
Present: As per attached list

Apologies: As per attached list

Welcome/Apologies

The President, Tabby Fudge opened the meeting at 9:00am, formally welcomed those present and noted the apologies.

The President acknowledged the land on which we meet belongs to the Larrakia people as the Traditional Owners of the Darwin region and paid respect to the Larrakia elders past and present.

Council *received* the Welcome Address from Acting Chief Executive, Department of Education Vicki Baylis at 9:10am.

Council *agreed* to suspend the Full Council at 9:50am to enable the Annual General Meeting to be held.

Council *resumed* at 10:30am.

Council *received* the Official Opening Address from Minister for Education, Eva Lawler at 10:30am.

Council *received* presentation by Dr Addie Wooten, CEO of Smiling Mind at 10:50am.

Council *resumed* at 1:00pm.

1 MINUTES

1.1 Minutes of the 2015 Full Council Meeting

The minutes of the 2015 full council Meeting held at the Rydges Darwin Airport Resort, Ansett Room, Saturday, 24 October) were *confirmed* as a true and correct record.

(Editorial: correction that Beverley Ratahi be recorded as an attendee not an apology).

Beverley Ratahi/Fred Richardson

2 BUSINESS ARISING

2.1 Action Items from Annual Full Council 2015

Council *received* and *noted* the Report.

Beverley Ratahi/Tooba Awais

3 REPORTS

3.1 Annual Report 2015-2016

Council *received* and *noted* the Report.

Tabby Fudge/Fred Richardson

3.2 Arnhem Region

Council *received* and *noted* the Report.

Jeff Cook/Robin Lawrence

3.3 Barkly Region

No Report.

3.4 Darwin Region

Council *received* and *noted* the Report.

Noelene Armstrong/Tooba Awais

3.5 Katherine Region

No Report.

3.6 Palmerston & Rural Region

Council *received* and *noted* the Report.

James Beattie/Fred Richardson

3.7 Southern Region

Council *received* and *noted* the Report.

Fred Richardson/Jeff Cook

3.8 ACSSO Report

No Report.

3.9 TRB Report

Council *received* and *noted* the Report.

Steve Carter/Tabby Fudge

3.3 NTBOS Report

Council *received* and *noted* the Report.

Fred Richardson/Robin Lawrence

4 MOTIONS ON NOTICE

4.1 Engaging Indigenous students across the NT - Batchelor Area School

“That COGSO request that the Department of Education engage in research, looking at models (e.g. from NZ) and meaningful consultation with:

- remote communities,
- Elders,
- teachers and
- school communities

to seek ways to better engage Indigenous students across the NT in both remote and urban environments, and embed Indigenous perspectives, learning methods and approaches that benefit all students and improve engagement, opportunities and educational outcomes in the NT.”

Following a discussion on the motion the mover advised they would be withdrawing the motion and seek further background and clarification from School Council.

MOTION WITHDRAWN: Karen Manton

4.2 Effective Enrolment - Batchelor Area School

“That COGSO request that the Department of Education consult with remote and regional schools across the NT to find out if the Effective Enrolment and adjustments related to SNFB works or is making it difficult for smaller and low attendance schools where student needs are high but may not be diagnosed with special needs, and the top-up per student for Indigenous, socio-economic, ESL/special needs requirements does not meet the high-dependency demands of the student cohort (e.g. whether 10 or 15 kids, a teacher is still required, and one-on-one may be necessary for the high needs of the children).”

An amendment to the motion was moved.

The motion now reads:

“that the Minister confirms and honours Territory Labor’s pre-election promise that from the commencement of 2017, schools will be funded based on attendance plus 10%.”

Kevin West/Karen Manton

4.3 Children with additional needs - Batchelor Area School

“That COGSO request that the Department of Education consult with regional/remote schools to address the broad range/diversity of skills in classrooms and how this impacts on teaching and learning and could be better supported including the situations of:

1. Children with high/intense learning and behavioural needs {not diagnosed or not yet diagnosed as Special Needs), e.g. with low literacy/numeracy skills and highly disturbed

behaviours that may require one-on-one attention and targeted programs or specialised support

2. Children who are gifted/high achievers or who could achieve better outcomes but do not get opportunities to excel to their potential because of their remote/regional location, classroom disruption and teacher allocation for a small school.

An amendment to the motion was moved.

The motion now reads:

“that COGSO request that the Department of Education provide adequate resources to be implemented within regional & remote communities for children with additional needs.”

Karen Manton/Beverley Ratahi

4.4 Teacher membership requirement in Model Constitution - Mataranka School

“that a special condition be allowed in the model constitution for small remote schools so that the teacher membership requirement be voluntary.”

Following a point of clarification, it was *agreed* that this was a Human Resources issue not legislative.

Following a brief discussion Council *defeated* this motion.

Tabby Fudge/Fred Richardson

4.5 Membership Composition in Model Constitution - Mataranka School

“that COGSO liaise with the Department of Education regarding a defined range being used to describe the allocation of membership in the model constitution. (for e.g. A minimum and maximum number such as between 5 and 10 parent reps.)”

An amendment to the motion was moved.

The motion now reads:

“COGSO will clarify with the Department of Education, the legislative requirements for the membership in the Model Constitution.”

Robin Lawrence/Noelene Armstrong

5 LATE MOTIONS

5.1 Motion from the floor of Council

“that COGSO request the Department of Education supports all schools across the Northern Territory to implement a mental health and emotional wellbeing program for the whole of school community.”

