

Annual Report

2021



Australian Council of State School Organisations Limited

One voice for every child in government education

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Acknowledgement of Country

'In the spirit of reconciliation, the Australian Council of State School Organisations acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of country throughout Australia and their connections to land, sea and community. We pay our respect to their elders past and present and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.'

President's Annual Report



The national education arena has again been reduced to online interactions with government, department and stakeholders, due to the continuing pandemic. However the actual workload for our organisation has increased.

The number of submissions and requests from Government to ACSSO has been at an all-time high since our last AGM, with submissions made to reviews and discussion papers for the National Architecture Taskforce, NAPLAN, Direct Measurement Income, Senior Secondary Education, Implementing the successor plan to the National Framework for Protecting Australia's Children 2009-2020 Consultation, Quality Initial Teacher Education Review, Australian Curriculum Review, Development of a Sample Learner Profile, Adult Literacy, Numeracy, and

Problem-solving Skills in Australia, Australian Education Legislation Amendment (Prohibiting the Indoctrination of Children) Act 2020, Framework for developing Nationally Consistent Guidance for School Teachers and Principals for the Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse, National Children's Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy, AITSL Indigenous Culture Competency in the Australian Teaching Workforce, National School Resourcing Board, and the Regional Schooling Resource Standing Loadings. We have also been asked to appear before several Senate hearing committees.

The Board and our Members contribute to these submissions, but I would like to publicly acknowledge the extensive work and professionalism of Dianne Giblin, our CEO, and Peter Garrigan, our Projects Officer in particular, who perform the huge task of creating our responses.

In addition, ACSSO has ensured the voice of parents and families has been amplified to the Department, media, and various government funded bodies, such as ACARA, AERO, AITSL and ESA, universities, the national principal orgs, and other stakeholder groups. Each of these organisations have sought out our input because of ACSSO's recognised expertise and considerable knowledge, particularly in Family Engagement, and want to have us contribute to their programs, resources, initiatives and inquiries.

During the periods of remote learning across the country, and especially for the eastern states experiencing long lockdowns, it has been more vital than ever to make the direct and genuine voices of families heard and acknowledged. To that end, ACSSO undertook in early 2021a follow up survey to the COVID survey for families conducted last year. Whilst last year's data painted a very grim picture for many respondents, this year saw some more positive responses. This is no doubt because at the time Australians weren't undertaking learning from home, although Victoria was re-entering a lockdown towards the end of the survey. And so the opportunity to respond was kept open for Victoria, and the subsequent responses demonstrated the ongoing remote learning issues families were experiencing. These results have been shared widely at the national level and ACSSO will continue to work towards eradicating the new, and existing, inequities remote learning has highlighted.

During the year our Member Representatives floated the idea of meetings for their respective Communication Officers, and our CEO facilitated those meetings, which have proven to be very beneficial to all. They are a great way to share communication strategies, and which programs work best in each jurisdiction for communicating to members, governments and other stakeholders. Very recent work which ACSSO is undertaking with Filmpond will be made available to our members soon, and will enable them to communicate

in new and innovative ways with their membership. Best of all, access to the Filmpond suite of resources will be available to ACSSO's members without cost.

Having to meet remotely almost exclusively for the past 12 months has at times been challenging for the Board, but the directors have been extremely flexible and accommodating, adapting to online meeting and conference platforms without issue. I thank them, along with our secretariat of Dianne, Peter, Bec and Donna, for their support of myself, and their dedicated service to the Government School Sector, and in particular to the families of the 2.6million students within the public school system.

In closing, I am looking forward to this year's Member Roundtable, where we will focus on reconnection and recovery for education following the last two years of turmoil, and want to flag that next year is ACSSO's 75th Anniversary, and we are already in the process of planning our conference (hopefully face to face) which will centre around the celebration of such a huge milestone.

Sharron Healy
President/Chair
Australian Council of State School Organisations

Chief Executive Officer's 2021 Report

Year in Review

This year 2021 has presented an even greater challenge than 2020 – and we thought that this wouldn't be possible – it has been an extremely busy year for ACSSO projecting the parent voice and setting directions for advocacy and support.

New Minister

Last December, the Prime Minister, in a Cabinet re-shuffle appointed The Honorable Alan Tudge as Minister for Education and Youth. ACSSO has met with Minister Tudge and his office a number of times – also attending his inaugural address as well as a presentation in Sydney with Noel Pearson.

We have a great communication with his staff, as we do in the other jurisdictional Ministers and their respective departments.

Strategic Plan

In May 2021 the Board held a planning weekend to update the 2015-2020 Strategic Plan for the next five years. This work was facilitated by education consultant, Phil Lambert PSM. Phil is a great supporter of our work particularly within the National Architecture.

The plan strengthens our work in the area of advocacy and Family Engagement. It continues to cover on ACSSO's key strands of work and focus' on:

- providing national leadership and be a collective voice for the parents/carers of all children in government education
- facilitating family engagement and development through a broad and inclusive network
- supporting the sustainability and growth of family engagement in education, to better serve the changing needs of the Australian community
- ensuring a sustainable and socially responsive organisation to fulfil our objectives

The elevating of Parents Australia will be part of this work – especially enabling us to reach beyond the school organisations.

Constitution

Being a living and working document the constitution needs to be constantly refined to ensure that the organisation is working to capacity and remaining current. The Board, in association with Associations Forum has revised the constitution whilst considering some of the current challenges facing national organisations with limited funding.

Some minor adjustments are being presented to the 2021 Annual General Meeting with a view of further work over the next couple of years.

Funding

We currently are negotiating our service agreement criteria for 2021-2022. The Action Plan that will be developed from this agreement will need to be executed with the same funding we have received for the past 13 years.

We have had a small boost with the ATO provisions for a small company, this has enabled us to employ an additional staff member for part of the year to assist in the progression particularly of submissions and allow for the CEO to attend to other work.

With COVID continuing to leave many things on hold, we unfortunately had to return our Ford Driving Skills for Life monies, due to the cancellation of the project for the 2021 year – this in real terms for ACSSO amounted to approximately \$20,000.

We have however, I believe, continued to expand our brief and are working smarter on this limited budget with a small, but reliable, secretariat and a passionate hard-working group of volunteers.

We are currently in the discussion stages of a number of ways to boost our funds.

Acknowledging the difficulty of some members to generate funds, ACSSO has, for this year reduced its membership fee by 60%.

Communication

We continue to focus both internally and externally on continuous improvement in this area.

There has been a steady increase in our reach, engagement and impressions through **Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.**

It's clear that each platform has a distinct demographic, and we continue to adjust our messaging to address that. We note such things as, for example, posts with video have greater engagement and sponsored posts need to be brief but clear to make effective use of the expenditure – we should change how we present content to suit the platform. Whilst it has been time efficient to create a post and then assign it to all platforms, it is more effective to change some of the language and presentation to suit.

Our *E-Newsletter* continues to have a varied response rate and we are looking at the effectiveness and reach. On the day of release, it is fascinating to watch the world view of openings – across at least 12 different countries. It is evident that it is well read, and the audience is quite mixed. The dashboard analytics provides us with a valuable insight into the “click throughs” - what topics interest people. Our July 2021 newsletter in particular had a record number of opens and click through on articles – beyond the subscriber number. This E-Newsletter campaign focussed on the findings in our survey.

We are currently in early stages of a partnership with Filmpond which will allow not only ACSSO but its members to produce more engaging videos to provide professional learning, support families and promote the great work of our government schools.

New this year is regular member “Communications’ Officers” catch up every second month – great opportunity to share ideas and examine any challenges

Webinars

This year ACSSO held 3 successful webinars:

- The Work of ACARA: David deCarvalho
- Clinical Psychologist: Andrew Fuller
- Online Safety: Bec Nguyen, Telethon Kids

All well received and well attended – giving us additional contacts with families and further ideas for what families would like as future topics.

Relationships, Partnerships and Representation

As mentioned earlier continue to enjoy an open dialogue with the Minister’s office both his staff and the Minister personally. Whilst we may not meet face to face often, the Minister is kept informed of the parent view through a number of mediums and have a regular conversation via zoom with his staff.

We continue ongoing relationships with the Shadow Ministry, other minor parties and individual Senators and Members of Parliament keep high on the radar the importance of well-resourced Public Education. Again, the opportunity to meet face to face in this time is difficult – we have met Tanya Plibersek via zoom a number of times this year. We send all contributions, submissions, media releases and reports to each of them.

As a part of our collaborative working continued to engage with many at the national level, in particular this year we have done considerable work with Australian Institute of Teaching and School Leadership (AITSL) and Australian Education and Research Organisation (AERO) in the area of Family Engagement.

We meet regularly as peak groups with Australian Curriculum and Reporting Authority (ACARA).

ACSSO has continued to build on a strong consultative relationship with ACARA that not only includes the Peak Parent and Principal Forums, regular update teleconferences, but collaborative conversations around messaging and developments. ACARA provides regular updates for messaging in our newsletter and social media. The Peak parent and principals' briefings keep us abreast of curriculum updates, NAPLAN online and we are able to support with commentary on media briefings before they go public.

We share a strong partnership and regular communication with the Peak Principal Groups through their leadership - Australian Primary Principals Association (APPA), Australian Secondary Principals Association (ASPA), the Australian Government Primary Principals Association (AGPPA), Australian Special Education Principals Association (ASEPA), National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Principals Association (NATSIPA).

We also have ongoing conversations in meetings and individually with Education Services Australia (ESA), Isolated Children's Parent Association (ICPA), Australian Parents Council (APC), Early Childhood Australia (ECA), Australian Council of Educational Leadership (ACEL) and Australian Research Alliance for Children and Youth (ARACY) and have recently renewed our working relationship with Children and Youth with Disability (CYDA) to name just some.

