

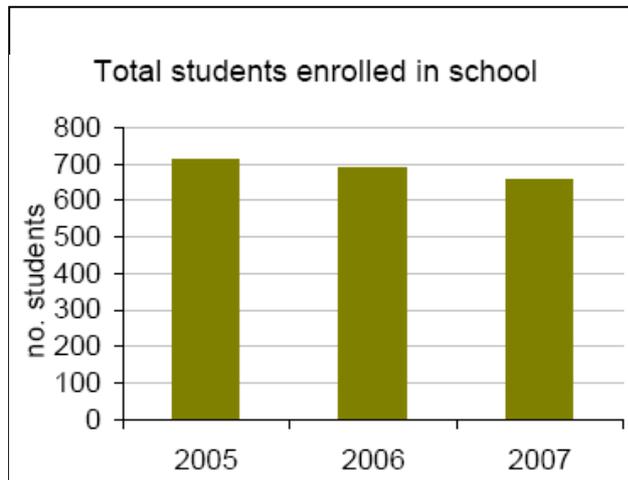
**Warrandyte High School
8437**

**2007 Annual Report to the
School Community**



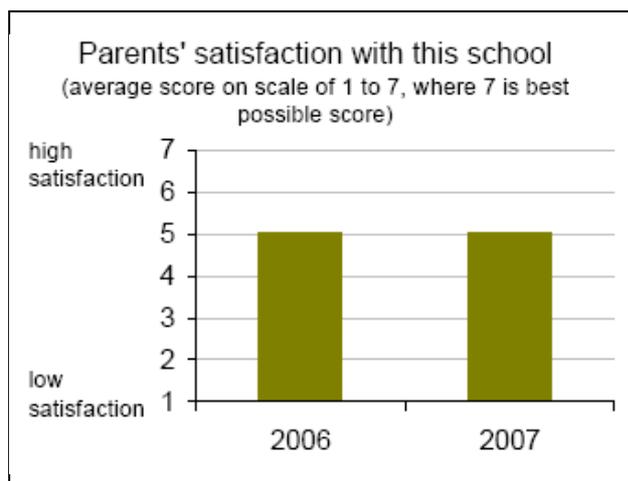
School Overview

Warrandyte High School was opened in 1978 with 42 students and moved into permanent buildings in 1987. The school population has fluctuated over the years and in 2008 there are currently 662 students enrolled in the school, a slight increase on 2007.



The Warrandyte High School Strategic Plan focuses on learning outcomes of all students and the needs of all students. The school motto of “Excellence, Initiative and Diligence” is realised in the many academic and other achievements of the students. Warrandyte High School encourages all students to aim for excellence in all activities they undertake. We recognise the successes of students and celebrate these through public recognition.

The School Council has continued to work with the Leadership Team and the staff to provide an environment that encourages community involvement in the school. The outstanding level of achievement Warrandyte High School has attained in student leadership and community awareness has continued the extra curricular strengths for which we are known. The student leadership program is now an important aspect of the school and the positions of student leaders are strongly contested. The Student Representative Council is strong and provides students from all levels with opportunities to contribute to the school and to programs in the wider community. Students at Warrandyte High School have gained great success in a variety of areas beyond the academic, including sport and the arts: both visual and performing.



Each year parents, selected randomly, are surveyed about their satisfaction with the school in a number of areas. They are also asked to what extent they agree with the statement “Overall, I am satisfied with the education my child receives from their school.” The average score for Warrandyte High School is 5.0 on a scale from 1 to 7, where 7 is the best possible score.

Teacher satisfaction – The average score for teacher satisfaction (morale) on the Staff Survey at this school was 54.1 against a state secondary median of 64.2.

Teacher absence – The average number of days absent per teacher was 2.89 days.

Teacher retention – Of the 58 teaching staff at Warrandyte High School at June 2006 (including those on leave without pay), 52 or 90% were still at the school in June 2007. This figure across all Government schools was 87%.

Teacher participation in professional learning – All teaching staff have participated in professional learning throughout the year, such as the Teacher Professional Leave program, Australian Government Quality Teacher program and the Induction/Mentoring for Beginning program for teachers.

Teacher qualifications – All teachers in Victorian Government schools are registered with the Victorian Institute of Teaching. The requirements for registration with the Victorian Institute of Teaching can be found at www.vit.vic.edu.au/conent.asp?Document_ID=241.

