

AITSL Board Meeting 17 November 2017

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

Update from the Chair

A number of items were considered at the final Board Meeting for 2017.

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 discussed a paper on recommendations for further advancing the TEMAG reforms to initial teacher education (ITE). The actions outlined in the paper build on the discussions held at the TEMAG Forum in September in Canberra, which brought together 52 high-level representatives from ITE providers across Australia, along with teacher regulatory authorities, teacher employers, principals, parent groups and government agencies. The recommendations are also informed by extensive consultation with other key stakeholders.

The results of the Forum are now publicly available via a [joint Communiqué](#) by the participants.

Teaching Performance Assessment

The national teaching performance assessment (TPA) is one of the most significant reforms to initial teacher education introduced as a result of the TEMAG recommendations. The Standards and Procedures that support TPA specify a number of graduation requirements for ITE students that will ensure all graduates are classroom-ready.

The Directors discussed AITSL's recommendations for ensuring consistent and quality TPAs are adopted nationally. Recommendations included advocating that the national TPA expert panel that advises the TPA accreditation panels in each state and territory should assess and provide advice to all TPA accreditation panels, rather than it be an opt-in mechanism.

Teacher Standards and Principal Standard

The Australian Professional Standards for Teachers and the Australian Professional Standard for Principals, which are endorsed by all states and territories, are used nationally by teachers and school leaders.

AITSL management asked the Directors to consider and discuss the merit of the review and the scope of its focus. The Directors noted the commitment by States and Territories to the Standards and the progress that has been made in adopting them since their inception.

It was determined that an initial review of the application and effectiveness of the Standards should be scoped out for the Board to consider at a future meeting.

Certification

National teacher certification is a voluntary and portable process that ensures teachers have access to a rigorous and transparent process that recognises Highly Accomplished and Lead teachers.

It enables teachers to receive feedback on practice and have their practice evaluated by nationally trained external assessors. Certification exposes teachers to communities of practice and supports further development and growth whilst improving outcomes for your students.

HALT Research Framework

In consultation with key stakeholders, AITSL is developing a research framework that will help build an evidence base to understand and share the impact of nationally certified teachers.

HALT Census

The HALT Census will form part of the body of evidence used to understand the impact of HALTs. The Census was sent to all nationally certified HALTs in early November 2017 and the initial findings will be shared and discussed at the annual HALT Summit in Canberra in March.

HALT Summit

The Directors were provided with an update on the HALT Summit, which will bring together more than 250 nationally certified HALTs from across Australia in Canberra in March 2018. Participants have the opportunity to collaborate, share best practice, and to learn from other leading educational thinkers. The Directors were informed that registrations are very strong and well above target at this stage.

Next meeting

The first meeting for 2018 will be on 9 February 2018.