

# NSW Secondary Principals' Council



## POSITION PAPER

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### Multi-Campus Secondary Colleges

#### Rationale

The purpose of this Position Paper is to present an agreed NSW Secondary Principals Council (NSWSPC) statement of position, principles, and recommendations about Multi-Campus Secondary Colleges.

#### Definition/Context:

Multi-Campus Secondary Colleges (MCSC) can be defined as a network of campuses for secondary students that function as a single educational entity across multiple geographical sites. Within the NSW Department of Education there exist multiple diverse structures that represent MCSCs. These include combinations of junior campuses (7-9 or 7-10), with senior campuses (10-12 or 11-12), combinations of 7-12 campuses, and combinations of junior, senior and 7-12 campuses.

MCSC exist in a variety of geographic locations across the state, servicing a wide variety of school communities. With socio economic disadvantage ranging in FOEIs of 83 to 186 and, MCSCs located in metropolitan Sydney, Newcastle, Western NSW and the Central and North Coast, structures of MCSC have needed to vary to reflect the educational and wellbeing needs of the local school communities.

Each College was formed in response to contextual needs and after deep comprehensive consultation with their whole school community.

#### Principles:

The NSWSPC holds that:

- MCSCs represent a valuable model of Secondary Education delivery.
- Collaboration of teachers across campuses within the college in regular professional learning communities resulting in considerable expertise and improvement in practice.
- All teaching staff in colleges have access to 7-12 teaching opportunities.
- Access and choice is enhanced across all secondary stages by the scale available through shared campus resources. This is exemplified in Stage 6 curriculum choice.



- Wellbeing and co-curricula opportunities for students are tailored and enhanced to reflect the developmental needs of a MCSC model.
- The Public Education 'brand' is strengthened in communities where MCSC exist through the combined energies of all campuses focussing on shared priorities. This is evidenced by improved retention and increased enrolment from non-government schools.
- The College General Staffing Entitlement is an essential resource for the successful operation of MCSC. The management of the CGSE is the responsibility of the College/Executive Principal.
- Each campus may be viewed as an individual school when applying for a grant.

## **Recommendations**

The NSWSPC recommends that the Department:

- Recognises and acknowledges the inherent positive opportunities available to students through MCSCs.
- Deliver on policy and communications in a way that promotes college unity; such as infrastructure, enrolment procedures.
- Actively promote the benefits of existing MCSCs in their communities.
- Maintain a College/Executive Principal, stand alone or rotational, and Campus Principals provide the optimum and essential leadership model to develop and maintain shared culture for the college, inclusive of campus culture.
- Undertake an inclusive whole-school community consultation prior to any change to the College structure and/or Principal classification.
- Provide a College Deputy Principal as a 'free' position in the College General Staffing Entitlement, whilst maintaining the remainder specific staffing allocation in real terms.,
- Ensure all College campus infrastructure is fit for purpose and maintained to a high standard.
- Work positively with the local College Management Group to maintain and improve MCSCs where issues have arisen.
- Finance each campus as a standalone school.

- Ensure College/Executive Principals have access to department systems across the entire college.
- Explicitly and collectively recognises all staff across all campuses for their contribution to the successes and positive outcomes/results attained by students eg. HSC results.

**NSWSPC Commitment:**

The NSWSPC is committed to participating in meaningful consultation with the Department and other organisations to achieve these recommendations and thereby build the educational opportunities for NSW students across diverse school communities.

**Ratified at the SPC Term 2 State Assembly on 31 May 2024.**