Principal's Report

The community of Warrandyte High School has many reasons to be proud of their High School in 2007: students in Year 12 achieved excellent academic results, the school continued to provide a rich diversity of experiences and opportunities for students and many individuals received awards and recognition beyond the school context.

The percentage of Year 12 students who attained study scores of 40 or above compared very favourably with neighbouring schools. This pattern of consistently high scores was repeated in ENTER scores. Not only were students achieving high scores, but there was a significant improvement in student performance across the board.

Another indicator of success for the school is student satisfaction with their pathway to their chosen career. Students benefited from a suite of programs such as the GAP program and VET in schools (both internally and externally) which are designed to meet the diverse needs of individual students.

The school magazine, *Alexander*, is testimony to the incredible range of enrichment opportunities which exist within the school. A group anthology of student writing won the Mavis Thorpe Clarke award for their entry in the national Fellowship of Australian Writers competition. The Humanities Department are particularly skilled at extending learning beyond the walls of the classroom, with their integration of excursions into classroom studies. Camps are a key feature of the school and as well as the traditional Year 11 tour to Kakadu, there are many specialist camps and overseas trips such as the one to Japan in April. Students can also choose from a range of clubs and activities which exist within the school, often supported by teachers who do so in their own time.

Individual students excelled in the Australian History Challenge, the National Maths and Science competitions, statewide selection of student animation, Women in Engineering program, sporting achievements, Rotary sponsored activities such as public speaking, Lions sponsored events such as Youth of the Year and the YMCA sponsored Youth Parliament.

We draw our Year 7 students from over 30 different primary schools, with students often bypassing other schools to attend Warrandyte High School. 2007 saw the beginnings of some sustained partnerships with feeder primary schools which enriched the learning of the primary school students and provided leadership opportunities for our students.

Apart from other formal opportunities for student leadership, the school continued its commitment to providing a safe and supportive environment for students. Student Services teams were developed at both of the sub-schools and we take this learning into 2008. Each year level had specialist programs to support the social dimension of student learning; most

notably the Mental Health program at Year 11, and the Respect program at Year 7 and the Year 9 Tolerance program.

Students continued to be actively engaged in their community through performances by the Music students at the Warrandyte Festival, an exhibition of student art work at the Rotary Art Show, learning in the CFA program and productions of *Billy* and the two Theatre Studies productions. While a relatively small group of parents is involved in the Parents Association and working bees, there were over sixty parents and community members working on the production of *Billy*.

Through the leadership of the Learning and Teaching Team, the school prepared for Performance and Development Culture accreditation, which is scheduled for June 2008. This initiative identifies the central role that high quality teachers have in the learning of young people. It aims to support the professional learning that teachers require to meet the complexities of their role as educators.

In addition, Roger Dingle, an educational consultant, has worked with the school over six months to enhance the effectiveness of our school as an organisation. This has been fully supported by the Eastern Metropolitan Region of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development. The long term goal of the project is to improve the learning outcomes for all students.

A team of five teachers created a resource entitled *No More Copy and Paste*, a teaching and learning resource for all teachers to use with their junior classes. This resource exemplifies the high expectations, enthusiasm and innovation that exists within the staff at this school and it has been highly sought by teachers from other schools, after they are introduced to it at conferences and professional development activities.

Finally, work was able to begin on the replacement of our roof once the increased funding was confirmed. Plans were finalised as well for the redevelopment of our oval which had been derailed because of the drought. In addition, we were the successful recipient of a Community Water Grant, which will allow us to upgrade our sewerage treatment plant.

Glennis Pitches
Principal

School Council President's Report

2007 has been a successful year for Warrandyte High School. It was my first year as President, succeeding Leis Carson, who had contributed so much to the school in her six years in office.

Apart from the obvious involvement of School Council in finance, facilities, policy development and approving camps, our band of volunteers met regularly over the year to monitor the progress of some major projects.

In the second half of the year, the School received substantial additional funds to its roof grant. Thanks to all involved in this project, particularly one of our Assistant Principals, Dr Stephen Parkin. Work commenced in November on the Art Wing, followed by C Block, with

the new roof having already been put to the test in extreme rains! Other roof areas are being replaced in due course with minimal disruption.

The work on the oval was delayed due to drought restrictions but is now underway and Warrandyte High School can look forward to having a wonderful sports facility later in the year.

A Community Water Grant submission was also successful for a sewerage treatment upgrade.

