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Principal's foreword

Introduction

Welcome to the 2008 Deception Bay "the Best in the Bay" State School Annual Report. This report outlines the many significant achievements celebrated throughout the 2008 school year and also details our very strong commitment to the provision of a quality education and a supportive school environment where all students are encouraged to maximize their potential. The 2008 school year witnessed many highlights at our school, some of which included:

- 1) Upward trends in Literacy and Numeracy in all Year levels;
- 2) The rewriting of the school's English and Maths programs;
- 3) The design and implementation of a quality Early Intervention Program for PREP and Year 1 students which led to a significant improvement in Literacy and Numeracy outcomes for all identified students;
- 4) Significant improvements in Staff, Student and Parent SOS results in all areas.
- 5) The ongoing development and refinement of SWPBS within the school leading to improved student engagement and positive behaviour choices.
- 6) Significant improvement in the development of productive partnerships with community organizations for school support –KIDS HOPE Mentors, Over 60's volunteers for Literacy and Numeracy Support, Deception Bay Neighbourhood Centre liaison, ...
- 7) The development of an "Early Years" partnership with Lady Gowrie for the provision of universal services for Children (0-8years) and their parents.
- 8) The amazing dedication and commitment of each and every staff member as they strove to provide the very best for each and every student.

For further highlights of the 2008 school year, please connect to our website, www.decebayss.qld.edu.au, call us on (07) 38972444 or pop in and visit us at school.

Warm Regards

Lorna Cogle

PRINCIPAL

Future outlook

The future outlook of Deception Bay State School will always focus on maximising the life opportunities for our students. We will resolutely focus on Literacy and Numeracy and the embedding of ICTs throughout the curriculum. While we acknowledge the “disadvantage” of our school community, we believe we are making significant inroads in addressing basic learning needs through the quality teaching and the redesign of our Intervention Program. We gratefully acknowledge the additional support from Sunshine Coast Regional Office in the provision of additional FTE in the addressal for student learning needs.

In the 2009 school year we will:

- 1) Improve student performance in Literacy and Numeracy;
- 2) Continue to refine school work programs and practice in accordance with QCAR;
- 3) Develop a sustainable breakfast/lunch program for students in need;
- 4) Further develop sustainable partnerships with local business and community organisations;
- 5) Commit to a whole of school “SMART MOVES” Program;
- 6) Commit to the development of the Deception Bay State School Concert Band.
- 7) Commit to the ongoing refinement and success of our School Wide Positive Behaviour Support (SWPBS) processes;
- 8) Commit to efficient and effective Employee Health and WellBeing Programs for staff
- 9) Actively promote a Facilities Upgrade to our school; and
- 10) Conduct an authentic Triennial School Review, inviting all school community to “have a say” and develop a School Strategic Plan to best address the needs of our students and the school community for the coming three years.

Our school at a glance

School Profile

Total student enrolments for this school	300
Year levels offered	PREP – Year 7
Coeducational or single sex	Co-educational

Curriculum offerings

The curriculum of Deception Bay State School focuses on the whole child, with a strong emphasis on preparing our students to be literate and numerate, ICT capable and able to maximise their life's opportunities. Specific offerings include:

- The Reading Programs – “Accelerated Reader” and “CARS and STARS”
- Early Intervention Program
- Oracy programs
- A Life Skills Program
- SWPBS
- KIDS HOPE Mentoring

Extra curricula activities

- Instrumental Music
- Interschool Sport
- Peer Mentoring

How computers are used to assist learning?

Computers are crucial to learning at Deception Bay State School. In addition to classroom computers (4 in each classroom), students access two computer labs to further their learning and skill development of computers and computer programs; and also to use as an integral tool in all curriculum areas.

We have determined that many of our students are unable to access computers in the home setting and are most committed to not only providing access to computers but also to an array of computer programs to assist academic and social learning.

In the Early Phase, students accessed computer programs to further enhance classroom learnings, specifically literacy and numeracy. In Year 2 and Year 3, students also wrote and presented reports and advertisements using Powerpoint.

In the Middle Phase, students continued to develop their skills, emailing, using Quiktype and learning more of Word. Computers were also used as a key strategy in the school's Reading Program using Accelerated Reader to further develop comprehension skills. The Internet was used extensively to support student research and inquiry skills.

Our school at a glance

Social climate

Deception Bay State School is a small school in a disadvantaged community. Our school staff reach out to all children, providing quality social education. In addition to support offered to students and their families by administration, teaching and non-teaching staff, the school also provides the support services of a qualified and experienced Guidance Officer (assessment of learning needs, counselling and family therapy) and accessed support from the local Deception Bay Neighbourhood Centre for local families and their students. Specialist Education Queensland personnel are also accessed wherever and whenever possible.

KIDS HOPE Mentors commenced in the school and were found to be invaluable in providing additional support for our students. We were most fortunate to once again have the support of the Over 60's club for Literacy and Numeracy support.

Our Responsible Behaviour Plan continued to evolve, with the continued strong emphasis on the explicit teaching of desired behaviour and the positive acknowledgement and reinforcement of these positive behaviours. This was found to be very beneficial.

We were particularly pleased to witness a significant improvement in our School Opinion Survey results. Students were significantly happier to go to school. 78.5% students were happy to go to school in 2008 as opposed to 59.2% in 2007. Students also felt they were more fairly treated. 76.8% of students felt they were treated fairly at school in 2008 as opposed to 52.1% in 2007.

Parents, too, identified an improvement in their child feeling safe at school with 66.7% satisfaction in 2008 as opposed to a 35% satisfaction in 2007. Parents also identified a significant improvement in their children being treated fairly with 75% in 2008 as opposed to 50% in 2007.

We will continue to work hard to ensure our children feel safe at our school and that they enjoy a very positive school climate..