As a key stakeholder on the national arena, we have discussions with relevant bodies pre budget and Senate Estimates. ACSSO attended the budget lock up in Canberra this year – the only school parent organisation in attendance. It's great to have the opportunity to examine the papers before the Treasurer speaks and engage in conversation with the other interest groups.

This year we also worked with Nutrition Australia in the support of Healthy Lunchbox tips - these can be found on the Nutrition Australia website – we will be working with them again in preparation for the 2022 school year.

ACSSO continues to support safe respectful relationships and the implementation of appropriate programs to support young people. ACSSO President is a current member of the **National Respectful Relationships Education Reference Group Expert Group**. Currently the group is reflecting on the Monash University Rapid Review of the Good Society website – this is a rather time-consuming extensive body of work.

ACSSO continues to support the work of the **Public Education Foundation** and assists with promoting the scholarships and publishing the outcomes. The Public Education Foundation exists to support students by giving life changing scholarships. The focus is on removing the barriers to achievement created by social and economic disadvantage. I have the pleasure to sit on scholarship panels and see the standard of excellence every day in our schools.

We continue to promote and engage with **Schools Plus**. I recently was requested to be an Independent Assessor on a number of grant applications. A great opportunity to see the work being done in our schools and the plans so many have if only for additional funding.

Australian Council for Children and Media (ACCMA) is another organisation where ACSSO has a seat on the Board. The work of the ACCMA is vital in support of ensuring families have knowledge of age appropriate media. They do this by providing information and advice on the impact of print, electronic and screen-based media on children and young people. They advocate for the needs and interests of children in relation to the

media, conduct and act as a catalyst for relevant research to help maintain an enjoyable media environment that fosters the health, safety and wellbeing of Australian children.

We have strengthened our relationship and indeed our knowledge base with **Schools Industry Partnerships**. However, this year we haven't been only been able to support the program with two student placements but are keen to do so when the time is appropriate. We were also scheduled to do a number of Professional learning workshops.

I also serve on the [Together for Humanity Education and Strategy Committee](#) – it is an amazing group which includes a number of big names including Jana Wendt and Phil Lambert. The link takes you to their site and shows their work bringing intercultural and interfaith awareness to schools to build their work around acceptance and inclusive practice.

Family Engagement

A fantastic spin off from **Together for Humanity (TFH)** is the fact that we will use ACSSO's already written Family Engagement Circle and pre-service modules to support the Family Engagement element of the program and accredit them for delivery to teachers. TFH is a Registered Training Organisation (RTO) which enables our courses to come off the shelf and be used. It also gives ACSSO the ability to advertise and deliver them in other venues at a cost. We have begun that work but unfortunately COVID has been a bit of a barrier.

ACSSO is seen as an expert around Family Engagement and we have been continuing to share information and give advice and support. Through the office we often offer support to schools with regard their family engagement strategy – in just the past month we have supported 7 schools. It's fantastic to see education leaders seeing ACSSO as experts.

Recently we supported another doctoral candidate with presentation content – again offering some of our findings from the National Survey regarding Family Engagement and its impact on Family Engagement.

We continue to have ongoing dialogue regarding Family Engagement with the United States Department of Education. We have participated in a number of zoom meetings with various districts exchanging information in particular regard to COVID concerns and student well being.

I also attended many workshops from the US via zoom in the early hours of the morning – in particular the Institute of Educational Leadership Family Engagement Conference.

Projecting your voice

ACSSO is always keen to ensure the voice of families are heard, and we take considerable pride and due diligence in responding to inquiries relating to education and issues that have impact on young people.

Responses that required lengthy submissions can be found on our website www.acsso.org.au, however some responses were short and required either an email or phone consultation.

Over the past 12 months ACSSO has responded to:

- Submission to Implementing the successor plan to the National Framework for Protecting Australia's Children 2009-2020 Consultation
- Submission to the Quality Initial Teacher Education Review
- Submission to the Australian Curriculum Review Consultation
- Submission to the Discussion Paper Development of a Sample Learner Profile
- Submission to The House Standing Committee on Employment, Education and Training inquiry into and report on adult literacy, numeracy, and problem-solving skills in Australia
- Submission to the Australian Education Legislation Amendment (Prohibiting the Indoctrination of Children) Act 2020 - Consultation

- Framework for developing nationally consistent guidance for school teachers and principals for the prevention of child sexual abuse - Consultation
- The National Children's Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy - Consultation
- Mental Health and Suicide Prevention (permission not yet cleared to share submission publicly)

Online responses to:

- Draft VET workforce quality strategy
- Review of the Australian Blueprint for Career Development Learner Profiles

ACSSO also appeared before and gave evidence to:

- Inquiry into Adult Literacy and its importance
- Initial Teacher Education Review
- Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Select Committee

Staffing and Board

I'd like to take the opportunity to acknowledge the work and commitment of ACSSO's staff. The ACSSO secretariat is still small in size but capacity and output is huge. Responding nationally is not an easy task, we have been blessed that we didn't need too much movement to adapt to the virtual world we find ourselves in.

In this past year two of our long staff have moved on for personal reasons. Our thanks go to communications officer Kim Pick. Kim was the instigator of our ever popular "Caught you being Great campaign" – miss her "ideas" in the middle of the night.

We also were sad to lose Bec Ashford-Wykes (Admin Officer). Quiet in nature, Bec just "got it done" with little fuss, but efficiency. She has left some remarkable processes and proficiencies.

Joining our team in the height of NSW COVID (June 30), new Administration Officer, Donna Learson is "virtually" learning the ropes and working diligently with little assistance. As NSW "emerges" we have put in a provision for Bec to spend some more time with her.

Many thanks to Peter Garrigan our Project Officer, who will formally join ACSSO in a permanent part time capacity on October 25 and has a packed road map of work ahead of him. He is awesome support for me particularly with writing. Great to have both Donna and Peter on Board.

Our secretariat are passionate supporters of Public Education, committed to the work of ACSSO and we are a richer organisation for that.

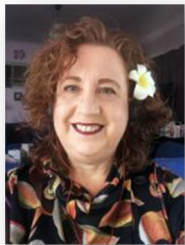
Many thanks to Paul Buckley, Neil Myers, Sally Whelan, Susan O'Leary, Sarah Jefferson and Natasha Coster – the strength of ACSSO is in the leadership and direction of a strong board. In particular, my thanks to Sharron Healy, her strength, common sense and passion is evident in all she deals with. A compassionate boss and a truly passionate supporter of kids in our government schools, Sharron has taken the leadership and dealt with the many challenges that comes with education today.

This overview is a snapshot of the work of ACSSO in 2021. It doesn't provide an adequate credit to the many responses to requests, advice, phone calls or emails but it gives you an idea of the depth and breadth of the work and networks.

Families and government school communities are at the heart of our work; let's continue to work together towards our sector to be the best it can be, the strength is in working together – our kids deserve it – our future depends on it.

Meet our Board

President/Board Chair: Sharron Healy



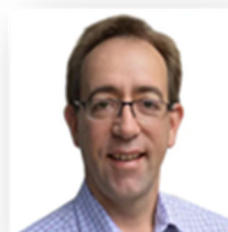
Sharron was an active member of her three children's school Parent Clubs for over 20 years, serving as an ordinary member and president at both primary and secondary levels. She also served on school council for over 10 years, as a councillor and president.

Sharron has volunteered with Parents Victoria Inc. for 15 years and is currently the president of Parents Victoria, the Victorian member organisation of ACSSO. Founded in 1925 as the peak body representing the collective views of parents in public education in Victoria, Parents Victoria was also a founding member of ACSSO.

Sharron's interest in promoting and advocating for public education comes from a desire to see every child in our country having access to a first-class educational experience

Director: Paul Buckey

Paul has a large family with children spanning 3 decades, his eldest graduating from the ANU and a product of Public Education, through to the youngest yet to start early learning, with many in between in both Public and Catholic Education giving Paul a unique and balanced picture of the education spectrum within the ACT.



Paul is a strong advocate of Public Education and the importance of funding it well as the cornerstone of our society. Having a public-school background himself, Paul graduated ANU computer science faculty and worked in several major Commonwealth Departments for seven years. He was the Federal Government representative on the ACT Government's Austouch program and then struck out with his own company, Datatrax, in 1993.

Currently Paul is a parent on two P & C's in Public Schools in Canberra, as well as a Vice President of the ACT P & C Council.

Director: Natasha Coster



Natasha remembers the P&C as being the hub of the school community when she was growing up. Then when she had a child she joined the Preschool parent group and has been a member of various P&Cs since then.

She stood for election for the NSW P&C Federation and enjoyed helping groups in her electorate. Then she got the chance to take a position on ACSSO, where she enjoys sinking her teeth into policy and representation.

When she's not ploughing through reports and news articles pertaining to education, she's getting her 13 year old through high school, cooking, sewing and trawling social media for random "tidbits".

She also works as a School Crossing Supervisor at the local Primary School where she's enjoying welcoming all the kids back after NSW's lockdown.

Director: Neil Myers

Neil proudly has three daughters, two currently at the Deloraine primary School and an older daughter who is an Associate Lawyer with the Department of Public Prosecution in Melbourne.

Neil has studied at the tertiary level in Accounting and Economics, Applied Science (Physical Education), and Visual Arts. Neil's life experience has meant close contact with a large number of schools, private and public, and many Universities, which combined with his current involvement in the public school sector, has helped develop a passion for equity in resourcing of our public schools.

Neil is passionate advocate for the support of teachers and teaching, and at the same time recognises the importance of parent and family engagement as means of enhancing our children's educational opportunity and outcomes.