In early June, I was privileged to be invited to join in hosting a visit to the school by Ryan Smith (State Member for Warrandyte) and Phil Davies (Shadow Minister for Education) - an opportunity to highlight some of the issues concerning our school community.

Throughout 2007, a committed band of “working bees” repainted parts of C Block and completed other routine maintenance tasks, ably assisted by members of the Warrandyte Community Church. We are grateful for their support.

Our Parent Association organised the great annual Trivia Night, contributing again to the community spirit of the school. Other fund raising efforts have produced a new Interactive Whiteboard and hockey goals!

As President, I would like to extend thanks to members of the sub-committees (Finance and Budget, Facilities, Policy and Planning, Technology, Canteen, Music Support Group and the Parent Association) and members of School Council: Glennis Pitches, Ian Vague, Mary Cannon, Steve Parkin, Claire Bloom, Martin Murray, Tracey Hutchins, Judy Finger, Marjorie Lapworth, Fiona Joy, Paul Brown, Ken Takada, Maree Burns and Mary Scully for their knowledge and guidance. I give special thanks to retiring Council Members, Mary Scully and Ian Vague, who have dedicated much time and effort over the years.

On behalf of the school community, I thank our Leadership Team for their commitment to the continued achievements and success of Warrandyte High School.

We have a school of which to be truly proud.

Tracey Hutchins
School Council President

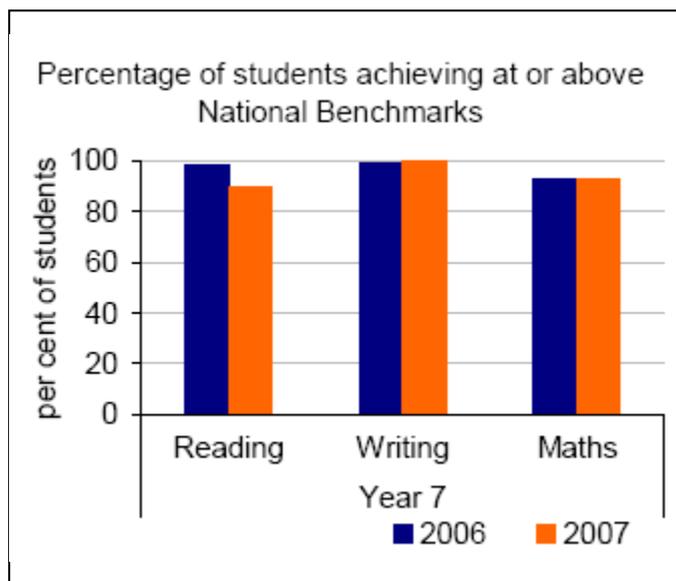
Student Progress & Achievements

Student Learning

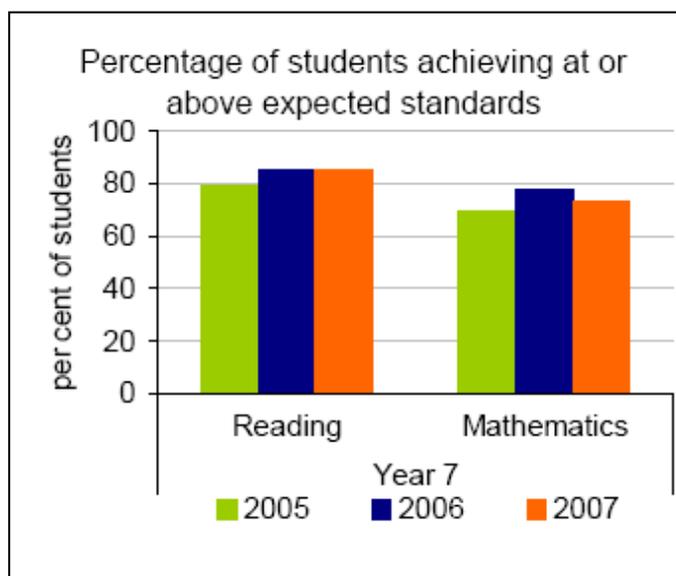
Student Learning Goal

(from the Warrandyte High School Strategic Plan 2007-2010)

