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Principal's foreword

Introduction

This Annual Report provides a broad overview of Rochedale State High School, its staff and its students' achievements for the 2008 school year. Major achievements for the year include:

- Maintenance of the established high standards of conduct, presentation, attendance and performance of students through the school's Student Monitoring Programs.
- Engagement of all subjects across all year levels with agreed numeracy and literacy practices.
- Alignment of curriculum practices with the requirements for Essential Learnings.
- Extension of student Personal Development and Leadership programs within the school.
- Establishment of school wide approaches to research and problem solving.
- Establishment of school wide strategies to support NAPLAN and QCAT preparation and assessment for Year 9.
- Review and enhancement of the student preparation for the Qld Core Skills Test (Mighty Minds).
- Extension of the school's Sports Development Program to include basketball and aerobics.
- Continuation of the school's facilities upgrade including the annex to the community hall, increased shade and student seating and IT cabling.
- Strengthening of partnerships with Universities, TAFE and Industry.
- Enhancement of the school's International Student Program with Visa students from Asia, Latin America and Europe bringing a broad global perspective and sensitivity to cultural diversity to education at Rochedale State High School.

Future outlook

In order to achieve enhanced outcomes for all students the following strategies will be introduced and maintained during 2009.

- Embed ICTs across all Key Learning Areas and all year levels.
- Review ICT management and usage across the school.
- Continue facilities upgrade including a new Trade Centre, the Science block redevelopment, junior Catering Kitchen redevelopment and the new Resource Centre multi-media room.
- Expand Year 8 Enrichment Programs to include Instrumental Music.
- Expand business and industry partnerships to enhance student pathways to training and employment.
- Continue transition into OneSchool for all information recording and reporting.
- Review and update school Responsible Behaviour Management procedures.
- Enhance Primary school links through Science, Agriculture, Sport and Music.
- Review and enhance International Student procedures to align with 2008 re-accreditation priorities.
- Enhance student Personal Development program with a focus to self.
- Improve transition links between middle and senior school curriculums across all KLAs.
- Enhance support strategies for targeted groups within the school including ATSI students and Students at Risk.

Our school at a glance

School Profile

Total student enrolments for this school	846
Year levels offered	8-12
Coeducational or single sex	Coeducational

Rochedale State High School is located on the southern boundary of Brisbane. It has direct access to the city via the Eight Mile Plains Bus Exchange on the South East Busway which is located approximately one kilometre from the school.

Rochedale enjoys a country environment just 20 minutes South of the Brisbane CBD and 40 minutes North of the beaches and theme parks of the Gold Coast.

Curriculum offerings

Our distinctive curriculum offerings

In addition to a comprehensive range of curriculum offerings based around the nationally agreed learning areas of Mathematics, English, Science, Study of Society and the Environment, Technology, The Arts, LOTE and Health and Physical Education, Rochedale High offers specialist programs in:

- Enrichment classes in Mathematics, Science, Digital Media and Instrumental Music;
- The Arts with a focus on Dance, Music, Drama, Instrumental Music and Film & Television & New Media;
- Marine and Aquatic Practices;
- Agriculture through the school's on site two hectare animal and market garden farm;
- Mandarin Chinese & French;
- Sports Development Programs in Touch, Volleyball, Basketball and Aerobics;
- Engineering Studies and Cabinet Making.
- Certificate programs in; Information Technology, Business, Hospitality, Engineering, Building and Construction and Music Performance

Extra curricula activities

The Rochedale State High School vision statement, "*performers for every stage expressing talents in every field*" extends beyond the formal curriculum to encompass a range of activities including;

- Strong Instrumental Music Program that is linked to feeder schools and sees students performing in a range of competitions.
- Structured Personal Development Program for all students.
- Career Development Program integrated into the curriculum.
- Annual Musical and Performers for Every Stage activities.
- Full range of sporting options supported by strong school performance at District, Regional and State levels.
- Wide range of recreational sporting options based around student needs.
- Participation in a range of external sports competitions e.g. Vicki Wilson Cup, Schools Cup Volleyball and Queensland All Schools Touch.
- Participation in a range of educationally aligned competitions e.g. Westpac Mathematics, Readers Cup, Titration and Chess.
- Annual Snowy Mountains Ski tour.

