

AITSL Board Meeting 26 May 2017

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

Update from the Chair

It is always rewarding to be able to gather with our Board and focus how we can support our teachers and leaders to have the greatest impact on Australian children.

The May AITSL Board meeting was extremely constructive. We had an agenda that had some significant issues. Considerable preparation and thinking had gone into each paper and we were able to progress the work.

Key topics

There have been four significant recent achievements.

1. **AITSL's 2017-2020 Strategic Plan** was endorsed by the Directors at the May meeting. The Plan builds on the significant outcomes AITSL has advanced since it was established in 2010 and forms a set of reforms, of which there is consensus for the next steps in teaching and school leadership.
2. Our Interactive Leadership Instruction Tool video won the **best Education & Training Award** at the prestigious Australian Video Producers Associate Awards. The AITSL team, along with Creativa, worked incredibly hard to develop a product that would resonate with principals and school leaders; the Board celebrated this achievement.
3. The Board also acknowledged the successful launch of the new **Feedback Resources** for schools, which were produced in partnership with Evidence for Learning. The board recognised that effective feedback practices can greatly improve student learning and teaching quality, so these evidence-based, practical [feedback tools](#) are a valuable addition to AITSL's tools and resources.
4. The Directors were presented a sneak peek of **AITSL's new website**. The Directors were pleased to see the beta version of the new site, which will revolutionise the way teachers, school leaders and other interested stakeholders access the wealth of information contained on the site. The new website will be launched after the July school holidays.

AITSL initiatives and resources

The AITSL team presented papers on a number of key projects.

High-Quality Professional Learning

High-Quality Professional Learning is an area of focus and consideration for jurisdictions and the Australian Government. In preparation for expected instruction from the Minister (which has since been received), the Teaching and School Leadership team presented an initial preparatory paper outlining AITSL's potential approach to consultation and framework for improving professional learning for teachers in Australia.

The Directors had an extensive and constructive discussion about how AITSL could best support quality professional learning for teachers in Australia. They explored a number of questions around the topic including how to design high-quality professional learning for teachers that will have the biggest impact in schools and how can AITSL assist in addressing the priorities in schools, systems and sectors in this area. The Board directed the team to continue the approach taken, in light of feedback, and to bring a paper back to the Board on a draft practice framework.

The Teacher Education Ministerial Advisory Group (TEMAG)

An update was provided on the progress of the implementation of the TEMAG recommendations, including the progress being made with accreditation panellist training. The Directors had an extensive discussion about the milestones achieved to date and next steps. It was determined and agreed that the Directors would work with the TEMAG team to develop the concept of a Strategic Forum that would help inform the next steps in the development of the TEMAG recommendations. A draft paper will be presented at the July Board Meeting.

The Board was briefed on the progress of the Teaching Performance Assessment (TPA) Grant Program, which will ensure rigorous, valid and reliable assessments of teaching performance of Initial Teacher Education Programs in Australia. The funding agreements with the two grantees are almost finalised. The project leads for the two consortia are Learning Sciences Institute Australia (Australian Catholic University) and the Melbourne Graduate School of Education (The University of Melbourne). A Board Director was called on to chair the TPA Steering Committee, which will provide expert advice to the AITSL Board, AITSL project team and consortia of initial teacher education providers. Mr Trevor Fletcher was nominated and accepted.

Leadership Development

Following the successful School Leadership Roundtable in Canberra on 11 April, the Directors were provided with an update on the development of a national leadership development framework that considers the needs of current as well as future principals. The Board approved the consultation process being proposed for the development of the national leadership development framework. We will now begin national consultation on the leadership development framework.

HALT Network

In March 2017, AITSL held its annual HALT Summit in Sydney, which is a way to recognise nationally certified Highly Accomplished Lead Teachers (HALT) and provides an opportunity to work together to improve outcomes for all learners across Australia. The Directors discussed how we can grow the HALT Network so that more teachers can take part in key opportunities such as the Summit. The Board supported the HALT Summit continuing. The next Summit will be held in Canberra in March 2018.

2017-2018 Work Plan Update

The AITSL management team has developed a comprehensive work plan for the next financial year. The draft plan was presented to the Board, which noted its further development, including the proposed AITSL projects for 2017-18 for submission to the Department of Education and Training for Ministerial approval.