Noelene Armstrong/Allan Kingsley

5.2 Motion from the floor of Council

“that COGSO request the Minister for Education commit to addressing and resolving identified systemic barriers and red tape that prevent the effective implementation of resources for our children by the Departments of Education, Health, Disability, Youth Justice, Children & Families.”

Jude Sherley/Allan Kingsley

5.3 Motion from the floor of Council

“that COGSO request the Minister for Education and the Department of Education actively seek to bring the Northern Territory public school funding model into line with the rest of Australia so that we are funded on enrolment.”

Fred Richardson/Noelene Armstrong

5.3 Motion from the floor of Council

“that COGSO request the Territory government commit to assigning, to every primary school, a counsellor appropriately resourced in line with middle and senior schools in order to address rising mental health issues facing students today.”

Noelene Armstrong/Fred Richardson

5.4 Motion from the floor of Council

“that COGSO request the Territory government commit to implementing the evidence-based Smiling Mind program (under their 2017 \$8M behavioural management allocation) from the start of 2017 to all schools in the Northern Territory in line with the Department of Education’s Strategic Plan that every child is a successful learner.”

Tabby Fudge/Noelene Armstrong

5.5 Motion from the floor of Council

“that the Minister for Education support our Budget Submission recommendation and establish a Working Party to deliver Hearing Loss Learning Innovations with the Department of Health, Department of Education, COGSO and AMSANT representatives commencing January 2017.”

Tabby Fudge/Jeff Cook

5.6 Motion from the floor of Council

“that the Minister for Education support our Budget Submission recommendation and establish a dedicated Grant to deliver the roll-out of audio assessments and sound amplification systems across 10 schools in year 2017/18 as priorities.”

Tabby Fudge/Jeff Cook

5.7 Motion from the floor of Council

“Employ additional hearing specialists to be based in Alice Springs to service Central Australia.”

An amendment to the motion was moved.

The motion now reads:

“that the Minister for Education support our Budget Submission recommendation and ensure the reinstatement and employment of additional Department of Education hearing staff to be based in all regions.”

Jeff Cook/Beverley Ratahi

5.8 Motion from the floor of Council

“that COGSO request that the Minister for Education advise on what steps are being taken to reduce agency red tape.”

Nikki Elliott/Noelene Armstrong

There being no further business the President thanked all delegates for attending a highly successful Full Council Meeting and declared the meeting closed at 4:40pm.

Tabby Fudge
President

Confirmed

Attendance:

Name	School / Region
Andrew Lawlor	Bakewell Primary School
Karen Manton	Batchelor Area School
Fred Richardson	Centralian Senior College
Sarah Measey	Douglas Daly School
Fiona Shalley	Dripstone Middle School
Rosalina Burrowes	Driver Primary School
Tabby Fudge	Girraween Primary School
Robyn Jhowry	Henbury School
Anna Egerton	Jabiru Area School
Michael De Luca	Jingili Primary School
Kevin West	Jingili Primary School
Greg Williams	Jingili Primary School
Johanna Prichard	Karama School
Allan Kingsley	Katherine High School
Tania Kolomitsev	Leanyer School
Karen Urquhart	Leanyer School
Natalie Gibbs	Ludmilla Primary School
Carol Putica	Ludmilla Primary School
Kelly MacRae	Millner Primary School
Nikki Elliott	Moulden Park School
Shontelle Heard	Nakara Primary School
Jeff Cook	Nhulunbuy Primary School
Simon Niblock	Nightcliff Primary School
Tiani Cook	NTSDE
James Beattie	Palmerston Senior College
Steve Wheelhouse	Palmerston Senior College
Jane Bland	Rosebery Primary School
Robin Lawrence	Sanderson Middle School
Noelene Armstrong	Stuart Park Primary School
Tooba Awais	Stuart Park Primary School
Beverley Ratahi	Taminmin College
Jude Sherley	Taminmin College
Leanne Thackeray	Taminmin College
Nardene Murphy	Wagaman School
Tracy Dore	Woodroffe Primary School
David Flanagan	Woodroffe Primary School
Amber Stevens	Woodroffe Primary School
Steve Carter	Life Member
Cherie Vance	Autism NT
Debby Mauger	Autism NT
Louise Carrigan	Visitor for Presentation
Stacey Hodges	Visitor for Presentation
Deborah Kalia-bond	Visitor for Presentation
Joanne McDonald	Visitor for Presentation
Craig White	Visitor for Presentation
Maree White	Visitor for Presentation
Kim Hoyle	COGSO
Michelle Parker	COGSO

Apologies:

Name	School / Region
Jonathan Pilbrow	Acacia Hill School
Melissa Kerr	Adelaide River Primary School
Nicola Slavin	Alawa Primary School
Andrea Krikke	Alice Springs School of the Air
Lee McGlenn	Alyangula Area School
Alison Fitzgerald	Bakewell Primary School
Jess Robinson	Bulla Camp School
Cathy Deans	Darwin Middle School
Suzanne Gill	Douglas Daly School
Nicole Crews	Humpty Doo Primary
Learne Dunne	Jabiru Area School
Amanda Murphy	Katherine School of the Air School
Emma Liveris	Larrakeyah Primary School
Moira Lanzarin	Mataranka School
Jeanette Cook	Nganmarriyanga School
Lynda Pascoe	Ngukurr School
Catherine Trinder	Parap Primary School
Sue Heysen	Pigeon Hole School
Rene Prosser	Rosebery Middle School
Pauline Letts	Ross Park Primary School
Maryse Turenne	Wallace Rockhole School