WACSSO ELECTORATE BOUNDARIES CHANGING
In 2014 WACSSO began the process of an organisational review to ensure that we remain effective and sustainable well into the future. You will be pleased to note that the review concluded WACSSO is a strong, vibrant and effective body. A recommendation from the review proposed that the number of WACSSO electorates across Western Australia be reduced from 32 to 20, to ensure the highest possible rate and quality of representation for affiliates. State Council has accepted this advice and resolved at SC1 to begin the process of modifying electorate boundaries as a gradual process over four years. Affiliates will be kept well informed throughout the process of amalgamations. The first round of boundary amendments as resolved at SC1 includes:

- The current electorates of Pilbara and Kimberley will be amalgamated to form a new electorate of North West.
- The current electorates of Midwest Central and Midwest Coastal will be amalgamated to form a new electorate of Midwest.
- The current electorates of Warren Blackwood West and Warren Blackwood East will be amalgamated to form a new electorate of Warren Blackwood.
- The current electorates of Peel North, Peel Central and Peel South will be abolished and reformed into two new electorates of Peel North and Peel South.

Affiliates within all affected electorates will soon receive a letter further detailing the changes and any implications.

2016 FEDERAL ELECTION
With the Federal election ahead, possibly as early as July, State Council resolved to set its position on a number of issues that will be included in the Federal Election Position Paper. Issues include:

1. Funding for an equitable education
2. Information Communication Technology
3. Welfare and wellbeing
4. Encouraging philanthropy in schools

The position paper will be circulated to major parties for response and a ‘Report Card’ detailing parties’ policy against WACSSO position will be compiled and provided to all affiliates ahead of the election date.

WACSSO CONFERENCE 2016
Conference attendance for the first delegate will be FREE again this year, after State Council resolved the decision. Staff are in the midst of organising another jam-packed exciting weekend on 20th and 21st August at Crown Perth. WACSSO is awaiting the result of an application to Lotterywest for subsidisation of conference travel and accommodation for delegates in rural and remote areas of Western Australia.

P&Cs are encouraged to submit an agenda item for consideration at Conference. Items can be submitted on any educational issue your P&C believes State Council should be taking action on, as well as changes to the WACSSO Constitution or Policy. See this page for guidance on how to submit an item. Please see all conference information on the WACSSO website: wacsso.wa.edu.au/conference

SUE ELLERY MLC ADDRESS TO STATE COUNCIL
Shadow Minister for Education Sue Ellery MLC addressed State Council on the future of education in the state. Topics of discussion included science in schools, a focus on explicit instruction, school overcrowding, deaf education, public private partnership schools and IPS.

PARENTS’ CYBER SUPPORT PROJECT
Acknowledging the vital role parents can play in addressing cyberbullying, State Council resolved to accept an invitation from Donna Cross, Winthrop Professor (Telethon Kids’ Institute and UWA) to partner in a new three-year research project aimed at assisting parents to help their children safely navigate the online environment.

MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING
Following a resolution of State Council, WACSSO will be represented at both the Positive Schools Mental Health and Wellbeing Conference 26-27th May and the Perth Mental Health & Wellbeing of Young People Seminar on 3rd June. In line with WACSSO’s conference theme ‘Connect, Collaborate, Educate: Many hands make life work’ State Councillors’ attendance will assist the organisation to better represent affiliates in this area. It is common knowledge across the education sector that schools are increasingly dealing with the effects of complex societal issues and changing family lifestyles within their school communities. There is a multitude of ‘wrap around’ services relating to student and family social and cultural needs, health and wellbeing, which are already available to parents/carers, often via their local school, however often these services are little-known or appear difficult to access.

SUPPORT FOR SAFE SCHOOLS COALITION
Following an invitation from Safe Schools Coalition Western Australia, State Council resolved to become a supporter organisation of Safe Schools Coalition Australia. The supporters pledge is:

We believe that schools should provide a safe and inclusive environment for all students, so that they can learn, grow, and reach their full potential – free from bullying and discrimination. We pledge to stand up against homophobia and transphobia whenever we see or hear it. We are proud to support Safe Schools Coalition Australia and its work to create positive change for same sex attracted, intersex and gender diverse students, school staff and families.

CONTACT WACSSO
- Like our Facebook page, facebook.com/WACSSOInc and follow us on Twitter, @WACSSO.
- Visit wacsso.wa.edu.au for information and resources
- Sign up to our eNewsletter: http://eepurl.com/wp5oz.
- Register for the Online Learning Community: wacsso.wa.edu.au/onlinelearningcommunity
- Contact your State Councillor with any queries or alternatively the WACSSO office on (08)9264 4000 or by email, info@wacsso.wa.edu.au