can self select to be part of a Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics class of excellence.
- Physical Education is a compulsory subject for all students in years 8-10.
- SOSE, including the study of Australian History is compulsory for all students in years 8-10.
- Our Language Other Than English (LOTE) is Japanese.
- All students in years 8-10 participate in three literacy lessons per week based on their literacy ability level.
- All students in year 8 rotate through all the available elective subjects of Music, Art, Drama, Hospitality, Manual Arts and ICT.
- Students in years 8-9 who are below national benchmarks in literacy and numeracy receive intensive support to assist in improving outcomes in these key learning areas.
- In years 11-12 students have a wide choice of Authority and Authority registered subjects.
- International students can choose to do Chinese as an Authority registered subject.
- All students initially select six subjects in total but are able to negotiate participation in School Based Apprenticeships or Traineeships which may then take the place of one or more of these subjects.
- The School is a RTO with current registration to offer: Certificate 1 in ICT; Certificate 1 & 11 in Business, Certificate 1 in Furnishing, Certificate 1 in Work Education: Certificate 11 in Workplace Practices, Certificate 1 in Hospitality (Operations)

Extra curricula activities

- Instrumental music program, Jazz Band and Percussion Band.
- Rugby Union Development Program.
- School choir and School Musical.
- Student Council and Leadership program.
- Polynesian Dance Troupe.
- School Year Book
- School Chaplaincy program and activities.
- Social and Emotional Learning programs.

How computers are used to assist learning

The school has five learning spaces dedicated as computer labs and there are also a number of computer pods situated throughout the school. The Music Department has a recording studio and in 2008 data projectors continued to be rolled out into as many learning spaces as possible. An additional three Interactive Whiteboards were

Our school at a glance

purchased. At the end of 2008 the school was MOED and One School was introduced. The Laptops for teachers program will be implemented in term three of 2009 with all staff being supported and encouraged to achieve their ICT Smart Classrooms Certificate in 2009.

Social climate

Nyanda State High School draws its students from a diverse range of socio economic backgrounds and over 30% of students entering year 8 have not achieved national benchmarks in Literacy or Numeracy in Year 7. The school has a significant transient population of over 30% and this group of transient students often have significant learning needs and challenging behaviours. Nyanda has a growing refugee student population who are well supported and integrated within the school community. International students have grown by over 50% in the past two years. In 2009 Nyanda will have 23 fee paying international students. Many of these students are highly motivated academically and keep our academic subjects viable and competitive. Nyanda remains a small school with a friendly, supportive and multi cultural school climate.

- In 2008 students reported an increase in satisfaction with the behaviour of students at Nyanda
- Parents who were satisfied that Nyanda is a good school increased from 65% in 2007 to 83% in 2008.
- Levels of satisfaction of both parents and students on matters relating to school climate (e.g student behaviour and safety) were higher than those experienced in like schools and across the state.
- Students are supported by year level co-ordinators and meet as a year group four morning per week.
- Student health and welfare is monitored and supported by the Welfare Services Team. The team comprises the Guidance Officer, School Based Nurse, School Chaplain, Community Education Counsellor, and the International Home Stay co-ordinator.
- The YMCA has continued to fund and provide personnel for the operation of the Mentor Program. Between 15-20 socially at risk students meet with community mentors who support and assist them through a Social and Emotional Learning Program.
- The School Wide Positive Behaviour Support Team promotes a positive approach to behaviour support throughout the school community.

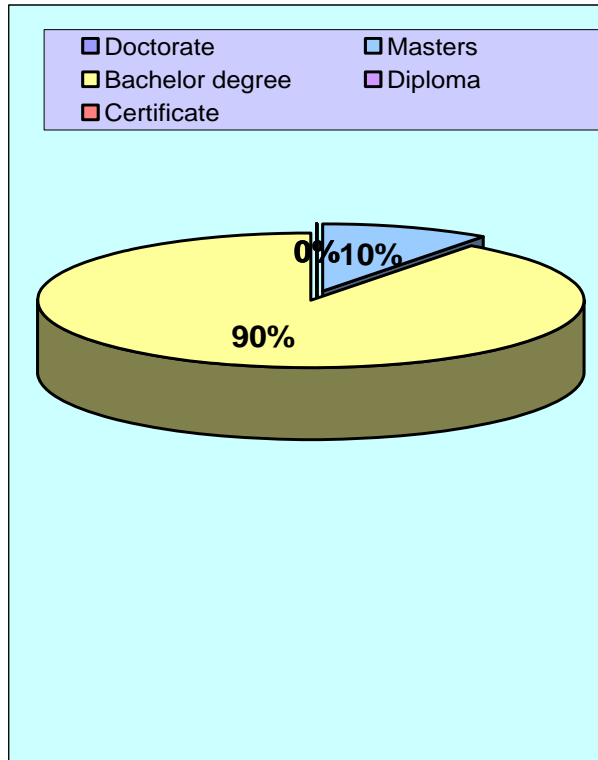
Involving parents in their child's education.