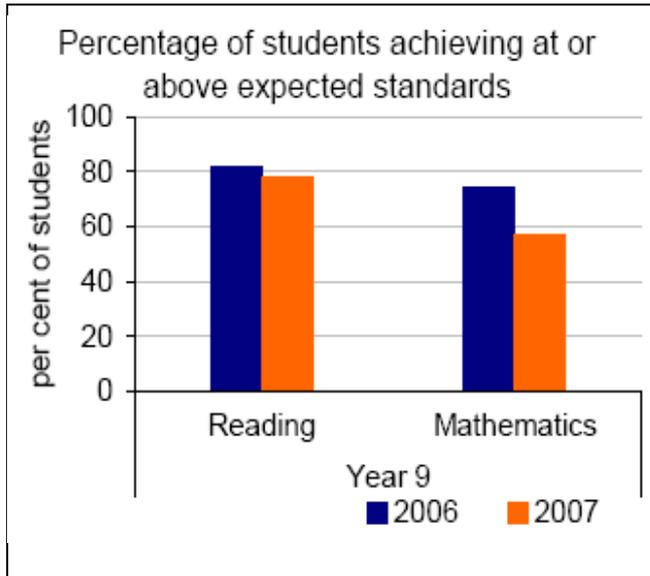
To improve the learning outcomes of all students, in particular, the learning needs of high achieving students in all areas of the curriculum.



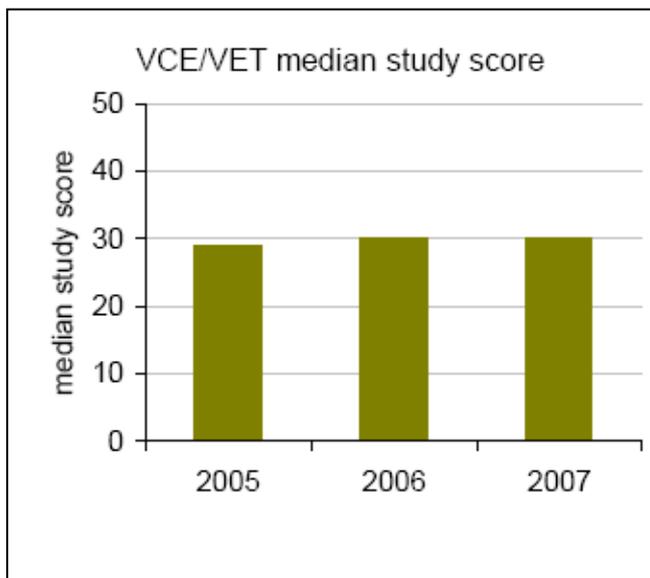
This data shows the percentage of Year 7 students who achieved at or above National Benchmarks according to their AIM results. This is only the second year that this data is available. The data shows that all students at Year 7 achieved at the National Benchmark in Writing. The percentage of students who performed at the expected National Benchmark in Reading is lower than in 2006 while the percentage of students achieving at National Benchmarks in Writing and Maths in 2007 remained the same as 2006.



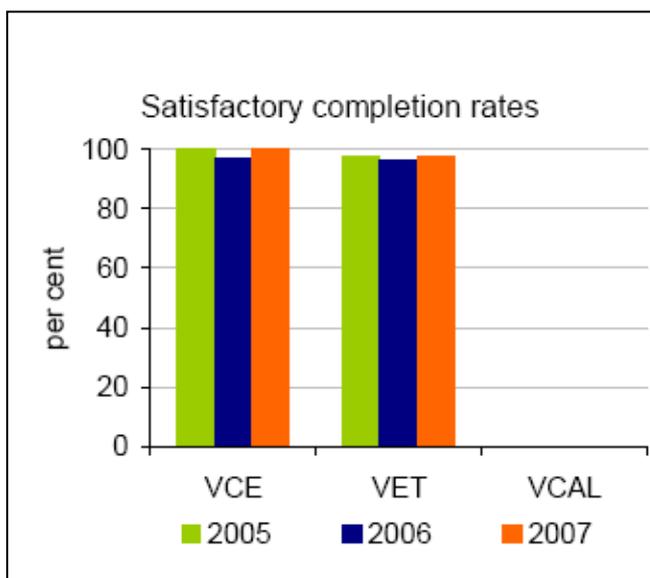
This data shows the percentage of Year 7 students who, according to their AIM results, have performed at the expected level (a "C" grading) or higher ("A" or "B") against the CSF/VELS. The result for Reading has remained the same as for the previous year. Results for Mathematics are slightly decreased when compared to 2006 but still higher than in 2005. There is no available data to compare this cohort's earlier performance in primary school.