Director: Sarah Jefferson



Sarah Jefferson is Course Co-ordinator of the Bachelor of Education (Secondary) at Edith Cowan University. She is also Unit Co-ordinator of assessment in the Master of Teach Secondary programme.

She recently completed her PhD identifying positive veteran teachers and examining the role of social support inside and outside the workplace. Sarah is an experienced educator and her interests include public education, teachers and student diversity and inclusion.

Sarah is a proud mother of 3 children.

Director: Susan O'Leary

Susan O'Leary combines professional educational qualifications with participation in public education over more than forty years, both as a teacher and parent. A qualified teacher with a Diploma of Teaching (Primary) and a Bachelor of Arts majoring in Legal Studies she has taught in public schools, community education and presented education and training programs in the public sector and for businesses.



Director: Sally Whelan



A proud mum to 7 children all of whom have attended or are still attending state schooling in Qld. Sally is a current member of her younger children's primary school P&C and has been past Secretary and President of her older children's high school P&Cs.

Sally is a passionate advocate for public education who believes all children hold a basic right of access to world class educational opportunities throughout all of their schooling years regardless of their personal circumstances, abilities or geographic location.

Company Secretary: John O'Shannassy

M. Laws , M. Ed (Adult Ed), B Business, B Science (Elect Eng), Practitioner's Certificate in Mediation, Graduate Diploma of Company Secretarial Practice CSA, Advanced Certificate in Arbitration



John is a Principal Lawyer at Australian Corporate Lawyers & Advisors and is directly related to corporate governance where he ensures corporations have corporate governance policy and procedures in place. He has 16 years experience in company secretarial services and designed governance and compliance for organisations and managed the ASIC, Austrac and NSW government compliance issues. John has led small and large teams and departments at various times, including roles as: General Counsel/Company Secretary at the University of Technology Sydney; Company Secretary/General Counsel at Apex; and governance and commercial advisory with Australian Corporate Lawyers & Advisors. In his spare time John enjoys participating in Surf Lifesaving, refereeing Rugby Union and Computer

Programming.

Board Meeting Attendance 2020 - 2021

The ACSO Board of directors is charged with ultimate oversight and welfare of the organization. It is the expectation that all directors are engaged and present to make the decisions necessary for the growth and prosperity of ACSO

Director	November 2020	December 2020	February 2020	March 2020	April 2020	May 2020	August 2020	September 2020	October 2020
Sharon Healy	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Paul Buckley	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Natasha Coster (appointed April 2021)					✓	✓	Apology	✓	✓
Sarah Jefferson	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Neil Myers	Apology	✓	Apology		Apology	✓	Apology	Apology	Apology
Susan O'Leary	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Sally Whelan	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Apology

Member Representative Delegates

- ACT P&C Council - Cecilia Shlegal
- P&Cs QLD - Scott Wiseman
- Parents Victoria - Karen Rook
- Tasmanian Association of State School Organisations - Jared Dickason

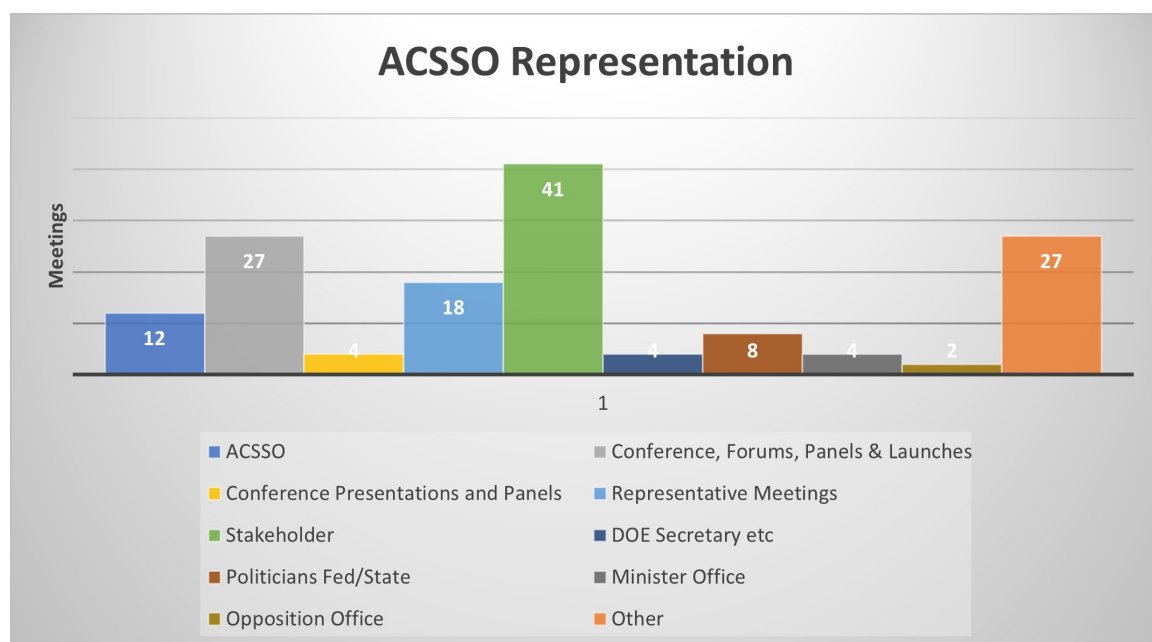
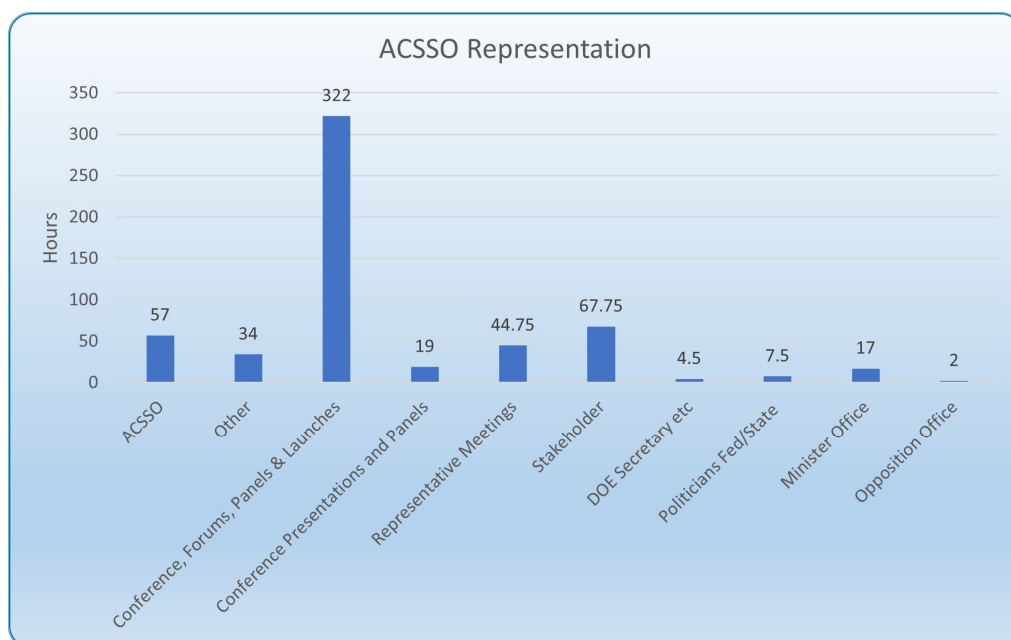
ACSSO Representation Snapshot

The ACSSO CEO and Board members are regularly required to represent the organisation at meetings, conferences etc. This can be either as a participant, presenter or in some instances both.

The following graphs provide a quick snapshot of the key “meetings” attended. What they do not reflect is: -

- The hours reflect the duration of the meeting not the number of ACSSO attendees.
- Preparation and Follow-up time for each meeting.
- Travel time – whilst this was not a key factor in 2021 due to COVID-19

As highlighted below, ACSSO Representatives attended 147 essential meetings totalling 576 hours the majority via Teams or Zoom.



Meet our Secretariat

Chief Executive Officer

Dianne Giblin AM, B.Ed (Adult) Dip Mgmt, Family Engagement Consultant



Di has worked in education in both paid and unpaid capacity for the past 32 years

Di has a passion for education, in particular public education, and the opportunities it affords young people. She has led the ACSSO secretariat since 2011 but has been a significant player in parent activism since 1984 when her eldest child commenced school. She is proud of her four children's achievements – all successes of public education.

She has held various volunteer roles in the parent movement finishing her P&C career as President of the Federation of Parents and Citizens Associations of NSW.

Di was a founding Director of Public Education Foundation whose board position she held for six years; a founding Director of Primary Ethics Board and also a founding Director of The Parenthood board.

She worked in a paid capacity for the NSW education department in a number of roles across a large area of Sydney. Her roles were all in the area of parent engagement and home-school partnerships including school based community officer, across district Community Development Officer and regional Partnership Officer – all through the Priority Schools Program.

Recognition of her work saw her commended for Meritorious Service to Public Education and Training in 2010. In 2012 Dianne was admitted as a Member in the General Division of the Order of Australia for her service to public education and the community

Di's greatest love is her family but coming a close second is her love of music. Whilst an amateur guitar player she likes to spend downtime with it, her grandchildren and her playing her vinyl albums on the new turntable.

Project Officer

Peter Garrigan GradCertEdLead, BTeach (Adult), DipRemMass, CertMassThpyPrac



Peter became an active participant in the education of young Australians when his eldest child commenced preschool in the early 1990's. He became a member of the preschool committee, quickly became involved in public education at a Territory and national level and is a strong supporter of Public Education.