Nyanda High School struggles to attract parents to become involved in their child's education. In 2008 Nyanda has updated its Website and is producing a monthly newsletter which is being electronically sent to over 1/3rd of the parent population. This newsletter is a major way the school keeps parents informed of important information. Parent-teacher interviews are conducted mid Semester One and the start of Semester Two. These opportunities are not well supported by parents. The Truancy Call System alerts parents on a daily basis to unexplained student absences. Parents are contacted when and if their student fails to submit assignment work and are continually encouraged to contact the school if their student needs assistance or support. There is a strong willingness on the part of parents generally, to attend school with their student should there be a need to discuss behaviour support or other issues. Nyanda has a small but committed P&C committee who do all they can to involve more parents in their work.

Our staff profile

Qualifications of all teachers.

Highest level of attainment	Number of classroom teachers and school leaders at the school
Doctorate	0
Masters	10
Bachelor degree	90
Diploma	0
Certificate	0



Expenditure on and teacher participation in professional development.

- The total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2008 was **\$37,300**.
- The major professional development initiatives are as follows: Certificate 1V in Workplace Training and Assessment. Queensland Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Framework. Industry training to support VET Education.
- The involvement of the teaching staff in professional development activities during 2008 was **93%**.

Average staff attendance

- For permanent and temporary staff and school leaders the staff attendance rate was **96%** in 2008.

Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year.

- From the end of the 2007 school year, **93%** of staff were retained by the school for the entire 2008 school year.

Performance of our students

Student attendance

The average attendance rate as a percentage in 2008 was **86 %**.

Key outcomes

National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) results - our reading, writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation, and numeracy results for the Years 9.

Domain	Measures	Yr 9
Reading	Average score for the school	520
	Average score for Queensland	568.2
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008 81%
Writing	Average score for the school	524
	Average score for Queensland	555.3
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008 79.%
Spelling	Average score for the school	528
	Average score for Queensland	567.8
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008 73%
Grammar and Punctuation	Average score for the school	512
	Average score for Queensland	563.2
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008 66%
Numeracy	Average score for the school	524
	Average score for Queensland	570.7
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008 75.0 %

Apparent retention rates Year 10 to Year 12.

Year 12 student enrolment as a percentage of the Year 10 student cohort.

68 %

Performance of our students

Outcomes for our Year 12 cohort of 2008

Number of students awarded a Senior Statement.	61
Number of students awarded a Queensland Certificate Individual Achievement (QCIA).	2
Number of students awarded a Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) at the end of Year 12.	39
Number of students awarded an International Baccalaureate Diploma (IBD).	0
Number of students awarded one or more Vocational Education and Training (VET) qualifications.	30
Number of students who are completing or completed a School-based Apprenticeship or Traineeship (SAT).	5
Number of students receiving an Overall Position (OP).	30
Percentage of OP/ IBD eligible students with OP 1-15 or an IBD.	37 %
Percentage of Year 12 students who are completing or completed a SAT or were awarded one or more of the following: QCE, IBD, VET qualification.	79 %
Percentage of Queensland Tertiary Admissions Centre (QTAC) applicants receiving a tertiary offer.	100 %

Post-school destination information

At the time of publishing this School Annual Report, the results of the 2008 Year 12 post-school destinations survey, Next Step – Student Destination Report for the school were not available. Information about these post-school destinations of our students will be incorporated into this Report in September.

Value added

- **Two** Nyanda students achieved an **OP 1** in 2008. Sam Horn was awarded a Deans Scholarship in the accelerated program in IT at the Queensland University of Technology and Holly Mil was awarded an Economics Scholarship at the University of Queensland.
- **100%** of students who applied to a Tertiary Institute were offered a place.
- **66%** of year 12 students received a Queensland Certificate of Education.
- **90.5%** of Year 12 students exited Nyanda with one or more of the following, a School Based Traineeship, A Queensland Certificate of Education A Queensland Certificate of Individual Attainment or a Vocational and Education Training Certificate.
- **International student enrolment** has grown by over 100% in the past two years.
- **A Rugby Union Development Program** involving boys in years 10-12 begun in 2008 with the boys involved achieving amazing successes in their early competition games.

Parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school

- Staff morale has increased from 46% in 2006 to 59% in 2008 .
- Parent satisfaction that Nyanda is a good school has increased from 73% in 2005 to 83% in 2008.

Performance of our students

- Percentage of students who believe they are getting a good education at Nyanda has increased from 44% in 2004 to 54% in 2008. This is below the State mean for satisfaction but comparable with like schools.