The data shows the percentage of Year 9 students who, according to the AIM tests results, were achieving at or above their expected standards. The data shows a decrease in the number of Year 9 students in 2007 (as compared to 2006) who were achieving at or above their expected level in Reading and Mathematics. This reflects the Year 7 AIM results for this cohort (see 2005 data above). The current Teaching Professional Leave program, focussing as it does on the teaching of junior maths, will address the issue of student outcomes in Mathematics.



VCE results for all studies 2007 (median study score 30.3) showed an improvement on the 2006 school results (median study score 30.1). The score has increased each year for the past 3 years. Particularly pleasing was the continued improvement in study scores above 40. In 2006 7.6% of study scores were above 40. In 2007 this rose to 8.3%.



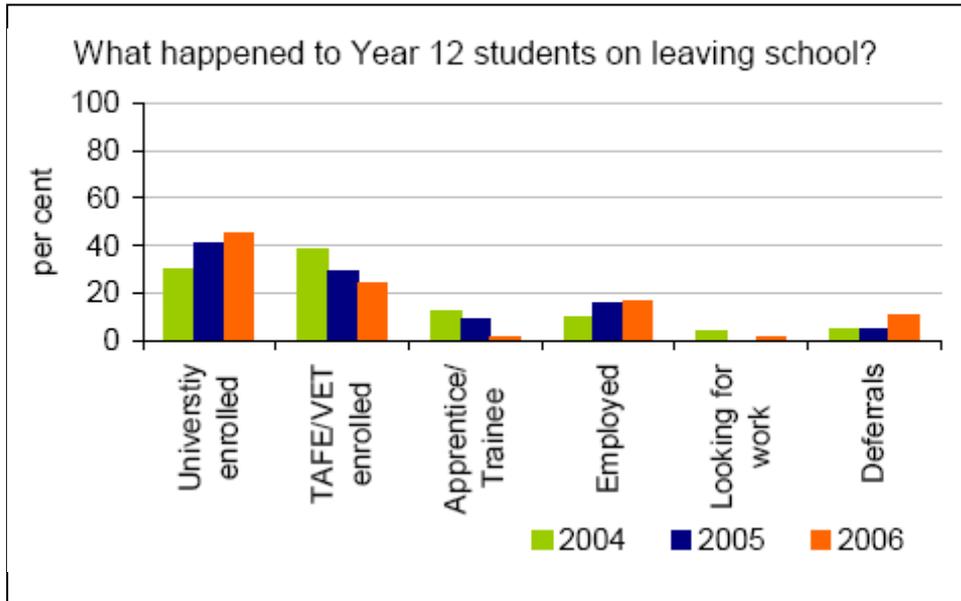
The completion rates of VCE students was very good in 2007. Warrandyte High School does not offer VCAL studies.

Student Pathways and Transitions

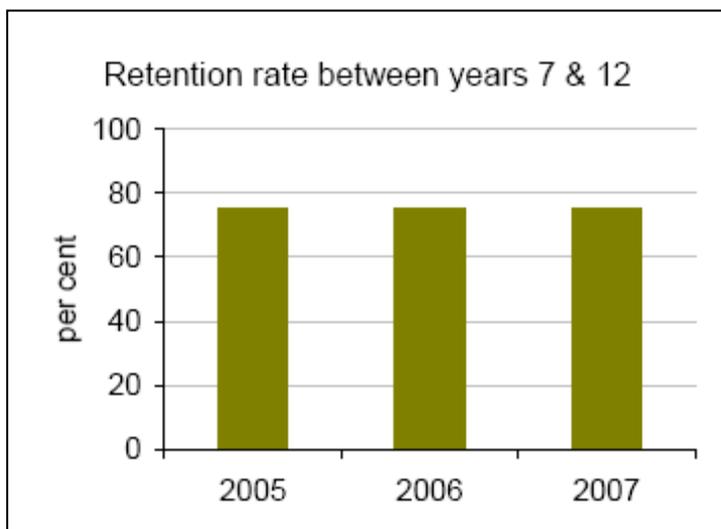
Student Pathways and Transitions Goal

(from the Warrandyte High School Strategic Plan 2007-2010)

To meet the transition needs of students at key points in their schooling and provide appropriate educational pathways that are designed to provide increased opportunities for students



Data for 2007 is not available until August 2008 when the On-Track data which tracks the destinations of the previous Year 12 students is released. In 2006, more than 80% of students went into further study at the tertiary level, either at university or TAFE, although there are an increasing number of students choosing to defer. The number of students choosing University as their preferred tertiary option has continued to grow. The number of students choosing to undertake apprenticeships or traineeships has declined.



