

CURRICULUM PORTFOLIO CONFERENCE REPORT - June 2023

The Curriculum Portfolio had 4 motions passed at the Blackall State Conference in 2022. These included lobbying the relevant departments for a full-time curriculum resource reviewer in schools of Distance Education, a refinement and decluttering of the curriculum in QLD schools to allow more manageability for Home Tutors and small multi-age classrooms. Advocating to Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority (QCAA) and other relevant bodies for geographically isolated students to be offered practical choices for the sitting of NAPLAN (National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy) and the information around these choices to be shared consistently across schools and school families have been the focus for the portfolio.

During delegations ICPA (Isolated Childrens Parents Association) QLD met with QCAA, the Department of Education and relevant internal departments to discuss and ensure the concerns of our members are not only heard but understood. During these discussions we were advised that Version 9 of the curriculum has 20% less content than the previous version and it would be implemented unmodified. The relevant departments have indicated that changes pertaining to the curriculum would not be considered until full implementation of Version 9 in 2026.

During meetings with QCAA it was strongly suggested that applications made by schools for alternate arrangements for NAPLAN sitting must include specific information regarding each child's situation, such as location at the time of testing or connectivity issues to allow for a clearer understanding when assessing applications.

2023 has seen some changes for NAPLAN, it took place in March of Term 1 rather than May, allowing for earlier results. Education ministers agreed to changes in the reporting process to parents and caregivers with new proficiency standards showing 4 levels of achievement for each year level replacing the previous 10 band structure making results simpler and clearer about their child's NAPLAN achievements.

This year ICPA QLD has been invited to sit on the working group for Artificial Intelligence, a Non-State Schools Accreditation Framework Review and we have attended quarterly QCAA zoom meetings.

As always ICPA Qld will continue to work with the Department of Education, the Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority and other stakeholders around Curriculum to ensure our rural and remote students remain at the forefront of their minds when planning, implementing, assessing, and reporting. As a respected stakeholder in these areas, we look forward to continuing these relationships and providing feedback and advice from the views of our members.

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