His 4 children, all undertook their education in the Northern Territory where Peter served on School Councils as a Member and Council Chair until his last child finished school. Concurrently he held several positions with the NT Council of Government School Organisations (NTCOGSO), the peak parent body in the NT, including that of President. NTCOGSO recognised his contribution to by granting him life membership.

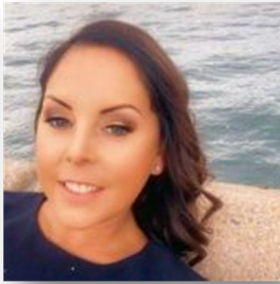
Peter held a number of positions on the ACSSO Board and was honoured to serve as ACSSO President from 2009 to 2014.

In 2016, Peter was awarded ACSSO Life membership.

Peter believes that a strong and vibrant public education is vital to the survival of Australia's democratic system. The guarantee of access to a free and quality public education should be a right accorded to every child in this country

Administration Officer

Donna Learson



Donna works in our office 15 hours per week and assists with the day to day operations of ACSSO Ltd. Donna joins the team with a wealth of experience in a number of different roles. She is an experienced administration officer, skilled in all areas of office management and customer service.

She has a history of working within family and commercial business and now able to bring her skills to serve the broader community through enhancing public education.

Bookkeeping:	Positive Balance Bookkeeping (Alison Dunne)
Auditor:	Pinnacle Taxation Services William Tomiczek
Solicitor:	MacDonnells Law Donna Pontane
IT Support:	Citisystems
Webhosting:	Formwork5

Communications Report

ACSSO Submissions and Media Releases

Submission to Implementing the successor plan to the National Framework for Protecting Australia's Children 2009-2020 Consultation

Nationally, 174,700 children aged between 0 and 17 years received child protection services in 2019-20.

There has been significant Government investment provided to protect Australia's children, and while supports are working for some, more needs to be done.

To help achieve change, the Australian Government through the Department of Social Services is developing a successor plan to the National Framework for Protecting Australia's Children 2009-2020 (successor plan), in collaboration with state and territory governments.

This consultation focused on supporting the development of the first five-year implementation plan.

Submission to the Quality Initial Teacher Education Review

Initial teacher education (ITE) aims to ensure that graduate teachers start their teaching career with the necessary knowledge, skills, and dispositions to be successful teachers in any Australian school.

On 11 March 2021, the Hon Alan Tudge MP, Minister for Education and Youth delivered a speech which highlighted the importance of ITE and announced a review into ITE.

The Quality Initial Teacher Education Review was launched on 15 April, with the announcement of the terms of reference and an Expert Panel of Ms Lisa Paul AO PSM (Chair), Mr Malcolm Elliott, Emeritus Professor Bill Loudon AM and Mr Derek Scott.

The Review has two points of focus:

- Attracting and selecting high-quality candidates into the teaching profession
- Preparing ITE students to be effective teachers

Submission to the Australian Curriculum Review Consultation

Education Ministers agreed terms of reference for the review in June 2020 and extensive consultation on proposed revisions, including a public consultation period, has been undertaken.

The 10-week public consultation period on proposed revisions ended on 8 July 2021. All feedback will be reviewed and considered in finalising proposed changes to the Australian Curriculum.

The Institute for Social Science Research at The University of Queensland is undertaking an independent analysis of the data collected through the online surveys and email submissions and will prepare consultation reports to assist ACARA in completing the revisions.

ACARA's review process has involved teachers and curriculum experts from all states and territories, the government and non-government sectors, national teacher and principal professional associations, parent groups and subject matter experts.

Final revisions to the Australian Curriculum will be provided to education ministers for their consideration and endorsement before the end of 2021.

The updated version of the F-10 Australian Curriculum, once approved by Ministers, will be made available on a newly designed Australian Curriculum website for the start of 2022.

The new website will present the curriculum in an improved format, showing greater connections across the curriculum and being more helpful and intuitive for teachers to use. Watch a short video showing the new website prototype.

Submission to the Discussion Paper Development of a Sample Learner Profile

The proposal to develop a learner profile for school students comes from the 2020 Shergold report *Looking to the future: the review of senior secondary pathways into work, further education and training*. The review addressed the question of how to optimise the transition from schooling to further education and employment.

One aspect is how to collate and present information about a student to support them to gain access to both.

The Learner profile is one mechanism that could assist. The discussion paper defines the learner profile as a short statement about the person, distinct from a Portfolio of supporting material by the student and Passport that contains detailed sets of information about the student.

Submission to The House Standing Committee on Employment, Education and Training inquiry into and report on adult literacy, numeracy, and problem-solving skills in Australia

The House Standing Committee on Employment, Education and Training is enquiring into and reporting on adult literacy, numeracy and problem-solving skills in Australia, including but not limited to:

- The relationship between adult literacy, numeracy and problem-solving skills and socio-demographic characteristics, particularly migrant status, First Nations status and individuals living in households that have experienced intergenerational unemployment;
- The effect that literacy and numeracy skills have on an individual's labour force participation and wages;
- Links between literacy and social outcomes such as health, poverty, ability to care for other family members and participation in civic life;
- The relationship between parents' literacy skills and their children's education and literacy skill development from birth to post-secondary education;
- Whether changes to schooling in 2020 as a result of COVID-19 will have a disproportionate impact on the skill development of those children of parents with lower literacy and numeracy levels, and, if yes, consideration of appropriate remediation programs which might address this;
- The availability, impact and effectiveness of adult literacy and numeracy educational programs in Australia and internationally; and
- International comparisons of government policies and programs that may be adapted to the Australian experience.

Submission to the Australian Education Legislation Amendment (Prohibiting the Indoctrination of Children) Act 2020 – Consultation

On 10 December 2020, the Senate referred the Sen Pauline Hanson private members bill titled Australian Education Legislation Amendment (Prohibiting the Indoctrination of Children) Bill 2020 to the Education and Employment Legislation Committee for inquiry and report.

The purpose of this Bill is to give parents the legal right to protect their children from indoctrination at school. It would Amend the: *Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority Act 2008* to require the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority to ensure that school education provides a balanced presentation of opposing views on political, historical and scientific issues; and *Australian Education Act 2013* to make financial assistance to a state or territory conditional on the state or territory having certain laws in force.

Framework for developing nationally consistent guidance for school teachers and principals for the prevention of child sexual abuse – Consultation

The Australian Institute of Family Studies (AIFS) has been commissioned by the Department of Education, Skills and Employment (DESE) to develop nationally consistent guidance for schoolteachers and principals on the prevention of child sexual abuse. This consultation process supports Recommendation 13.7 from the Final Report of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse (the Royal Commission). As part of the process of developing the framework, AIFS facilitated online workshops with experts and key stakeholders to gather a wide range of views on what nationally consistent guidance should contain and how it should be used.

The National Children's Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy – Consultation

In August 2019, Minister for Health, Greg Hunt announced the development of the Strategy as part of the Government's Long-Term National Health Plan.

The National Mental Health Commission has led the development of the Strategy in partnership with an expert advisory group, steering committee and two working groups drawn from a wide range of professional organisations and individuals from across disciplines including education, health and social services.

The Strategy outlines the requirements for an effective system of care for children, seeking to create a new, shared understanding of the roles of families, communities, services, and educators in promoting and supporting child mental health and wellbeing. It also provides a framework to guide the most critical investments in our children and families.

Mental Health and Suicide Prevention (permission not yet cleared to share submission publicly)

The House of Representatives has established a Select Committee to inquire into Mental Health and Suicide Prevention. The Committee will examine the findings of the Productivity Commission Inquiry Report into Mental Health, the Report of the National Suicide Prevention Officer, the Victorian Royal Commission, the National Mental Health Workforce Strategy, and other recent strategic reviews of the current mental health system, taking into account the 2019 bushfires and COVID-19 pandemic and the capacity of the mental health workforce. The Committee will also consider other matters not addressed by these recent reviews, including those outlined in its Terms of Reference.

In accordance with the Committee's resolution of appointment, the Committee presented an interim report on 15 April 2021.

The Committee is due to present a final report by 1 November 2021.

Online responses to:

Draft VET workforce quality strategy

The VET Workforce Quality Strategy (consultation draft) has been designed to support registered training organisations (RTOs) and trainers and assessors to deliver high quality training and assessment. It aims to promote continuous improvement and excellence in the VET sector to support strong learner outcomes.

The draft Strategy spans a period of three years, commencing from early 2022, and includes short, medium, and long-term measures. Skills Ministers will oversee the implementation of the measures, with a formative evaluation of the Strategy to be commissioned in 2023 to review implementation of the Strategy's measures.

The Strategy is intended to be a live document, with a view to update the Strategy on an annual basis to incorporate further measures based emerging issues.

Review of the Australian Blueprint for Career Development Learner Profiles

The Australian Blueprint for Career Development is a framework for designing, implementing, and evaluating career development programs for young people and adults.

At its core, the Blueprint identifies the skills, attitudes, and knowledge that individuals need to make sound choices and to effectively manage their careers.

ACSSO also appeared before and gave evidence to:

- Inquiry into Adult Literacy and its importance
- Initial Teacher Education Review
- Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Select Committee

Media Releases

- 17-10-2021 Private Schools profiteer once again, this time from JobKeeper
- 06-09-2021 Year 12 Exit inequity for the Class of 2021
- 06-08-2021 National Primary Schools' Principals Day 2021
- 27-05-2021 Public Education Day 2021 - Let's Celebrate
- 12-05-2021 Schools Recovery Needs Further Funding Injections
- 21-03-2021 Celebrating in Harmony
- 19-03-2021 National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence. Let's Take Action Together!
- 20-12-2020 ACSSO congratulates new Minister
- 31-10-2020 ACSSO welcomes new President and Board Members
- 30-10-2020 National Teachers Day

e-Newsletter

ACSSO produces an e-Newsletter each month and highlights the work of the organisation as well as links and connections to other organisations, information, and events relevant to our school communities

If we examine our metrics across the board, we get a good idea of how our e-Newsletter is performing. According to Campaign Monitor marketing tools the average open rate for e-Newsletters is between 15-25%; our overall average was 22%. The Email open rate is the percentage of subscribers who open a specific email out of your total number of subscribers.