The data shows the number of Year 12 full-time equivalent students enrolled in August as a percentage of Year 7 enrolments in February five years earlier. It is therefore a comparison of numbers only, not individual students.

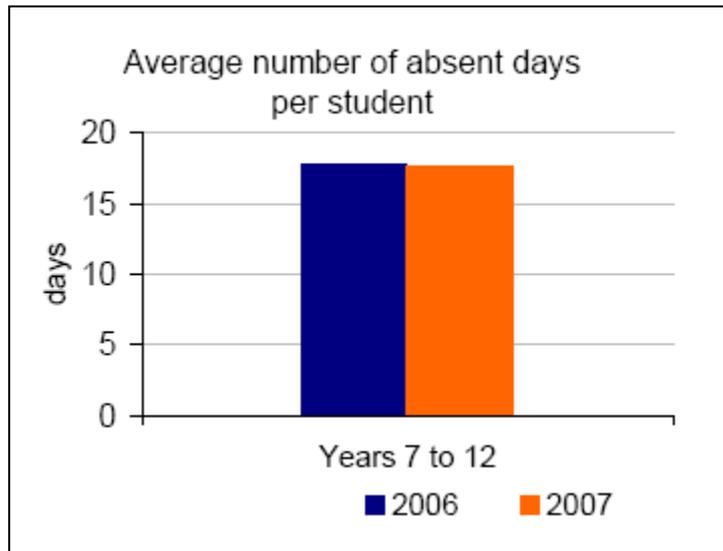
The 2007 Year 7-12 retention figures have remained similar to 2006 and show the school retention rate has remained stable over the past three years.

Student Engagement and Wellbeing

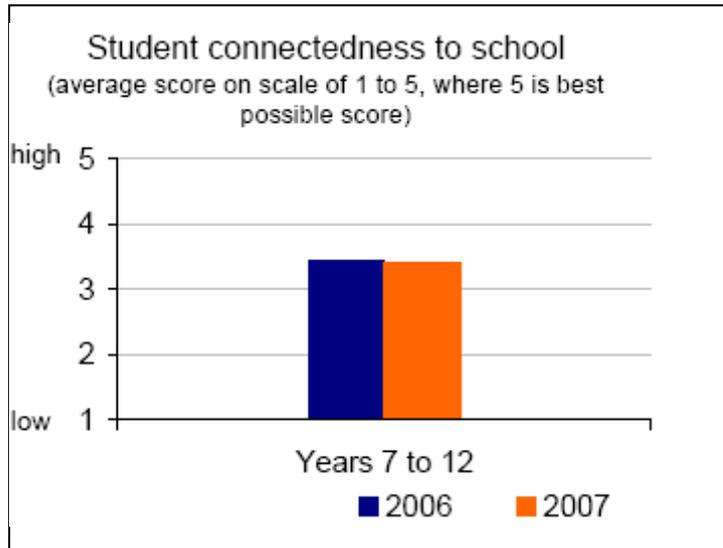
Student Engagement and Wellbeing Goal

(from the Warrandyte High School Strategic Plan 2007-2010)

To engage all students in their learning and develop in each individual a sense of wellbeing and connectedness to their school and their peers



The student absenteeism data shows that the average number of absent days per student has decreased slightly for 2007 (17.6) as compared to 2006 (17.7). Absences may be slightly skewed due to chronic illness of a small number of students and by poor attendance at athletics and swimming sports days.



In the Student Attitudes to School Survey, students are asked to what extent they agree with each of five statements (I feel good about being a student at this school, I like school this year, I am happy to be at this school, I feel like I belong at this school, I look forward to going to school) on a scale where 1 = strongly disagree and 5 = strongly agree. The average score for student connectedness to school at this school was 3.3 on a scale from 1 to 5 where 5 is the best possible score.

Future Directions

There are plenty of opportunities and challenges ahead of the school. In 2008, we need to continue to implement the Strategic Plan (2007-2010) with its focus on building a culture of achievement and success.

In 2008, the extensive evaluation of Year 7&8 learning and teaching will conclude. This is the first stage of a comprehensive internal review of the whole school curriculum.

