



## 2023 SEMINAR & AGM

# LEADING WITH HOPE & OPTIMISM



Friday  
Oct 27



Rendezvous  
Hotel



9.00 AM -  
3.30 PM



**Steve Francis** Dip T, BEd, CSP

Steve is a renowned educational leadership expert who is widely celebrated and recognised for his significant contributions to the field of education and leadership development. Steve has authored numerous influential articles and books offering practical insights and strategies to enhance leadership effectiveness.



**Hassan Nur Hussein**

Hassan is currently studying teaching at Victoria University however his education and life journey has been one of challenge, hope and optimism. As a teenage refugee from Somalia, Hassan spoke no English and was faced with the challenge of relocating to a new country with no family connection and support. Hassan's story is truly inspirational and a key reminder that as educators we have the power to ignite hope and optimism within the students entrusted in our care.



**Chris Connolly**

Chris is a former Australian Rules football player, coach and administrator. He is also a trained and qualified teacher. Chris is a wonderful example of someone who is eternally optimistic, sees the good in others and has always led with an incredible sense of hope and optimism.

**CLICK [HERE](#) TO REGISTER**

MEMBERS: \$220

NON-MEMBERS \$250

Places are limited with registration closing Friday 20th October 2023

Please contact Jenna on 0412 584 002 or [jbenison@apf.net.au](mailto:jbenison@apf.net.au) for support with registration

Thank you to our partners for their ongoing support & sponsorship for this event.



# SPEAKER INFORMATION

## **Steve Francis Dip T, BEd, CSP**

Steve Francis is an expert in the complexities of school leadership and the creator of OPTIMAL Leadership. He understands the challenges and demands of being a school leader. As well as having been the Principal of a number of Queensland schools from a one-teacher school through to a large metropolitan school, he was Principal of an international school in Hong Kong.

For the past five years Steve has been recognised by Educator magazine as one of the top 50 most influential educators in Australia.

He completed his Masters in School Leadership focusing on stress in schools. This led him to develop the Happy School program. Almost 700 schools subscribe to receive Steve's weekly articles and use them to improve staff well-being.

To support busy school leadership teams to get clear and aligned, Steve recently launched School Leadership Sprints. Steve works with leading educators across Australia and New Zealand to help them reach their potential and optimise their schools. He brings energy and practical insights to his professional development programs. Steve is passionate about keeping things simple and helping leaders get work – life satisfaction.

[www.stevefrancis.au](http://www.stevefrancis.au)

## **Hassan Nur Hussein**

At a young age, without any formal education, Hassan realised the importance of education and the potential it held for his future. Despite being forced to work as a shepherd, Hassan remained determined to learn and improve his life.

Feeling welcomed and at home in Australia, Hassan embraced his education with gratitude and determination. He attended school every day, never missing a single day, fully aware of the value of education. Hassan worked hard, seeking help and guidance from his teachers and mentors along the way. Through his hard work and commitment, Hassan excelled academically.

Hassan is determined to become a teacher and make a positive impact on students' lives. Hassan's journey is a testament to the power of hard work, determination, and the value of education. Hassan's life story is one of hope and optimism and the life changing events that have led him to becoming a teacher.

## **Chris Connolly**

Chris is a seasoned football coach known for his dedication to the sport and his extensive experience, dedication and commitment to Australian Rules Football (AFL).

Chris was born in Wagga Wagga NSW, and grew up in Shepparton where his family were heavily involved in local footy. Upon completing his formal school education, he went on to attend Rusden State College where he completed a Bachelor of Education with a major in Physical Education.

Chris' journey in football began as a player, where he showcased his skills and knowledge of the game. However, it was in his coaching career that he truly shone. After stints as an Assistant Coach with the Melbourne and Hawthorn Football Clubs, in 2002 he joined the Fremantle Dockers as head coach, a position he held with distinction for several years.

Under Chris' leadership, the Dockers experienced significant growth and success. Within his first few years as a coach, the club went from wooden spooners to making finals. His coaching philosophy emphasised teamwork, discipline and a commitment to excellence, values that became the hallmark of the team during his tenure.

Outside of his coaching role, Chris is involved in various community and charity initiatives, further cementing his status as a respected leader and figure both on and off the field. Chris has successfully led large organisations, often under the scrutiny of the media and the pressures of multiple stakeholders. Despite all the ups and downs, he is a wonderful example of someone who is eternally optimistic, sees the good in others and has always lead with an incredible sense of hope and optimism.



**TheirCare**  
where kids love to be!

**FREE**  
**AGENCY**  
EDUCATION RECRUITMENT