



WACSSO

STATE COUNCIL 5 *Report to Affiliates*

19-20 November 2016

Special Guest David Axworthy

WACSSO was pleased to have David Axworthy (Deputy Director General, Schools) from the Department of Education join us on Saturday. David reflected on the year that was in an address to the State Council and we spent some time discussing important, priority issues across the state.

In his address, David mentioned the importance of building the future through education and developing children through their experience at school. As we move into a new year, it's a good time to make these reflections and to remind ourselves what all of our hard work as P&Cs, parents, carers, and education professionals is for: the benefit of students.



Hearing Health and Wellbeing of Australia Inquiry

State Council resolved to make a submission to the Standing Committee on Health, Aged Care and Sport's inquiry into the Hearing Health and Wellbeing of Australia. WACSSO's submission will focus on two key topics:

1. Re-evaluation of educational interpreters professional standards to include being NAATI qualified.
2. Prevention and treatment of otitis media and the resulting conductive hearing loss, specifically in Indigenous students.

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State election information

The position paper has now been released and is [available for viewing](#). Political party responses will be collated into a 'Report Card' for affiliates. This document is basically a rundown of what the major parties have and haven't promised in relation to our position on key issues.

Registrations for our State Election Forum on Education have [opened](#). Event details can be found at [WACSSO.com](#).

New Councillors

Congratulations to our newly elected State Councillors, sworn in at the beginning of the final State Council weekend for 2017. Thank you for taking the plunge and for your commitment to public education in Western Australia.

Welcome to Steven Hough (Joondalup East) and Carolyn Galbraith (Swan West).

Welcome also to Belinda Rowland, who attended her first State Council meeting since being elected on September for Great Southern.

Tidy HQ

Tidy HQ is an all-in-one online tool that P&Cs can use organise everything from meetings to finances. It was created in WA and specifically designed for associations like P&Cs. Tidy HQ allows you to:

- save time;
- increase transparency;
- have consistent communication;
- ensure successful role handovers;
- store documents easily.

Priority Issues

State Council produced many valuable conversations around priority issues facing WA school communities, along with potential solutions. The discussions gave Councillors great insight into the many similarities (some differences) in neighbouring electorates.

The results of the activity assist WACSSO's Executive team in setting the organisation's priorities for 2017. Some common priority issues that were raised are as follows:

- Online NAPLAN: Internet, student and digital capability; trial results; computer marking; standardisation compromised.
- ICT: Bring Your Own Device (BYOD); cyber safety and savvy-ness; digital divide, competition & disadvantage.
- School populations: overcrowding and shrinking; IPS schools with strong marketing campaigns in small communities; local area intake.
- Students with special educational needs.
- Student wellbeing

Contact WACSSO

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Contact your State Councillor with any queries, alternatively the WACSSO office on (08)9264 4000 or by email, info@wacss0.wa.edu.au