A team of teachers was successful in attaining significant funding to also focus on the teaching of Mathematics at these year levels.

The provision of education within the Eastern Metropolitan Region is changing. This provides the school an opportunity to reaffirm our commitment to quality education regardless of family or socio-economic factors, which is a cornerstone of a democratic system.

As well, both at Federal and State levels, there are major Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) initiatives. It is important that the school is ready to meet these changes through an audit of what we currently do and the development of a plan to meet these opportunities. While we had hoped to have our new website functioning earlier this year, it is not far from completion. This will enable better communication and allow us to then concentrate on further developing our intranet, which will be accessible to current students and their families.

From a facilities perspective, work is well underway for the replacement of the roof and the oval work has commenced. Major fundraising will be required through the Building Fund to raise the additional \$84,000 required. This supplements the \$150,000, which was granted to the school through the Investing in Schools Fund. At the end of the project, we will have a first class sporting facility.

We are well placed to address the challenges ahead. Our strengths as a school are the people within it. The expertise, understandings and skills of our staff, the willingness and motivation of our students and support of our parents mean that we can look forward to a rewarding and vibrant year in 2008.

Glennis Pitches
Principal

Financial Performance

Financial Performance for the year ending 31st December, 2007		Financial Position as at 31st December, 2007	
Revenue	2007 Actual	Funds Available	2007 Actual
DE&T Grants	\$812,442	High Yield Investment Account	\$759,854.97
Commonwealth Government Grants	\$5,105	Official Account	\$14,290.57
State Government Grants	\$15,384	Other Bank Accounts(listed individually)	
Other	\$107,239	<i>Building Fund</i>	\$9,812.38
Locally Raised Funds	\$987,863	<i>Library Fund</i>	\$13,866.13
Total Operating Revenue	\$1,928,033	<i>Co-operative</i>	\$81.27
		<i>Term Deposit Account 1</i>	\$21,320.45
Expenditure		<i>Term Deposit Account 2</i>	\$206,603.76
Salaries and Allowances	\$130,106	<i>Term Deposit Account 3</i>	\$104,517.87
Bank Charges	\$4,749	<i>Term Deposit Account 4</i>	\$19,092.00
Consumables	\$123,693	<i>Music Support Group</i>	\$4,748.04
Books and Publications	\$18,025	Total Funds Available	\$1,154,187.47
Communication Costs	\$62,552	Financial Commitments	2007 Actual
Furniture and Equipment	\$136,171	Accounts Payable Control	\$58,373.00
Utilities	\$50,339	Camps/Excursions	\$61,372.00
Property Services	\$240,848	Building/Grounds including SMS	\$691,835.00
Travel and Subsistence	\$468	Special Programs inc Student Services	\$38,437.00
Motor Vehicle Expenses	\$0	Region /Clusters Funds	-
Administration	\$43,563	Professional Development	\$633.00
Health and Personal Development	\$1,474	School operating reserve	\$121,007
Professional Development	\$28,468	Salaries and allowances	\$162,387.00
Trading and Fundraising	\$153,557	Parent Clubs	\$20,144.00
Support/Service	\$98,942	Total Financial Commitments	\$1,154,188
Miscellaneous	\$364,986		
Total Operating Expenditure	\$1,457,981		
Net Operating Surplus/- Deficit	\$470,092		
Capital Expenditure (Cases 21 Finance Only)	\$41,681		
Please note that the above amounts do not include any credit revenue or expenditure allocated or spent by the school through its Student Resource Package			

During 2007 the school has further consolidated its financial position, maintaining an Operating Reserve of \$121,007 as per DEECD recommendations. This is money held in reserve against enrolment and staffing fluctuations. The school is also holding grant money received in 2006 which is tied to major repairs and upgrades to the school roof and oval. These major works commenced in 2007 and will be completed in 2008. The currently unused grant monies are invested with MECU. These investments were processed through the DEECD accounting system, CASES21 Finance, are in accordance with DEECD guidelines and have been approved by the Warrandyte High School Council.

School Contact Information

Address:	Alexander and Warrandyte Rds Warrandyte. 3113
Principal:	Glennis Pitches
School Council President:	Tracey Hutchins
Telephone:	9844 2749
Email:	office@warrandytehigh.vic.edu.au
Web site:	www.warrandytehigh.vic.edu.au