

Victorian Principals Association



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VPA - Connected, United and Powerful

Quote: 'Flaming enthusiasm, backed by horse sense and persistence, is the quality that most frequently makes for success'
Dale Carnegie

eLETTER March 2009

Connect & Enlist School Leaders

As you are aware Building the Education Revolution application forms are now available on the Victorian Departmental web page www.education.vic.gov.au/buildingrevolution. For your reference the Federal Webpage is at www.deewr.gov.au/Schooling/BuildingTheEducationRevolution/Pages/default.aspx I refer to the APPA website <http://www.appa.asn.au/> regarding **eligibility** under the report of the 3 March. . Have you considered supporting our VPA Business Partner, [TigerTurf](#), to upgrade your schools playground facilities under the 'National Schools Pride' initiative?

Membership to VPA

A benefit of VPA [Principal Class or Associate/Aspiring membership](#) is VPA's offer to new members of free professional learning programs for the first six months of membership to the value of \$120. Contact Patricia Mattia, Executive Officer Acting for further information via pmattia@vpa.org.au

Unite School Leaders

The VPA continues to support fire affected schools. A [Bushfire Support thank you page](#) has been set up acknowledging direct supporters. I encourage you to contact Patricia Mattia, Executive Officer Acting, VPA via pmattia@vpa.org.au if you wish to contribute directly to fire affected schools. For those schools requiring assistance, do not hesitate to contact Patricia with your needs.

School Aid and VPA will join forces to distribute funds to fire affected schools. Remember State Schools' Relief Contact details are (03) 9888-8722 address: Locked Bag 700 Burwood Victoria 3125, <http://www.ssrc.net.au/>

Advocate For and On Behalf of Members

VPA has developed a number of provisional position papers:

- [Regional Network Leader](#)
- [Targeted School](#)
- [Student Engagement Guidelines](#)
- [Confidentiality of School Data](#)
- [Relocatable Provision in Schools](#)

*These documents were initiated by VPA Council Hot Topics on 23 February.

Public Education in Australia

On a National level, membership to VPA includes membership Australian Primary Principals Association (APPA) and Australian Government Primary Principals Association (AGPPA). Recently returning from APPA and AGPPA Executive meetings in Canberra, a number of national initiatives are taking place to keep primary principals at the forefront of federal education. The

Framing Papers working towards the [National Curriculum in English, Mathematics, History and Science](#) have been released. APPA and the VPA have taken a strong stance.

Facilitate Collegiate Support for Members

Nominations are now open for the **2009 Australian Awards for Teaching Excellence**. We urge you to nominate for the award for **Excellence by a Principal**. These awards are a great way to publicise the excellent work of our people in schools across Australia - you deserve all the recognition that the nation can give you <http://www.appa.asn.au/index.php/links/awards-awards-grants/467-2009-australian-awards-for-teaching-excellence>

Acknowledge some one in your school community for an Outstanding Parent or Education Community Service Award by 20 March 2009 via www.education.vic.gov.au/about/events/edweek/awards.htm

Provide Professional Services and Support

Keep your diary free for the **VPA Annual Conference and Dinner** held on **Thursday 15 October** at Hilton on the Park. The title is **Shaping Culture..Learning from Successful Leaders** Registration forms will be out shortly.

A number of [professional learning](#) sessions in metro and regional areas are planned: [Want to Know how to avoid the MPB?](#) Offered in Ballarat in early May and metro area in early August aimed at Principals, Assistant Principals and Aspiring Principals. Gavin Swartz experienced Secretary Nominee and Peter Hibbins as DEECD Manager of Conduct and Ethics and currently Senior Chairperson of Merit Protection Board will share their knowledge on possible traps for school leaders.

[The Path to Principalship](#) Offered in Mildura in mid May for Assistant Principals and Leading Teachers. VASSP and VPA along with Geoff Barclay* is offering a full day workshop designed to give an edge when applying for Principal Class positions.

VPA are arranging PD on:

- Dealing with Difficult People PD in Albury / Wodonga area and metro areas
- Cyberbullying workshop in Barwon Region
- Using Wikis and Blogs – 21 st century communication
- Interpreting the new ES agreement

Please email Patricia Mattia, Executive Officer Acting via pmattia@vpa.org.au regarding Professional Learning ideas in your area. VPA will endeavour to make arrangements on your behalf.

Handy link In a contest entitled "u @ 50", by the AARP, this film clip won second place. When they showed it, everyone in the room was awe-struck and broke into spontaneous applause - so simple and yet so brilliant. Take a minute and watch it. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=42E2fAWM6rA>

Gabrielle Leigh
President

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