Involving parents in their child's education.

Parental and Community Involvement continued to be welcomed and actively sought throughout 2008. Our school used the following strategies to reach out to parents and the community:

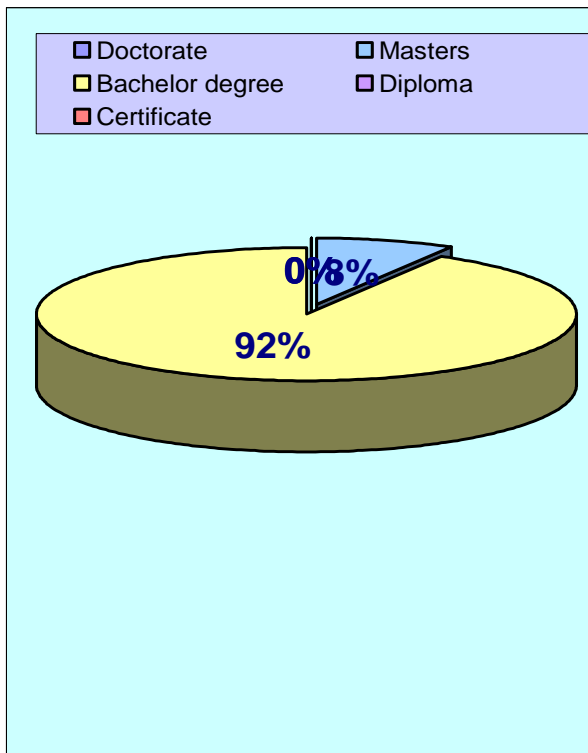
- 1) Meet the Teacher Informations sessions were held at the start of the year.
- 2) Class Volunteers - Parents and carers are invited to participate in day to day class activities in the classroom, sports and cultural activities.
- 3) Celebration Days – for example Multicultural Day.
- 4) A weekly newsletter is distributed to all families.
- 5) The school website is updated.
- 6) The Parents and Citizens Association meet regularly with school staff.

Our staff actively seek out and welcome parent and carer input. Staff communicate with parents and carers regularly to ensure they are always "in the know" and that all parents and carers are involved as much as possible in their children's education.

Our staff profile

Qualifications of all teachers.

Highest level of attainment	Number of classroom teachers and school leaders at the school
Doctorate	0
Masters	2
Bachelor degree	22
Diploma	0
Certificate	0



Expenditure on and teacher participation in professional development.

- The total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2008 was \$22,926. The major professional development initiatives are as follows:
 - QCAR Implementation
 - ICTs
 - Differentiation in Learning
 - Workplace Health and Safety
- The involvement of the teaching staff in professional development activities during 2008 was 65 %. We are committed to increasing this percentage in the coming year.

Average staff attendance

- For permanent and temporary staff and school leaders the staff attendance rate was 95% in 2008.

Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year.

- From the end of the 2007 school year, 97% 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 89 %.

Key outcomes

National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) results - our reading, writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation, and numeracy results for the Years 3, 5, 7 and 9.

Domain	Measures	Yr 3	Yr 5	Yr 7
Reading	Average score for the school	314	433	488
	Average score for Queensland	371.1	466.1	528.1
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008	63%	74%
Writing	Average score for the school	322	423	468
	Average score for Queensland	391.8	468.9	522.7
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008	68%	82%
Spelling	Average score for the school	304	426	495
	Average score for Queensland	366.7	462.0	528.0
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008	65%	74%
Grammar and Punctuation	Average score for the school	288	428	471
	Average score for Queensland	370.4	476.6	518.0
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008	65%	77%
Numeracy	Average score for the school	300	415	484
	Average score for Queensland	367.9	458.2	539.0
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008	63%	76%

Performance of our students

Results in the Year 2 Diagnostic Net	
	Percentage of students not requiring additional support
Reading	67%
Writing	72%
Number	81%

Value added

The staff of Deception Bay State school work tirelessly to ensure our children educational needs are met. They also strive to meet the more basic needs of children who are going without. Our school offers breakfast and lunch on a daily basis to many students. Our school has been able to fund this program through generous community support. Clothing, including footwear is also provided frequently and is funded through staff donations.

Our school has established very positive partnerships with different community organisations who provide mentoring, counselling and one to one support for students in need.

We also provide a range of learning experiences beyond the classroom including sporting clinics in Basketball and Cricket, GOLDSTAR Day activities and the like.

All staff strive to provide a supportive and safe environment, despite some of our students not always experiencing the same in their home environment. The stability, security and safety offered by our staff to all children is admirable.

Parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school

In 2008, we were heartened by the improvement in our School Opinion Survey data. It revealed the following:

- 1) 88% of students were satisfied that they were getting a good education at our school. This contrasted with only 63% in 2007. In 2008, Students satisfaction scores in the Student outcomes, Curriculum, Pedagogy, Learning Climate and School Climate were all above the State Mean.
- 2) 79% of parents and caregivers were satisfied their children were getting a good education at our school. This contrasted with only 50% in 2007. In 2008, Parent satisfaction scores in School Community Relations were above the State Mean, and there was an improvement in the satisfaction scores for all descriptors in all other areas.
- 3) 83% of parents and caregivers were satisfied that Deception Bay SS was a good school. This contrasted with only 65% in 2007.
- 4) 84% of staff members were satisfied with morale in the school. This contrasted with only 71% in 2007. There are 38 descriptors comparing the 2007 and 2008 staff satisfaction responses. It was pleasing to note that staff scored 31 descriptors higher satisfaction scores in 2008 than they did in 2007.

Performance of our students

Whilst we are pleased with the improvement in the 2008 School Opinion Survey data , we will continue to strive to improve this data in the 2009 school year.