



TASSO NEWS

Issue 6: March 2018

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

All Tasmanian public schools legally must have a School Association (SA). The SA is made up of:

- Significant Adults listed on student's enrolment forms.
- ALL staff at the school.
- Community members who have applied for and been accepted as members of the School Association and are listed on a register including the date on which they became a member.

Each school must have a School Association Committee (SAC) made up of representatives of the school association, the exact number of members and breakdown can be found in you SA's constitution which is available on the DoE website.

<https://documentcentre.education.tas.gov.au/Pages/schoolassociations/a-z.aspx>

The creation and adoption of the model constitution by all school associations with only minor changes and the register of all constitutions on the DoE website, means it is easier for parents and staff if they change schools and that a current version of the constitution is always publicly available to everyone. It is very helpful to us here at TASSO also, giving us the ability to give more informed advice to individual SA's than ever before.

There have been 2 major changes to SA membership.

1. Students are no longer members of the school association. However, they can be appointed as student representatives by the principal. They will not receive voting power or count towards quorum. Students have the right to attend meetings as an observer.
2. Community members now need to apply. Their nomination will not be accepted unless:
 - They are nominated by 2 existing members of the School Association.
 - The nomination is in writing. It is best practice for the nominee to submit their reasons for wanting to be a member of the Association in writing with the nomination.
 - The SAC is satisfied that the person has genuine reasons for wanting to become a Community Member of the School Association.

If all these needs are met the SAC will vote on the application, if it is successful the Community Member must be added to the register of SA members including the date the nomination is confirmed. This registration will last 3 years. It is important to remember that this is membership to the SA not the SAC. Community Members wanting to be on the SAC will need to be nominated when nominations are called for or to fill a casual vacancy. The same as other SAC Rep's they only serve a two-year term or the remainder of the casual vacancy they filled. A Community Representative can be nominated to the SAC by either staff, parents or registered community members or any combination of the three groups.

Most School Association's will hold their Annual General Meeting (AGM) soon, if they haven't already, with the default end of SA year being the 31st of March (you can check this in your SA's constitution). The AGM needs to be held as close to that date as practicable. The process for the AGM is clearly set in the checklist which follows later in this newsletter. When calling for nominations it can be a good idea to ask the candidates for a small bio about themselves, it saves time and makes the process easier if you need to hold a ballot due to more nominations than positions vacant.

-Lisa Gillard

MEET THE COMMITTEE

Lyn Spaulding -Northern Delegate

Lyn Spaulding is a busy mum of two daughters one at Avoca Primary School and the other at Campbell Town District High School.

She has been on the School Association at



Avoca Primary School for about a decade now and currently holds the position of Treasurer. As well as this she has been a Northern Delegate with TASSO since 2011.

Lyn wants to see Tasmania's State Education System rival any in the world and to achieve this she believes we need to listen to everybody's needs and act accordingly with genuine parental engagement, fair treatment of school staff, and individualised learning for students, so everyone's needs are being met to the best of the school's ability.

OFFICE BEARER

President: Lisa Gillard

Senior Vice President: Jared Dickason

Junior Vice President: Nigel Jones

Treasurer: Gary Morse

Secretary: Lindie Read

Northern Delegate: Lyn Williams

Northern Delegate: Ben Cunningham

Northern Delegate: Peter Kearney

North-West Delegate: Phillip Spratt

North-West Delegate: Amina Keygan

North-West Delegate: Chis Lynch

Southern Delegate: Ellie Woolnough

Southern Delegate: Vacant

Southern Delegate: Vacant

ALERT!

If you receive an incorporation annual return, please email the Education Act team

edact@education.tas.gov.au We have recently found out that not all SA's have been unincorporated.

THE CURRICULUM AND ADDITIONAL NEEDS.

Every student is unique, with different needs and interests. Teachers use the curriculum to plan in ways that respond to those needs and interests. The Australian Curriculum is flexible, allowing schools and teachers to personalise student learning. The Australian Curriculum website gives advice on using the curriculum to meet the needs of students with disability; gifted and talented students; and students for whom English is an additional language or dialect. Talk to your child's teacher for more information.

THIS INFORMATION IS COURTESY OF ACARA.

Are you part of an education or disability related organisation wanting to expand your outreach? With a TASSO Corporate Membership, you get...