Similarly, for successful newsletters the average click through rate is 2.5%; our average was 3.6%.

Essentially, the click rate is a percentage that tells you how many emails successfully achieved one click from a subscriber. This click tells you if your campaign was engaging enough to not only entice an open, but also an action from your audience.

Campaign monitor reports that over the November 2020 to November 2021 ACSSO despatched 11 “campaigns” and sent **45,763** emails with a delivery rate of 99.7%

These statistics do not include the unique opens, reached through both social media and forwarding to others by individuals.

Social Media

From follower counts to post engagement percentages, the world of social media metrics can be confusing to wade into. Having a handle on the metrics that matter is going to help ACSSO improve its social media strategy, enabling us to grow our base and potentially improve family engagement through the power of social media.

Overall, this year has again produced pleasing results across our social media channels with Australian Council of State School Council Organisations' Facebook page and ACSSO twitter being the major accounts.

Reach

Reach is a measure to how many people ACSSO and our content are getting in front of. Reach is a metric that everyone using social media is closely monitoring and continuously working to improve. Strong reach is an indication of strong ACSSO awareness

Because ACSSO's consumer landscape is always shifting, it's important to quantify our activities to make sure they are effective in relaying our message.

When looking at our reach we include Facebook (Australian Council of State School Organisations; Parents Australia and Family Engagement Network plus our Instagram It does not include our homepage Australian Acso in which analytics are not able to be collected

Our current Facebook and Instagram for the year is **291,868**. With 2020 being our first year on a new analytical platform, comparative figures identify an **increase of 56.7%**

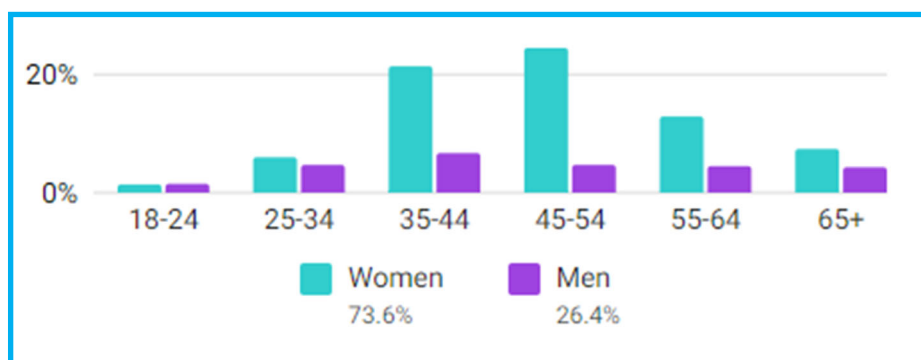
Demographics

42% of the world's population use social media. With 54% of Facebook users being female and 46% of Facebook users male with 96% accessing Facebook via a mobile device.

Because the social space is constantly evolving and despite ongoing controversies, and ever-emerging competition, Facebook still remains the most-used and engaged-with social platform.

The notion that the younger age groups has totally ditched Facebook isn't quite true, however it is definitely not their #1 platform.

In order to attract a younger audience, in 2020 we introduced Instagram, we are currently reviewing improvements in this area.



Impressions

Continuing to drive impressions will be a key to success. Increased impressions will lead to increased engagement and community size along with all the other metrics we use to prove that social media is, in fact, a highly relevant tool for ACSSO. Impressions are the total number of times social media browsers have been showed your content. Impressions are different than reach because it does not count people who click or engage with our content, just those who are exposed to it. Impressions are the number of times your content is displayed.

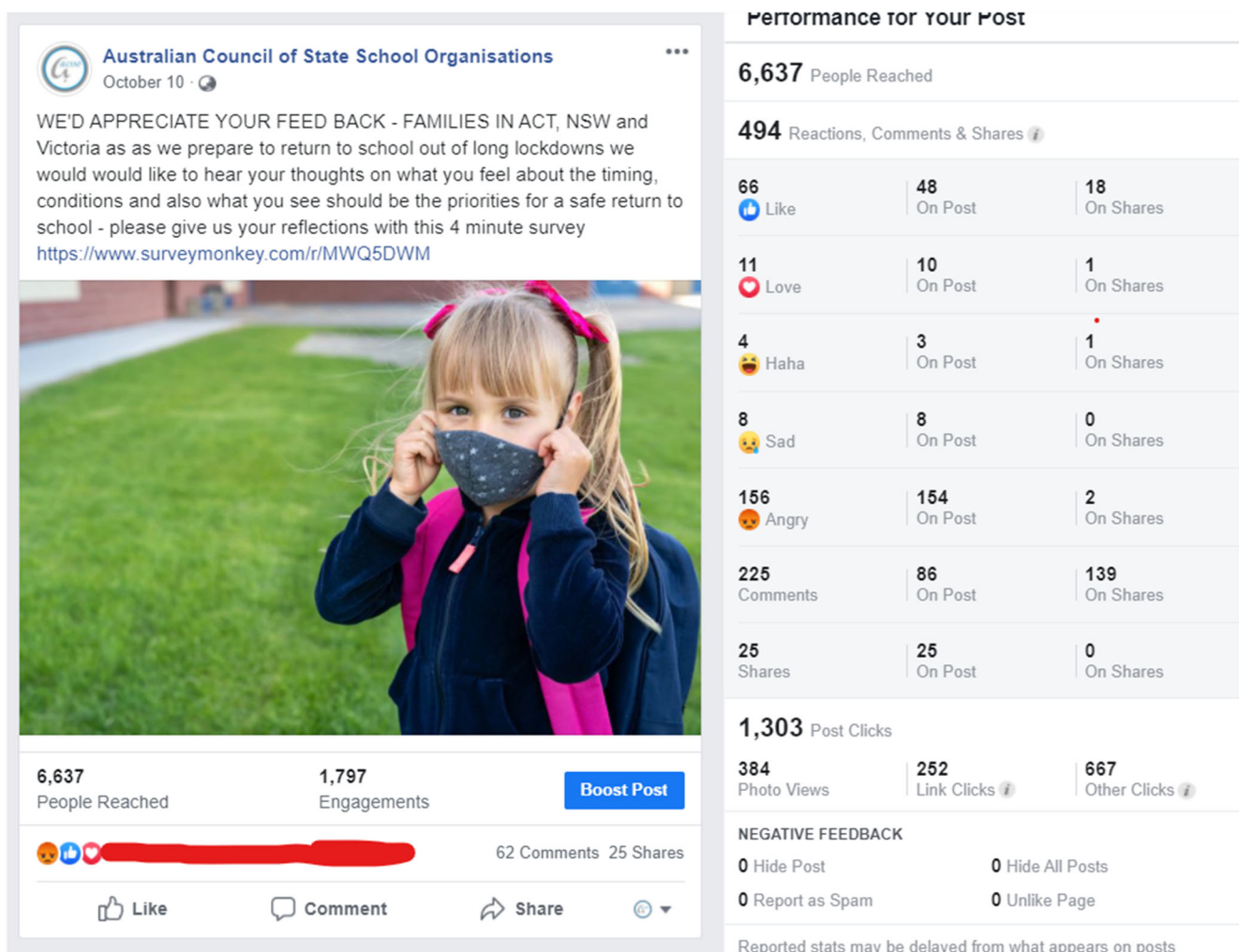
In comparison to last year ACSSO had a **6% increase** in impressions in its social media

Engagement

Engagement is the social media metric that lets us know how many people are interacting with our content.

Engagement can come in several forms, such as comments, shares, likes, clicks, and saves.

ACSSO's highest performing post in the last year **reached 6637 people**. Details shown below :



Information gathering

Our biggest reach with families today is through social media – we use this medium to gain insight and promote concepts and engage discussion with larger groups - particularly those untapped through the regular parent consultation in schools .

Sharing information from and with kindred organisations

ACSSO continues to work closely with organisations that have similar goals. We are regularly sought to share information across our networks – recognised as an organisation that has a large reach and with high integrity ACSSO is an ongoing supporter of the Public Education Foundation and the work that it does to use philanthropic donations to award “life changing scholarships” We continually promote their scholarships and research in support of their goals.

Many issues are shared amongst our colleagues in the non-government sector. Our Parents Australia page contains useful and relevant information that support all families. We aim to provide families with relevant, intimate information. ACSSO has been a long-term supporter of Walk Safely to School Day and continues to support the Pedestrian Council with its work in the promotion of child safety when walking on and near roads.

Caught you being great

Now in its third year, ACSSO uses this medium to promote great things in public education. This is one of our most well received campaigns. All schools or relevant persons are notified, and links sent to share in their community. This assists in raising the awareness of ACSSO and attracts more followers to our page.