Our school at a glance

How computers are used to assist learning

The integration of technology into the teaching/learning process is a key feature of all programs at the school, with our students having access to over 320 Internet capable networked computers. A key focus for these technologies is on their use as tools to assist in the learning and development of our young people.

In Year 8, a structured Digital Media program links key aspects of computer skills development with components of students' core curriculum to ensure that all students develop skills required to function in the 21st century. Across years 9 – 12, the school focuses technology skills development around multimedia applications equipping students with the skills and qualifications to move into both tertiary studies and the workforce.

The easy access to ICT labs, computer pods and mobile laptop pods throughout the school provides opportunities for students to apply and further develop their skills as components of their individual curriculum programs.

Social climate

The social climate at Rochedale High is friendly and welcoming with a focus on students supporting each other. This is reflected in the annual School Opinion Survey in which students', parents' and teachers' responses to the question "Do you feel safe in the school?" positioned the school significantly above the average for all schools in Queensland.

Students recorded above State average responses with regard to student progress, variety of courses, safety, learning environment and overall education. They believed that Rochedale High was a good school that prepared them well for further training, education and work.

Involving parents in their child's education.

Through the annual School Opinion Survey, parents and community members have consistently reported high levels of satisfaction with all aspects of the school. The 2008 survey indicated that parents believed that Rochedale High was a good school with well equipped facilities and effective discipline. They identified that the school provided quality teaching and good learning opportunities for their children and that it prepared them for success in the future.

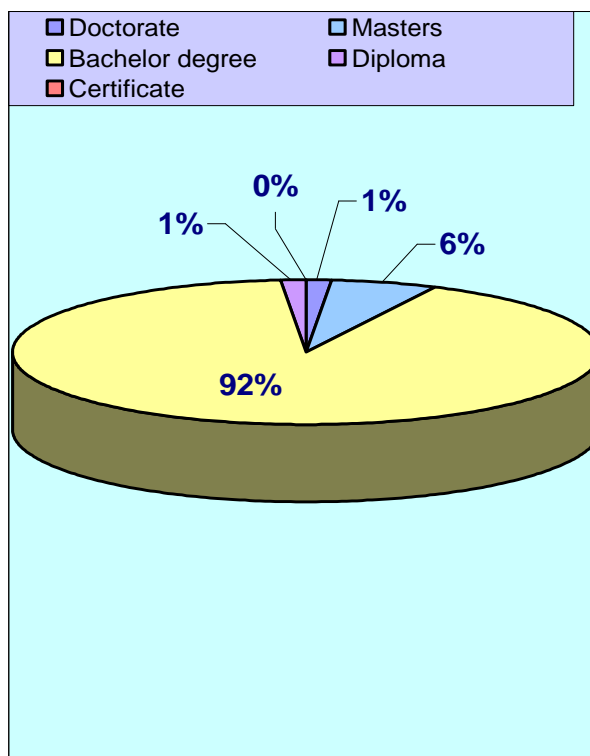
From the 2008 survey 100% of parents stated that their children were getting a good education at the school and that their students were happy to go to Rochedale High.

Rochedale High is keen to involve parents and the broader community in the education of our youth. Opportunities for involvement include mentor learning, the learning support program, the Music, Arts and Agricultural support groups and the Parents and Citizens' Association.

Our staff profile

Qualifications of all teachers.

Highest level of attainment	Number of classroom teachers and school leaders at the school
Doctorate	1
Masters	4
Bachelor degree	64
Diploma	1
Certificate	0



Expenditure on and teacher participation in professional development.

- The total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2008 was \$20,715.
- The major professional development initiatives were as follows:
 - OneSchool Training for all staff - information keeping and reporting
 - QSA Workshops to support syllabus implementation, assessment practices and moderation.
 - Vocational Education and Training workshops and conferences.
 - Workplace Health and Safety training.
- The involvement of the teaching staff in professional development activities during 2008 was 80%.

