

Northern Territory Board of Studies

Confirmed Minutes

Board Meeting: Friday 6 August 2021

Venue: Boardroom, 14th Floor, Mitchell Centre, Darwin

Item No	Agenda Item	Summary of discussions
1	Attendance	
1.1	Present - members	Ralph Wiese, Rachel Boyce, Pauline Schober, Charles Richardson, Jacqui Langdon, Roland Houareau, Mary Ellen Venes, Susan Bowden, Gavin Morris and Cheryl Salter
1.2	Apologies - members	Tabitha Fudge
1.3	Present - non-member participants	Ms Sally Hodgson, General Manager Quality Teaching and Learning; Ms Anne Donnelly, Director Teaching and Learning 10-12 and Mrs Hazel Horne, Executive Officer to the board
2	Opening remarks	Meeting commenced at 8.38 am with Acknowledgement of Country provided by the Chair, Mr Ralph Wiese. Official welcome The Chair extended an official welcome to Ms Susan Bowden, Acting Deputy Chief Executive Department of Education to her first meeting as the Department of Education representative on the board.
3	Minutes of the previous meeting	The minutes of the meeting held on 28 May 2021 were circulated to members out of session and accepted as a true record of the meeting
4	Business arising from previous minutes	Refer to Action Sheet 2/2021 All items were either completed or were agenda items to be addressed at the meeting.
5	Correspondence	Correspondence in: noted Correspondence out: noted
6	NTBOS Governance	Conflict of interest Ms Susan Bowden, Department of Education representative declared conflicts of interest may arise from time to time due to being a Department of Education employee.

7	Presentations and discussion	
7.1	English as an Additional Language, or Dialect Hub update	<p>Ms Chantal McAllister, Differentiation and English as an Additional Language or Dialect (EAL/D) provided information on the EAL/D Hub.</p> <p>The EAL/D Hub is an online learning course for educators of students who are identified as English as an Additional Language/Dialect student. The content was developed through a collaborative cross-jurisdictional project in which the Northern Territory was a part of from the beginning. The goal of the EAL/D Hub is to build educator capacity in EAL/D informed teaching that will enable EAL/D students to access the Australian Curriculum and achieve learning success.</p> <p>The course has eight content areas that cover the fundamental knowledge and skills that teachers need to understand EAL/D learners, and use evidence based EAL/D teaching strategies.</p> <p>Ms McAllister shared a 'good news story' advising that Wugularr School was the first Northern Territory school to complete the first three learning Modules.</p>
7.2	Chief Executive update	<p>Ms Karen Weston, Chief Executive Department of Education, provided members with a brief update on various matters that are occurring in the education sector both in the NT and nationally.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Australian Curriculum Review: Australian Curriculum Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) are undertaking a review of the Australian Curriculum. The public consultation period for the Australian curriculum closed on Thursday 8 July 2021. All feedback will contribute to amendments to the final revised curriculum. The final report will be provided late 2021. • NAPLAN 2021: ACARA have announced that 'incremental' reforms will be made to NAPLAN and ACARA will investigate the possibility of including critical and creative thinking in the test. • Online Formative Assessment Initiative – the 'alpha phase' is to be extended for a further 3 months to prioritise comprehensive engagement and the 'beta establishment phase' will be reduce from a 9 to 6 month period. • SACE Board – no current NT representative. • Education NT Strategy 2021 – 2025 – a facilitated session may be provided to NTBOS members if required. • Review of Quality Initial Teacher Education – aims to ensure that graduate teachers start their teaching career with the necessary knowledge, skills and dispositions to be successful teachers in any Australian school. • Review of Secondary Education.

7.3	Secondary provision realignment	<p>Ms Heather Hamilton, Senior Manager Literacy and Numeracy Regional Support, Department of Education provided an update on the Remote Secondary Education Provision project.</p> <p>Resources and materials have been developed to support the delivery of the Australian Curriculum in remote secondary schools. These resources and materials have been based on the realignment of Employment Pathways (EP) materials. Senior secondary materials are also being prepared and aligned to SACE subjects such as Integrated Learning. Schools are in different stages of the alignment. Professional Learning events are occurring across 2021 to assist schools in navigating the alignment.</p> <p>The Department of Education is using the 'Fresh Start' reading intervention program as an option for schools to support students requiring reading intervention.</p> <p>The Remote Secondary Education team is developing age appropriate Australian Curriculum units of work for students in Years 7-9. The Remote Secondary Education team and the Years 10-12 team have formed a working group to re-develop the EP resources for use in Northern Territory Certificate of Education and Training (NTCET) subjects and are modifying existing EP resources to adhere to NTCET subject requirements.</p>
7.4	Presentation: Home Education brief	<p>Ms Sally Hodgson, General Manager Quality Teaching and Learning and Ms Ellen McGregor, Home Education Officer, Department of Education provided an overview of Home Education in the Northern Territory.</p> <p>Home education occurs when families take on responsibility for the teaching of their child/children. Under the <i>NT Education Act 2015</i>, families seek approval from the NT Department of Education to home educate. The Department of Education has a legal responsibility to make sure all students receive a quality education.</p> <p>The number of students enrolled in home education has grown significantly over the past decade; from 22 students in 2011 to over 160 students in 2021. Most home educated children are from the greater Darwin region and from regional rather than remote locations.</p> <p>The Home Education Policy is currently under review. The inclusion of dual enrolled children will be considered in this review.</p>