Record of Office Bearers

<u>Term</u>	<u>President</u>		<u>Hon Secretary/Treasurer</u>	
1946/47	Cr JT Gray	VIC	Mr HJ Hawker	VIC
1947/48	Cr JT Gray	VIC	Mr HJ Hawker	VIC
1948/49	Cr JT Gray	VIC	Mr LE Phillips	VIC
1949/50	Cr JT Gray	VIC	Mr LE Phillips	VIC
1950/51	Cr JT Gray	VIC	Mr LE Phillips	VIC
1951/52	Mr SF Leibert	NSW	Mr AW Harrison	NSW
1952/53	Mr SF Leibert	NSW	Mr AW Harrison	NSW
1953/54	Mr SF Leibert	NSW	Mr AW Harrison	NSW
1954/55	Mr DW Bruse	SA	Mr AW Harrison	NSW
1955/56	Mr DW Bruse	SA	Mr CW Reed	SA
1956/57	Mr DW Bruse	SA	Mrs U Brown	NSW
1957/58	Mr JR Wood	VIC	Mrs U Brown	NSW
1958/59	Mr JR Wood	VIC	Mrs U Brown	NSW
1960/61	Mr GB Edwards	TAS	Mrs DA Denehey	TAS
1961/62	Mr AG Bond	NSW	Mrs DA Denehey	TAS
1962/63	Mr AG Bond	NSW	Mrs DA Denehey	TAS
1963/64	Mr AG Bond	NSW	Mrs DA Denehey	TAS
1964/65	Mr JT Dunn	VIC	Mrs GA Michod	NSW
1965/66	Mr JT Dunn	VIC	Mrs GA Michod	NSW
1966/67	Mr JT Dunn	VIC	Mrs GA Michod	NSW
1967/68	Mr RE King	SA	Mrs AN Simon	SA
1968/69	Mr RG Kitchen	VIC	Mr RM Russell	VIC
1969/70	Mr RG Kitchen	VIC	Mr RM Russell/ Mrs DA Denehey	VIC/ NSW
1970/71	Mr RG Kitchen	VIC	Dr WM McKenzie	VIC
1971/72	Mr JP Jensen	WA	Mr RH Russell	WA
1972/73	Mr JWN Riddell	ACT	Mr RM Russell/ Mrs BS Backhouse	WA/ NSW

<u>Term</u>	<u>President</u>		<u>Hon Secretary/Treasurer</u>	
1973/74	Mr G Helyar	NT	Mrs S Berg	NSW
1974/75	Mr G Helyar	NT	Mrs S Berg	NSW
1975/76	Mrs J Kirner	VIC	Mr CR Bridge	WA
1976/77	Mrs J Kirner	VIC	Mrs D Totthill	SA
1977/78	Mrs J Kirner	VIC	Mrs D Totthill	SA
1978/79	Mrs J Brown	NSW	Mrs M Walker	TAS
1979/80	Mrs J Brown	NSW	Mr R Clarke/ Mrs T Cohen	TAS/ NSW
1980/81	Mrs J Brown	NSW	Mr I Wilson	SA
1981/82	Mrs A Ketley	ACT	Mr I Wilson	SA
1982/83	Mrs A Ketley	ACT	Mrs P Smith	NSW
1983/84	Mrs P Reeve	VIC	Mrs W Heath	QLD
1984/85	Mrs P Reeve	VIC	Mrs W Heath	QLD
1985/86	Mrs P Reeve	VIC	Mrs W Heath	QLD
1986/87	Ms S Allen	NSW	Mr J Pinney	NT
1987/88	Ms S Allen	NSW	Mr J Pinney	NT
1988/89	Ms S Allen	NSW	Mr D Forrester	WA
1989/90	Ms W Morris	VIC	Mr D Forrester	WA
1990/91	Ms W Morris	VIC	Ms A Bell	NSW
1991/92	Ms W Morris	VIC	Ms A Bell	NSW
1992/93	Mr R Creswick	NT	Ms A Bell	NSW
1993/94	Mr R Creswick	NT	Ms A Bell	NSW
1994/95	Mr R Creswick	NT	Ms A Bell	NSW
1995/96	Mr K Staples	VIC	Ms R Hume	QLD
1996/97	Mr K Staples	VIC	Ms B Baker	NSW
1997/98	Dr I Morgan	ACT	Ms A Bell	NSW
1998/99	Dr I Morgan	ACT	Ms A Bell	NSW
1999/2000	Dr I Morgan	ACT	Ms Julie Collins	NSW
2000/2001	Mr R Molesworth	NSW	Mr I Morris	NSW
2001/2002	Mr R Molesworth	NSW	Ms Shelly Norrish	WA

<u>Term</u>	<u>President</u>		<u>Hon Secretary/Treasurer</u>	
2002/2003	Ms Judith Bundy	SA	MS Julie Collins/ Mr Rob Wilton	NSW/ACT
2003/2004	Ms Judith Bundy	SA	Mr Les Smith	SA
2004/2005	Ms Judith Bundy	SA	Mr Les Smith	SA
2005/2006	Ms Jennifer Branch	TAS	Ms Margaret Black	QLD
2006/2007	Ms Jennifer Branch	TAS	Ms Margaret Black	QLD
2007/2008	Ms Jennifer Branch	TAS	Ms Janeen Giddings	NSW
2008/2009	Mr Steve Carter/ Mr Peter Garrigan	NT	Ms Janeen Giddings/ Ms Jennifer Branch/ Mr Anthony Falkingham/ Mr Peter Garrigan	TAS VIC NT
2009/2010	Mr Peter Garrigan	NT	Ms Lindie Read/ Ms Lisa Rothwell	TAS/NT
2010/2011	Mr Peter Garrigan	NT	Ms Lisa Rothwell	NT
2011/2012	Mr Peter Garrigan	NT	Ms Lisa Rothwell	NT
2012/2013	Mr Peter Garrigan	NT	Ms Judith Bundy	SA
2013/2014	Mr Peter Garrigan	NT	Ms Judith Bundy	SA
2014/2015	Ms Margaret Leary	QLD		

ACSSO moved from an Association to a Company Limited by Guarantee

<u>Term</u>	<u>President</u>		<u>Company Secretary</u>
2015/2016	Mr Phillip Spratt	TAS	Ms Dianne Giblin (Acting)
2016/2017	Mr Phillip Spratt	TAS	Mr. John O'Shannassy (May 2017)
2017/2018	Mr Phillip Spratt	TAS	Mr. John O'Shannassy
2018/2019	Mr Kevan Goodworth	QLD	Mr. John O'Shannassy
2019/2020	Mr Andrew Bidwell	ACT	Mr. John O'Shannassy
2020/2021	Mrs Sharron Healy	VIC	Mr. John O'Shannassy

Tribute to ACSSO family, who have sadly passed this year

Vale — Margaret Hunter PSM, (August 22, 1956 – July 25, 2021)



Margaret began her extensive career in education as an advocate at her local school (St Mary's Central Public School) and moving through to regional (Western Sydney Region) and state advocacy (NSW P&C) groups. Her passion for family engagement and equity in education saw her move from her volunteer work to employment in the Disadvantaged Schools Program (DSP) / Priority Schools Program (PSP) in NSW. Marg worked across regions leading parent engagement programs and supporting Community Liaison Officers in schools.

She then spent well over a decade as the state co-ordinator community partnerships for the Priority Schools Program. Margaret led research and resource development supporting the value of Parent Partnerships. She developed and provided Professional Learning for school leaders, teachers, community liaison officers and parents. She also led the Holiday Reading is Rad Program which she adapted from a US program – it delivered reading material of interest for young people in NSW disadvantaged schools to assist in maintaining their literacy levels over the end of year vacation break

Following the disbanding of the PSP Marg worked with Family School and Community Partnerships Bureau as the Project Officer for ACSSO / Bureau led the research and case studies on Family Engagement in Education, travelling over Australia providing professional development to staff and families, collecting their stories and supporting their growth in partnerships. She was indeed a pioneer in Family Engagement Practices in Australia - she led, she mentored, she innovated - many can claim Margaret as the lead influence in their careers - in 2013 she was awarded a Public Service Medal for her contribution to Public Education in the areas of Equity and Family Engagement - she inspired many and has left a lasting legacy.

Our thoughts are with her husband Brian, her daughter Jenni, her son Scott and his partner Tina and her loving granddaughters Teagan and Phoenix.

Vale - Kaye Harth , (25 October 1955 – 15 November 2020)



Kaye Harth, from the small town of Oakey on the Darling Downs in Qld, the wonderful wife of Lindsay and mother of four great boys, was an equally wonderful servant to the education of young people in public education.

Her contribution began at the Darling Downs Regional Council of QCPCA (P&Cs Qld) in 1991, where she first attended to find out about the Australian Council of State School Organisations.

As a member of her sons' P&C, she found it interesting that there was a national body representing parents, and she wanted to know more. And so, Kaye's journey began. From there, her involvement was onward and upward between 1991 and 2017 where she was involved in many Committees like the Resources and Administration Subcommittee of the Darling Downs Education Region in 1994, Senior Schooling Departmental Committee in 1998,

Career Information Service Project Reference Group of the Queensland Studies Authority from 2005 to 2008, MindMatters/KidsMatter State Reference Group from 2008 to 2013, Rural and Remote Education Access

Program (RREAP) State Advisory Committee from 2013 to 2015, Queensland School Support Council in 2010/11, Queensland School Sports Board from 2008 to 2018, many Principal Selection Panels.

After attending that first meeting of the Darling Downs (DD) Regional Council of QCPCA in 1991, she accepted the responsibility of taking positions that were vital to making QCPCA work. Specifically, she set up the Northern Downs Branch in 1992, where she took executive roles and represented the Branch at DD Regional Council meetings continually until 2005 when the Branch folded, became Regional Council Secretary in 1995, 1998, and from 2001 to 2004, served as Regional Council Vice-President in 1997 and President in 2000/01, and 2004 to 2006, became the DD Regional Council representative on the State Executive of QCPCA 1998/1999 and again in 2006/2007, was elected State Secretary of QCPCA from September 2007 to 2009, as if to fulfil her ambition to learn more about ACSSO, became the ACSSO Vice President in September 2009 to September 2013 where she was highly regarded as a proud advocate for the rights of public school parents and students, during 2012 and 2013 participated in QCPCA Board meetings (following its conversion to a Company Ltd), in her ACSSO role.