- 20% Discount on displays fee for TASSO's Annual Conference
 - Two Free Ads in TASSO News valued at \$200 (Discount on any further Ads within the year)
 - Inclusion in "Friends of TASSO" on the TASSO Website.
 - Networking Opportunities
- And all for \$50 per year!!**

DEFINITION CORNER

Observer at a School Association Committee meeting: Committee meetings are open to all members of the School Association and School Students to attend as observers. Observers can only speak at the meeting by invitation from the Chairperson.

5 Tips for getting ready for School.

We came across these five tips for getting ready for school from Learning Potential and think they are so great we may adopt some for getting ourselves ready too!

1. Early to bed early to rise: When your child gets enough sleep, they are more likely to wake up cheerful, energetic and ready to learn at school.
2. Helping hands: Encourage your child to get themselves ready as much as possible. Instead of doing everything yourself, teach your child to do tasks like brushing their teeth and hair, packing their bag and making their bed.
3. Be prepared: Take the pressure out of the morning routine by getting prepared the night before.
4. Keep it simple: Try to keep your morning routine as simple as possible on school days.
5. Make a plan: Some families find it helpful to develop a morning schedule that puts all these ideas together. It often works well if you involve your children in making the schedule - making a list of the morning tasks, who needs to do what, and what time things need to be done.

For more details check out the original lists:
Primary School:

<https://www.learningpotential.gov.au/5-tips-to-help-get-ready-for-school-in-the-morning>

High School:

<https://www.learningpotential.gov.au/5-tips-to-help-get-your-teen-ready-for-school-in-the-morning>

TASSO MEMBERSHIP

2018 Membership Forms have been posted to schools and should have arrived if you do not receive your 2018 form, email us at info@tasso.org.au. You can now also get individual and corporate membership contact us for more information.

Vale Judy Bromfield OAM JP

On the 24th of February 2018 TASSO Life Member Judy Bromfield passed away.

Judy was a state committee member of The Tasmanian Council of State Schools Parents and Friends' Associations (now called TASSO) from 1984 to 1986. Judy served as the Public Relations Officer, Southern Council Secretary, and Severely Handicapped Children's Officer. For her hard work and dedication, she was awarded a life membership to TASSO in 1988.

The TASSO Management Committee, staff, and Life Members extend their sincerest sympathy to Judy's family and friends.

CONTACT US

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All submissions to TASSO News to be made no later than the 25th of each month

Checklist & Tips for calling and conducting a School Association Annual General Meeting

A School Association must hold an Annual General Meeting (AGM) as close as practicable to the end of the School Association Year. The date for which can be found in the Constitution, Clause 2 Definitions & Interpretation.

Advertising the AGM:

- 14 days prior to the date chosen for the AGM, the secretary of the School Association (or if there is no secretary the Principal) must advertise the time, date, venue and business of the AGM, through media such as the School newsletter and other media as seen appropriate.

Nominations:

- The Returning Officer, appointed by the Principal, must call for nominations.
 - Only parents can nominate parents and only staff can nominate staff. Community members listed on a register can be nominated by either staff and/or parents.
 - Nominations must be proposed and seconded by people in the same category as the nominee and are eligible to vote in a School Association election. The Nominee must agree in writing to the nomination. This is usually conveyed by signing the nomination form.

Best Practice:

- Have copies of the Minutes of the previous AGM available.
- Ensure the School Association's financial records have been audited and ready for presentation at the AGM
- Prepare a written School Association annual report for presentation at the AGM.
- Have copies of the School's Annual Report available for presentation at the AGM.
- Have copies of the Agenda

Business of the AGM can be found in your Constitution, clause 13.2.

Quorum: No business is to be conducted at the AGM unless a quorum is present. Information about the quorum can be found in your School Association Constitution.

Elections for the roles of Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer are conducted at the first meeting after the AGM. Office-bearers are only elected for one year. Most school associations conduct their first Committee Meeting immediately after the AGM

For further information and ballot form templates please contact the TASSO Office on 6243 7718 or email info@tasso.org.au

April 2018



TASSO
*Promote and protect
 interests of parents
 in Tasmanian State
 Schools and Colleges.*

Tasmanian Association of State School Organisations Inc.

Calendar Key

- TASSO Management Committee Meetings
- Student Free Days
- College Only Holidays
- School Holidays
- Public Holiday
- Regional Holiday
- TASSO Conference and Membership
- TASSO Office Closed

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Easter Sunday	Easter Monday	Easter Tuesday (Banks and Public Service)				Management Committee Meeting
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
					Not Colleges	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
			ANZAC DAY			
29	30					

TASMANIAN ASSOCIATION OF STATE SCHOOL ORGANISATIONS INC.

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