7.5	NT Board of Studies Strategic Directions 2021 to 2025	<p>A small NTBOS strategic planning working group was convened to investigate how to create an effective NTBOS strategic plan going forward, by looking at external v's internal facilitation as well as opportunities and restraints.</p> <p>The working group discussed the need for a process to be undertaken where consultation with members of the Board would be facilitated through an external agency. This would assist in developing a plan that is focused on providing direction to the Board in its decision making on curriculum and policy advice to the Minister for Education; is future focussed with reference to current national and international developments in education; and promotes the work of the Board with stakeholders.</p> <p>Recommendations / Actions</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A third-party facilitator be procured who can provide NTBOS with an end to end service and finalised product. 2. The Working Group (Roland Houareau, Rachel Boyce, Gavin Morris, Pauline Schober, Sally Hodgson and Hazel Horne) to meet prior to the November Board meeting to set dates and outline the way forward. 3. To ensure appropriate governance, the November Board meeting may be dedicated to a ½ day strategy/planning session. 4. The 'facilitated' meeting to be held prior to the end of 2021. 5. Strategic Plan to be implemented by January/1st quarter of 2022. <p>Outcome: All recommendations were accepted for progression.</p>
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7.6	<p>Presentation: Curriculum, Assessment, Reporting and Certification (CARC) policy: Early Childhood to Year 12</p>	<p>At the November 2020 NTBOS meeting members agreed to the development of a policy to replace the NTBOS Curriculum Pedagogy, Assessment and Reporting policy – A Framework for Quality Education in NT schools 2018 – 2020, which was due for review.</p> <p>A draft policy document - NTBOS Curriculum, Assessment, Reporting and Certification (CARC) policy: Early Childhood to Year 12 was endorsed at the March 2021 meeting for consultation.</p> <p>The Department of Education consulted with internal and external stakeholders to ensure the NTBOS CARC policy met the needs of stakeholders. Ms Meghan Smith, Director Curriculum, Pedagogy and Assessment Department of Education provided members with an overview of the final version of the NTBOS CARC policy: Early Childhood to Year 12.</p> <p>The NTBOS CARC policy is a succinct policy developed to identify jurisdictional and national requirements for NT government and non-government education and care providers. The CARC policy outlines the specific requirements for the planning and implementing of curriculum, assessment, reporting and certification practices aligned to the NT <i>Education Act</i> and relevant Australian government legislation.</p> <p>Sets of specific sector guidelines will support this policy to give additional detail; focused on supporting best practice and implementation aligned to individual sector priorities.</p> <p>Minor amendment: NTBOS endorsed the policy but requested a change in the wording to item 4.3.</p> <p>Endorsed – CARC Policy: Early Childhood to Year 12</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The NTBOS Curriculum, Assessment, Reporting and Certification Policy: Early Childhood to Year 12 was endorsed for implementation by members. <p>Launch of the CARC Policy: NTBOS members suggested the launch of the CARC policy be arranged for early 2022 to coincide with the new Australian Curriculum being implemented in schools.</p> <p>Rescindment of current policies With the endorsement of the CARC Policy: Early Childhood to Year 12 the following policies and guidelines require rescinding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NTBOS NT Secondary Release guidelines • NTCET results release policy • T-10 timelines <p>Where appropriate, policies and guidelines will be redeveloped and provided for board endorsement.</p>
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8	Items for Noting	
8.1	ACACA report	<p>Mr Tony Considine is the Northern Territory representative for Australasian Curriculum, Assessment and Certification Authorities (ACACA) Chief Executive Officers meetings. ACACA meet four times per year.</p> <p>Key items discussed at the 21 May 2021 meeting include: Sample Learner Profile project, National Agreement for Skills and Workforce Development, Improving VET data collection, use and analysis, and updates on Senior Secondary Certificate, Tertiary entrance admissions and Life and Career skills development among Year 12 students.</p> <p>Mr Considine provided a verbal update on the key items that were discussed at the 6 August 2021 meeting. They included: models for viewing of Sample Learner Profile project, Senior Secondary Certificate update, Tertiary Entrance admissions, early entry of year 11 and NT hosting an ACACA meeting.</p> <p>Noted</p>
8.2	ACARA report	<p>Ms Leanne Nixon former Deputy Chief Executive Department of Education has tendered her resignation as the NT representative on the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting (ACARA) Board.</p> <p>The NT has nominated a replacement and is awaiting approval from the Education Minister.</p> <p>Noted</p>
8.3	SACE / NTBOS meeting	<p>Professor Martin Westwell, Chief Executive SACE Board of South Australia advised that the SACE Board of SA have cancelled their planned August Darwin visit. Qantas flight changes and the increased risks of lockdown because of COVID 19 are the main factors for the cancellation.</p> <p>Professor Westwell indicated that the SACE Board are very much committed to holding a meeting in Darwin in the future.</p> <p>Noted</p>

9	General Business	
9.1	SACE Board appointments	<p>Disappointment was expressed by NTBOS members pertaining to the NT not being provided the opportunity to nominate a representative for the SACE Board. SACE Board processes to appoint members have now been finalised with the NT having no representative on the board.</p> <p>Action:</p> <p>NTBOS to write to the Chair of the SACE board expressing concerns around no NT representation and requesting a way forward.</p>
9.2	NTBOS member only	<p>Action:</p> <p>A 10 minute 'in-camera' catch-up with NTBOS members only will be held at the end of each NTBOS meeting.</p>
	Meeting closed	2pm
	Next meeting date	12 November 2021