Average staff attendance

- For permanent and temporary staff and school leaders the staff attendance rate was 96% in 2008.

Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year.

- From the end of the 2007 school year, 98% of staff were retained by the school for the entire 2008 school year.

Performance of our students

Student attendance

The average attendance rate as a percentage in 2008 was 90 %.

Key outcomes

National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) results - our reading, writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation, and numeracy results for the Years 3, 5, 7 and 9.

Domain	Measures	Yr 9
Reading	Average score for the school	556
	Average score for Queensland	568.2
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008 93 %
Writing	Average score for the school	543
	Average score for Queensland	555.3
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008 91 %
Spelling	Average score for the school	559
	Average score for Queensland	567.8
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008 84 %
Grammar and Punctuation	Average score for the school	536
	Average score for Queensland	563.2
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008 84 %
Numeracy	Average score for the school	558
	Average score for Queensland	570.7
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008 96 %

Apparent retention rates Year 10 to Year 12.

Year 12 student enrolment as a percentage of the Year 10 student cohort.

81%

Performance of our students

Outcomes for our Year 12 cohort of 2008

Number of students awarded a Senior Statement.	85
Number of students awarded a Queensland Certificate Individual Achievement (QCIA).	0
Number of students awarded a Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) at the end of Year 12.	53
Number of students awarded an International Baccalaureate Diploma (IBD).	0
Number of students awarded one or more Vocational Education and Training (VET) qualifications.	41
Number of students who are completing or completed a School-based Apprenticeship or Traineeship (SAT).	8
Number of students receiving an Overall Position (OP).	40
Percentage of OP/ IBD eligible students with OP 1-15 or an IBD.	48 %
Percentage of Year 12 students who are completing or completed a SAT or were awarded one or more of the following: QCE, IBD, VET qualification.	79 %
Percentage of Queensland Tertiary Admissions Centre (QTAC) applicants receiving a tertiary offer.	90 %

Post-school destination information

At the time of publishing this School Annual Report, the results of the 2008 Year 12 post-school destinations survey, Next Step – Student Destination Report for the school were not available. Information about these post-school destinations of our students will be incorporated into this Report in September.

Value added

Rochedale State High School offers a challenging, balanced curriculum that emphasises the academic and social development of students and caters for the diversity of their needs. Significant indicators of progress in 2008 include;

- 90% of students who applied to University/TAFE were made an offer through QTAC.
- 94% of surveyed senior students who left school in 2008 were in full time work, significant part-time work or study by the end of February 2009.
- 2008 Year 9 NAPLAN results demonstrated significant improvements in numeracy and literacy rates in comparison to corresponding year 7 statistics.
- Senior students continued to perform at or above State Performance levels in the vast majority of subject areas.
- Students successfully combined their studies with VET qualifications or TAFE study.
- Students gained entry to a broad range of school based Apprenticeships and Traineeships particularly in areas of demonstrated skills shortage.
- High level educational and social support was provided for both Students with Disabilities and Students with Diverse Learning Needs through the ADC.
- Students gained experience of a wide range of cultures through our growing International Student Program.

Performance of our students

- Our well structured and comprehensive school Personal Development Program strongly supported students' social and emotional development.
- For the second year in a row every summary area within the Student, Parent and Staff Opinion Surveys was at or above the State mean, demonstrating strong satisfaction within the school community.
- Rochedale High experienced continued enrolment growth (over 30% in the last four years). 2008 registered the largest year 8 enrolment in over a decade.
- Student retention rates remained 6% above the Education Queensland target due to the school's range of study options which meet a diversity of student needs.

Parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school

In the 2008 Annual Opinion Survey students, parents and staff reported high levels of satisfaction across all performance areas. This is evidenced by the fact that **none of the 23 performance areas measured** across client groups **reported satisfaction levels below that of the average for all other schools in the State.**

Highlights of the survey data included **satisfaction levels that were above average** for:

Parents: Student Outcomes, Curriculum, School Climate and Resources.

Students: Student Outcomes, Curriculum, Pedagogy, Learning Climate, School Climate and Resources.