These roles gained her the highest levels of recognition and respect. Kaye was awarded Life Membership of QCPCA in 2008.

Kaye Harth had a remarkable career of voluntary service to QCPCA and ACSSO. She operated effectively and without fuss. Always the balanced voice in any discussion, she demonstrated what a giving, caring person she was that always advocated for the best for kids.

Kaye was not only a wonderful wife and mother but the most generous and fabulous friend.

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PINNACLE

taxation services

Australian Council of State School Organisations Limited

ABN 51 319 893 516

Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 June 2021

Australian Council of State School Organisations Limited
ABN 51 319 893 516

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Australian Council of State School Organisations Limited

ABN 51 319 893 516

Directors' Report

Your directors present this report on the company for the financial year ended 30 June 2021.

Directors

The names of the directors in office at any time during or since the end of the year are:

Sharron Healy
Sally Whelan
John O'Shanmassy
Susan O'Leary
Sarah Jefferson
Paul Buckley
Neil Myers
Natasha Coster (appointed Feb 2021)

Directors have been in office since the start of the financial year to the date of this report unless otherwise stated.

Operating Result

The loss of the company for the financial year after providing for income tax amounted to:

Year ended	Year ended
30 June 2021	30 June 2020
\$	\$
(1,810.29)	63,825.59

Significant Changes in the State of Affairs

No significant changes in the company's state of affairs occurred during the financial year.

Principal Activities

The principal activities of the company during the course of the year were promote public understanding of the role of public education and of national education issues with Australia. No significant change in the nature of these activities occurred during the year.

After Balance Date Events

No matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year which significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the company, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the company in subsequent financial years.

Future Developments

The company expects to maintain the present status and level of operations and hence there are no likely developments in the operations in future financial years.

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Australian Council of State School Organisations Limited

ABN 51 319 893 516

Directors' Report

Environmental Issues

The company's operations are not regulated by any significant environmental regulation under a law of the Commonwealth or of a State or Territory.

Dividends

No dividends were declared or paid since the start of the financial year. No recommendation for payment of dividends has been made.

Options

No options over issued shares or interests in the company were granted during or since the end of the financial year and there were no options outstanding at the date of this report.

Directors' Benefits

No director has received or has become entitled to receive, during or since the financial year, a benefit because of a contract made by the company or related body corporate with a director, a firm which a director is a member or an entity in which a director has a substantial financial interest.

This statement excludes a benefit included in the aggregate amount of emoluments received or due and receivable by directors shown in the company's accounts, or the fixed salary of a full-time employee of the company or related body corporate.

Indemnifying Officer or Auditor

No indemnities have been given or agreed to be given or insurance premiums paid or agreed to be paid, during or since the end of the financial year, to any person who is or has been an officer or auditor of the company.

Proceedings on Behalf of Company

No person has applied for leave of Court to bring proceedings on behalf of the company or intervene in any proceedings to which the company is a party for the purpose of taking responsibility on behalf of the company for all or any part of those proceedings. The company was not a party to any such proceedings during the year.

Auditors Independence Declaration

A copy of the auditor's independence declaration as required under section 307C of the Corporations Act 2001 has been included.

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Australian Council of State School Organisations Limited

ABN 51 319 893 516

Directors' Report

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors:



Sharron Healy

Director



Sally Whelan

Director

Dated: 06/10/2021

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Australian Council of State School Organisations Limited

ABN 51 319 893 516

Directors' Declaration

The directors of the company declare that:

1. the financial statements and notes are in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001 and:
 - (a) comply with Accounting Standards and the Corporations Regulations; and
 - (b) give a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at 30 June 2021 and of its performance for the year ended on that date;
2. in the directors' opinion, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors.



Sharron Healy
Director



Sally Whelan
Director

Dated: 06/10/2021

Australian Council of State School Organisations Limited

ABN 51 319 893 516

Compilation Report to Australian Council of State School Organisations Limited

We have compiled the accompanying general purpose financial statements of Australian Council of State School Organisations Limited, which comprise the Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income, Statement of Changes in Equity, Statement of Cash Flows and Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2021, a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes. These have been prepared in accordance with the financial reporting framework described in Note 1 to the financial statements.

The Responsibility of the Directors

The directors of Australian Council of State School Organisations Limited of Australian Council of State School Organisations Limited are solely responsible for the information contained in the general purpose financial statements and the reliability, accuracy and completeness of the information.

Our Responsibility

On the basis of information provided by the directors, we have compiled the accompanying general purpose financial statements in accordance with the financial reporting framework and APES 315 Compilation of Financial Information.

We have applied our expertise in accounting and financial reporting to compile these financial statements in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards. We have complied with the relevant ethical requirements of APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards).

Assurance Disclaimer

Since a compilation engagement is not an assurance engagement, we are not required to verify the reliability, accuracy or completeness of the information provided to us by management to compile these financial statements. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion or a review conclusion on these financial statements.

The general purpose financial statements were compiled for the benefit of the directors who are responsible for the reliability, accuracy and completeness of the information used to compile them. We do not accept responsibility for the contents of the general purpose financial statements.



Pinnacle Taxation Services
Level 1, 82 Henry Street
Penrith NSW

14 September, 2021

Australian Council of State School Organisations Limited ABN 51 319 893 516

Independent Auditor's Report

Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Australian Council of State School Organisations Limited (the company), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2021, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the directors' declaration.

In our opinion:

- a. the accompanying financial report of Australian Council of State School Organisations Limited is in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001, including:
 - (i) giving a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at 30 June 2021 and of its performance for the year then ended; and
 - (ii) complying with Australian Accounting Standards and the Corporations Regulations 2001; and
- b. the financial report also complies with International Financial Reporting Standards as disclosed in Note 1

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the company in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the Corporations Act 2001 and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 : Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We confirm that the independence declaration required by the Corporations Act 2001, which has been given to the directors of the company, would be in the same terms if given to the directors as at the time of this auditor's report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Information Other than the Financial Report and Auditor's Report Thereon

The directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the company's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2021, but does not include the financial report and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. In connection with our audit of the financial report, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Australian Council of State School Organisations Limited ABN 51 319 893 516

Independent Auditor's Report

Responsibilities of the Directors for the Financial Report

The directors of the company are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the Corporations Act 2001 and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the directors are responsible for assessing the company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the directors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- Obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the entities or business activities within the company to express an opinion on the financial report. We are responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the company audit. We remain solely responsible for our audit opinion.

We communicate with the directors regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Australian Council of State School Organisations Limited ABN 51 319 893 516

Independent Auditor's Report

Signed on 10 September, 2021:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'William Tomiczek', is written over a horizontal line.

William Tomiczek, Registered Company Auditor

William Tomiczek

66 Emu Plains, Mt Riverview, NSW

Australian Council of State School Organisations Limited ABN 51 319 893 516

Auditor's Independence Declaration

UNDER SECTION 307C OF THE CORPORATIONS ACT 2001

To THE DIRECTORS OF: Australian Council of State School Organisations Limited

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30 June 2021 there have been :

- (i) no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in the Corporations Act 2001 in relation to the Audit; and
- (ii) no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit

William Tomiczek

William Tomiczek, Registered Company Auditor

66 Emu Plains, Mt Riverview, NSW



10/9/2021

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Australian Council of State School Organisations Limited

ABN 51 319 893 516

Detailed Statement of Financial Performance

For the year ended 30 June 2021

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Income		
Department Funded Projects	265,000.00	265,000.00
Global Giving Grant		921,054.62
Affiliate Fees	35,023.63	34,796.80
Interest received	146.26	316.64
Cash flow boost	15,463.50	25,772.50
Total income	315,633.39	1,246,940.56
Expenses		
Accountancy	3,800.00	3,800.00
Accommodation	14,724.74	25,863.57
Administration	1,345.46	3,138.06
Advertising and promotion	7,409.15	7,585.00
Audit fees	2,000.00	2,000.00
Bank Fees And Charges	25.33	65.96
Bookkeeping Fees	4,900.00	4,760.00
Cleaning/rubbish removal	4,508.62	
Communications	2,685.44	16,950.17
Computer Maintenance	17,343.92	10,481.32
Conference expenses	527.27	2,603.32
Donations	5,000.00	7,500.00
Electricity	1,612.59	1,562.57
Filing Fees	189.10	640.83
Insurance	5,755.49	5,826.57
Meals	1,934.81	3,666.30
Meeting expenses	214.66	1,530.21
Postage	1,024.70	1,056.05
Professional Development	11,873.05	20,418.07
Printing Costs	1,017.46	884.96
Office Equipment	2,538.38	5,209.72
Office Supplies	2,422.00	3,318.22
Salaries	182,790.49	159,533.96
Provision for annual leave	5,012.32	9,692.52
Provision for long service leave	1,899.27	2,056.79
Provision for Redundancy	(14,871.08)	3,222.88
Pulse Communications P'ship Agreement		802,957.36
Membership And Subscriptions	10,347.07	8,140.69

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Australian Council of State School Organisations Limited

ABN 51 319 893 516

Detailed Statement of Financial Performance

For the year ended 30 June 2021

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
Superannuation	21,637.79	14,977.44
Telephone	4,132.50	4,626.04
Travel	11,153.22	41,904.91
Website hosting	2,489.93	7,141.48
Total expenses	317,443.68	1,183,114.97
Profit (Loss) from Ordinary Activities before income tax	(1,810.29)	63,825.59

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Australian Council of State School Organisations Limited

