

AITSL Board Meeting 6 October 2017

This meeting was attended by our Board Directors: Laureate Professor John Hattie (Chair), Mr Chris Wardlaw (Deputy Chair), Professor Tania Aspland, Dr Jennifer Buckingham, Mr Tony Cook, Mr Stephen Elder, Mr Trevor Fletcher, Ms Jenny Gale, Dr Geoffrey Newcombe and Ms Melanie Saba

Update from the Chair

The October Board Meeting considered a number of key pieces of work undertaken by the AITSL team. A number of the papers tabled for discussion and feedback are Education Council papers, which will be submitted for the December meeting.

The Education Landscape

The Board was pleased to review the work that had been completed on AITSL's submission to the Review to Achieve Educational Excellence in Australian Schools. This is an important submission as it allows us to lend our voice, expertise and national perspective to the conversation.

AITSL's submission focusses on what can be done at a national, system and sector level to improve quality teaching (the biggest in-school influence on student learning) and school leadership (the second biggest in-school influence on student learning). AITSL's submission can be viewed on the AITSL [website](#).

Teacher Education Ministerial Advisory Group (TEMAG)

The TEMAG recommendations resulted in the initial teacher education (ITE) reforms, which recognise that our graduates need to be better equipped to enter the classroom as beginner teachers. While some graduate teachers report feeling well prepared for day one in the classroom, this is not a universal experience.

The reforms help ensure that all graduate teachers, no matter where they are in Australia, are classroom-ready by the time they start teaching in our schools.

Advancing the Reforms

The Board noted the success of the TEMAG Forum in September in Canberra, which brought together 52 high-level representatives from Initial Teacher Education (ITE) providers across Australia, along with teacher regulatory authorities, teacher employers, principals, parent groups and government agencies. The purpose of the Forum was to discuss the reforms underway in ITE and explore next steps for the reform agenda.

The Forum, which was facilitated by AITSL Board Member, Trevor Fletcher, and attended by a number of other Board Members, saw participants reiterate their commitment to the TEMAG reforms and discuss implementation of the reforms and how to capitalise on work undertaken to date.

The results of the Forum will soon be publicly available via a joint Communique by the participants.

Teaching Performance Assessment

The national teaching performance assessment (TPA) is one of the TEMAG recommendations that will ensure all graduates are classroom-ready.

The Directors noted the updated report on the progress being made on the development of the TPAs by the two consortia in AITSL's grant program, and discussed the need for further ongoing communication with the regulatory authorities and ITE providers to ensure they are across the national landscape for the roll out of TPAs.

Improving the Quality of Professional Learning

The Directors discussed AITSL's recommendations around improving the quality of professional learning for teachers. Of particular interest was the option of providing a technology solution that can reflect the voice of the schools and teachers and enable them to access expertise outside their geographic location, review their professional learning experience and share professional learning with others.

National Leadership Guidelines and pre-principal certification

The Directors also discussed AITSL's recommendations on the national leadership guidelines and pre-principal certification work that the Minister requested AITSL to undertake earlier this year. The national guidelines will provide systems, sectors and schools with a better understanding of the attributes and competencies that make a great leader, as well as guidance on how to identify and develop these leaders.

The Directors were presented with draft guidelines for discussion and review, which were discussed at length and a number of recommendations were made to the team for the development of the guidelines.

The voluntary national pre-principal certification proposal also generated extensive discussion. The Board looks forward to seeing the developments in the future.

Reporting

The Board noted that the [2017-2018 Corporate Plan](#) was submitted to the Minister for Education and Training and Minister for Finance on 31 August 2017 and is now available on the AITSL website.

Directors also noted that the [2016-17 Annual Report](#) had been finalised and would be tabled in parliament by 31 October 2017.