

23 August 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

### RE: 2025 St Anne's College Advisory Council Nominations

The St Anne's College Advisory Council is a key element in supporting the work of our Principal and contributes to shaping the vision and strategic direction of our college. Together, the council can support the development and help the college achieve the goals set out in its School Improvement Plan.

The current three-year term for council members is coming to an end and nominations for the next term, which would officially commence in January 2025, are now open for those who would like to join the Advisory Council.

If successful, you will be provided with an induction to the Advisory Council to ensure you are abreast of your roles and responsibilities, and how the role of the Advisory Council and its members differs from that of the principal and school leadership team.

If you are interested in nominating for the position, you are invited to attend our next Advisory Council meeting as a guest to get a feel for how the meetings are run, items discussed and the time commitment required. The next meeting is currently scheduled to be held at St Anne's College on Thursday 5 September 2024 at 6-8pm.

If you would like to attend the next Advisory Council meeting, please ensure you RSVP to either of the following contacts:

- Nancy Minicozzi, EA for the Principal, nminicozzi@sackialla.catholic.edu.au; or
- Zara Stratton, Chairperson, stratton.zara@gmail.com

Please include the name of the attendee along with a contact phone number and email address in case of any late changes to the meeting.

If you wish to nominate yourself to become an Advisory Council member please submit your nomination in writing to either Nancy or Zara at the above email addresses by Thursday 12 September 2024. Late nominations will not be accepted. If we receive more nominations than required, the college community will hold a ballot opening on Friday 13 September and closing at 5pm on Thursday 19 September 2024. We will provide information on how you can participate in the voting process if this is required.

The college community will be advised of the new members on Friday 20 September 2024 via the college newsletter - il giornale.

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Below is a list of FAQs which provides more insight into becoming a member of the St. Anne's College Advisory Council:

## 1. Do I need a specific skill set to become an Advisory Council member?

No. The most important contribution to the Advisory Council is being a parent and/or guardian motivated to be involved and engaged with the St Anne's College community. The individual motivation is to be focused on the whole school community with an interest in the strategic direction and growth for those who seek an education at St Anne's College and be willing and open to a common purpose, understanding and sharing of ideas.

#### 2. What is the commitment?

The tenure of membership is for a three year term. During this period the commitment requires attendance at two Advisory Council meetings per term, in weeks 3 and 8, over the course of the school year. Meetings are currently held on a Thursday evening at 6-8pm. The meeting agenda and preparation reading is emailed one week prior to the meeting. Time is required to read through the material in order to actively participate in the meeting. At times there may be projects that require consultation and involvement of Advisory Council member(s). This involvement would be a voluntary commitment.

## 3. Do I need to be Catholic to become an Advisory Council member?

No. There does need to be an openness to learning about Catholic Education, however, and a commitment to actively support the Vision and Catholic Identity of St Anne's College. To refresh, St Anne's College is a Catholic community welcoming all, inspired by a loving God, committed to faith, wisdom and learning. Central to the mission of St Anne's College is an unequivocal commitment to fostering the dignity, self-esteem and integrity of children and young people and providing them with a safe, supportive and enriching environment to develop spiritually, physically, intellectually, emotionally and socially. St Anne's College promotes the safety, wellbeing and inclusion of all students. At St Anne's College we strive to:

- Develop a relationship with God that supports and nurtures our personal faith.
- Create relationships that are collaborative and in partnership with students, staff, parents, parish and the wider community.
- Empower individuals to grow in confidence and a willingness to explore their world: spiritually, academically, socially, emotionally and physically.
- Implement a curriculum that is contemporary, focuses on the needs of the individual and celebrates the joys of new learning.

# 4. As an Advisory Council member can I make changes to the operational management of St Anne's College?

No. The St Anne's College Advisory Council is the leading consultative and advisory group for the Principal, as an active forum for parent and community participation, providing support and advice

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principally in strategic planning and school improvement. As outlined in the CES Ltd. Governance Charter, Advisory Council members do not have decision making powers. The St Anne's College Advisory Council is intended to:

- Provide a voice for members of the school community.
- Actively support, in collaboration with the local parish, the Vision and Catholic Identity of the College.
- Provide input into and support for strategic planning and directions.
- Provide input and contribute advice in the processes of school improvement and school review.
- Support the Principal in meeting their responsibilities and accountabilities for educational outcomes, effective stewardship of resources, and annual reporting.
- Actively support the Principal in the encouragement of parent/guardian engagement.
- Support the ongoing sustainability of the Council and its members in its succession and learning.

Warm regards,

Sue Carroll Principal

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