ABN 51 319 893 516

Detailed Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2021

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
<hr/>		
Current Assets		
Cash Assets		
Westpac 13-3547 [ACSSO Working]	3,191.05	18,946.64
Westpac 13-3563 [ACSSO Cash Res]	137,302.54	198,550.93
Westpac 13-3555 [ACSSO Debit Card]	4,200.17	4,457.16
Westpac 383693	83,328.01	
	<u>228,021.77</u>	<u>221,954.73</u>
Receivables		
Trade Receivables	110,000.00	72,875.00
TFN Withholding Credits	2,706.00	2,706.00
	<u>112,706.00</u>	<u>75,581.00</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>340,727.77</u>	<u>297,535.73</u>
 Non-Current Assets		
Property, Plant and Equipment		
Furniture & equipment - at cost	46,879.75	46,879.75
Less: Accumulated depreciation	<u>(46,879.75)</u>	<u>(46,879.75)</u>
Total Non-Current Assets		
Total Assets	<u>340,727.77</u>	<u>297,535.73</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Australian Council of State School Organisations Limited

ABN 51 319 893 516

Detailed Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2021

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Current Liabilities		
Current Tax Liabilities		
GST payable control account	10,000.00	6,625.00
Net GST Payable	5,171.00	(40,052.00)
PAYG Withholding Tax	3,714.00	(5,154.50)
	<u>18,885.00</u>	<u>(38,581.50)</u>
Provisions		
Superannuation Payable	4,139.39	12,394.24
Provision for Annual Leave	63,256.15	58,243.83
Provision for Long Service Leave	19,811.32	17,912.05
Provision for Redundancy	26,306.64	41,177.72
Wages Payable	3,750.17	
	<u>117,263.67</u>	<u>129,727.84</u>
Total Current Liabilities	<u>136,148.67</u>	<u>91,146.34</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>136,148.67</u>	<u>91,146.34</u>
Net Assets	<u>204,579.10</u>	<u>206,389.39</u>
Equity		
Retained profits / (accumulated losses)	204,579.10	206,389.39
Total Equity	<u>204,579.10</u>	<u>206,389.39</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Australian Council of State School Organisations Limited

ABN 51 319 893 516

Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended 30 June 2021

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
<hr/>		
Cash Flow From Operating Activities		
Receipts from customers	278,362.13	1,290,348.92
Payments to Suppliers and employees	(272,441.35)	(1,199,713.62)
Interest received	146.26	316.64
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities (note 2)	<u>6,067.04</u>	<u>90,951.94</u>
Net increase (decrease) in cash held	6,067.04	90,951.94
Cash at the beginning of the year	<u>221,954.73</u>	<u>131,002.79</u>
Cash at the end of the year (note 1)	<u><u>228,021.77</u></u>	<u><u>221,954.73</u></u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Australian Council of State School Organisations Limited

ABN 51 319 893 516

Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended 30 June 2021

2021

2020

Note 1. Reconciliation Of Cash

For the purposes of the statement of cash flows, cash includes cash on hand and in banks and investments in money market instruments, net of outstanding bank overdrafts.

Cash at the end of the year as shown in the statement of cash flows is reconciled to the related items in the balance sheet as follows:

Westpac 13-3547 [ACSSO Working]	3,191.05	18,946.64
Westpac 13-3563 [ACSSO Cash Res]	137,302.54	198,550.93
Westpac 13-3555 [ACSSO Debit Card]	4,200.17	4,457.16
Westpac 383693	83,328.01	
	<u>228,021.77</u>	<u>221,954.73</u>

Note 2. Reconciliation Of Net Cash Provided By/Used In Operating Activities To Operating Profit After Income Tax

Operating profit after income tax	(1,810.29)	63,825.59
Changes in assets and liabilities net of effects of purchases and disposals of controlled entities:		
(Increase) decrease in trade and term debtors	(37,125.00)	43,725.00
Increase (decrease) in employee entitlements	(12,464.17)	26,132.85
Increase (decrease) in sundry provisions	57,466.50	(42,731.50)
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>6,067.04</u>	<u>90,951.94</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Australian Council of State School Organisations Limited

ABN 51 319 893 516

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 June 2021

Note 1: Statement of Significant Accounting Policies

The financial report is a general purpose financial report that has been prepared in accordance with Accounting Standards and other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board and the Corporations Act 2001.

The financial report covers Australian Council of State School Organisations Limited as an individual entity. Australian Council of State School Organisations Limited is a company limited by shares, incorporated and domiciled in Australia.

The financial report has been prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historical costs and does not take into account changing money values or, except where stated, current valuations of non-current assets. Cost is based on the fair values of the consideration given in exchange for assets.

The following is a summary of the material accounting policies adopted by the economic entity in the preparation of the financial report. The accounting policies have been consistently applied, unless otherwise stated.

Property, Plant and Equipment

Each class of property, plant and equipment is carried at cost or fair value less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation.

a) Property

Freehold land and buildings are measured on the fair value basis, being the amount for which an asset could be exchanged between knowledgeable willing parties in an arm's length transaction. It is a policy of Australian Council of State School Organisations Limited to have an independent valuation every three years, with annual appraisals being made by the directors.

The revaluation of freehold land and buildings has not taken account of the potential capital gains tax on assets acquired after the introduction of capital gains tax.

b) Plant and equipment

The carrying amount of plant and equipment is reviewed annually to ensure it is not in excess of the recoverable amount from those assets. The recoverable amount is assessed on the basis of the expected net cash flows that will be received from the assets employment and subsequent disposal. The expected net cash flows have not been discounted to present values in determining the recoverable amounts.

The cost of fixed assets constructed within Australian Council of State School Organisations Limited includes the cost of materials, direct labour, borrowing costs and an appropriate proportion of fixed and variable overheads.

c) Depreciation

The depreciable amount of all fixed assets including buildings and capitalised leased assets, but excluding freehold land, is depreciated on a straight line basis over their useful lives to Australian Council of State School Organisations Limited commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use. Properties held for investment purposes are not subject to a depreciation charge. Leasehold improvements are depreciated over the shorter of either the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful lives of the improvements.

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Australian Council of State School Organisations Limited

ABN 51 319 893 516

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 June 2021

Leases

Leases of fixed assets, where substantially all the risks and benefits incidental to the ownership of the asset, but not legal ownership, are transferred to Australian Council of State School Organisations Limited are classified as finance leases. Finance leases are capitalised recording an asset and a liability equal to the present value of the minimum lease payments, including any guaranteed residual value.

Leased assets are depreciated on a straight line basis over their estimated useful lives where it is likely that ownership of the asset will be obtained or over the term of the lease. Lease payments are allocated between the reduction of the lease liability and the lease interest expense for the period.

Lease payments under operating leases, where substantially all the risks and benefits remain with the lessor, are charged as expenses in the periods in which they are incurred.

Lease incentives under operating leases are recognised as a liability. Lease payments received reduce the liability.

Investments

Shares in listed companies held as current assets are valued at those shares' market value at each balance date. The gains or losses, whether realised or unrealised, are included in profit from ordinary activities before income tax.

Non-current investments are measured on the cost basis. The carrying amount of non-current investments is reviewed annually to ensure it is not in excess of the recoverable amount of these investments. The recoverable amount is assessed from the quoted market value for listed investments or the underlying net assets for other non-listed investments.

The expected net cash flows from investments have not been discounted to their present value in determining the recoverable amounts.

Investments in Associates

The equity method of accounting has been applied and recognised in the financial statements in relation to all associated companies. An associated company is a company over which Australian Council of State School Organisations Limited is able to exercise significant influence.

Intangibles

a) Goodwill

Goodwill is initially recorded at the amount by which the purchase price for a business exceeds the fair value attributed to its net assets at the date of acquisition. Purchased goodwill is amortised on a straight-line basis over the period of 20 years. The balance is reviewed annually and any balance representing future benefits for which the realisation is considered to be no longer probable is written off.

b) Patents and Trademarks

Patents and Trademarks are valued in the accounts at cost of acquisition and are amortised over the period in which their benefits are expected to be realised.

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Australian Council of State School Organisations Limited

ABN 51 319 893 516

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 June 2021

Employee entitlements

Provision is made for the liability for employee entitlements arising from services rendered by employees to balance date. Employee entitlements expected to be settled within one year together with entitlements arising from wages and salaries, annual leave and sick leave which will be settled after one year, have been measured at their nominal amount. Other employee entitlements payable later than one year have been measured at the present value of the estimated future cash out flows to be made for those entitlements.

Contributions are made by Australian Council of State School Organisations Limited to an employee superannuation fund and are charged as expenses when incurred.

Australian Council of State School Organisations Limited does not record, as an asset or a liability, the difference between the employer established defined benefit superannuation plan's accrued benefits and the net market value of the plans assets.

Australian Council of State School Organisations Limited operates an ownership-based remuneration scheme, details of which are provided in the Notes to Accounts. Profits or losses incurred by employees, being the difference between the market value and the par value of the shares acquired, are not recorded as remuneration paid to employees.

Cash

For the purpose of the statement of cash flows, cash includes cash on hand and in all call deposits with banks or financial institutions, investments in money market instruments maturing within less than two months, net of bank overdrafts.

Comparative Figures

Where required by Accounting Standards comparative figures have been adjusted to conform with changes in presentation for the current financial year.

Revenue

Revenue from the sale of goods is recognised upon the delivery of goods to customers.

Interest revenue is recognised on a proportional basis taking in to account the interest rates applicable to the financial assets.

Dividend revenue is recognised when the right to receive a dividend has been established. Dividends received from associates and joint venture entities are accounted for in accordance with the equity method of accounting.

Revenue from the rendering of a service is recognised upon the delivery of the service to the customers.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST).

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.