



Annual Report 2021

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Acknowledgement of Country

We would like to acknowledge the Menang custodians of the land who have been living here for thousands of years. We would like to remember the wonderful Elders from the past and present. Thank you for looking after this land for everyone for future generations. We are very lucky to live on this beautiful land and have it as our home. - (Written by Year 4)

Board Chair's Report



2021 was a successful year for Parklands school! It was the year in which we began implementing the steps of our newly formed strategic plan. The basis of this plan being our new vision statement: to develop confident, lifelong learners who are ready to make our world a better place, and our mission of developing a holistic education in a vibrant, nurturing community.

Along with changes come challenges, I commend principal Iain Murray and his team of staff for embracing the changes and making great progress with our plan!

Some examples of the 2021 achievements are:

- the implementation of the school music program with a class and a private tuition program, which is being run successfully by Miss Freya Swarbrick.
- An improved and more varied sports focus which included students trying a range of sports including NRL, AFL, Hockey, and Cricket.
- Enhanced literacy support program for those students with increased needs.

Parklands School continued to have a strong financial performance which has enabled our position to operate our strategic plan and reward our team members. Thank you to business manager Jenny Bunn who has expertly managed the school finances.

Another major achievement is the re-registration of Parklands school for another 5 years. This required a massive effort by all, especially by our principal Iain Murray and his administration team.

Our 2021 parent survey, provided pleasing results, showing 96% of parents noted their expectations were met or exceeded in relation to the quality of teaching, and 96% of parents noted their expectations were met or exceeded in relation to the focus on student wellbeing, providing a safe and caring environment.

As Board Chair I would like to acknowledge the extremely valuable and important contribution of the school board to support myself as board chair, the school, and the staff. As a Board, we all have our individual areas of strength, but our passion for the school unites us and makes us an effective and cohesive team.

To board members, our secretary Mark Comer, Nicci Booth, Kylie Douglas, and Drew Dymond thank you for your ongoing passion and professionalism in your approach to your board duties. Thanks to outgoing board member Dave Warren for his outstanding and unwavering support to the school board. We wish him all the best with his future endeavours. Thanks to our treasurer Kirsten Rudolph for her professional and diligent care of the school finances.

Thanks also to board secretariat Chelsey Jackson for her wonderful work!

The Parklands P and F continue to provide tremendous support to the school. A huge thanks must be given to the outgoing president Christine Oosterhuis and the P and F executive. The board looks forward to a continued, strong collaborative relationship with the P and F, as we support them through this transitional membership phase.

Thanks to the board, staff, and families of Parklands for the support this year. I wish everyone a healthy and wonderful 2022!

Alexandra Riggall

Parklands Board Chair



Principal's Report



Parklands School continued to grow in 2021 with students from well over 100 families attending the school from our weekly Playgroup sessions to our Year 6 leaders. Similarly, our staff team grew with additional hours added to our educational assistant and specialist teacher roles.



2021 saw us finalise and begin to implement our new strategic plan with its three foci:

- Our Learning Experience
- Our Team
- Organisational Sustainability

At a more administrative level, the school was preparing for its regular registration review as conducted by the Non-Government Schools Regulator. We are very pleased to have received a further five years of registration, the maximum available. This result provides our school community with the confidence that Parklands is offering a quality education and fully compliant in its legal and financial obligations. This is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our administration and teaching teams, supported by the Board and our parent community.

Staffing changes also allowed us to introduce literacy support sessions for those students with additional literacy needs. This has been in the planning stages for some time so we are excited to now be able to offer this additional support. It is focused on students in Years 1 and 2.

A working group of dedicated parents met regularly throughout the year to look at improving our school uniform based on feedback from parents, staff and students. The outcome will be a more comfortable uniform for students that looks smart and is better suited to its intended use.

The impacts of Covid-19 were again felt, particularly by staff as we planned for lockdowns and remote learning. Fortunately, the Great Southern region avoided any lockdowns and we did not need to activate our Learning Continuity Plans. We are grateful to be in this position and felt for our colleagues and families in Perth and interstate.

We look forward to continuing to grow and being the school of choice for Albany families.

Ian Murray

Principal



Parents and Friends Association

President's Report



Achievements and Activities

2021 was another successful year for our Parklands Parents and Friends Association. Following on from the success of our combined online and face-to-face meetings which started during COVID19 last year, we moved over to purely online meetings. Attendance at meetings was very good, and we achieved a quorum at all meetings.

One of Renae Darmody's lasting legacies was the new in-ground basketball hoop system in the parking area/ court at the front of school. Thank you also to Damon McIntyre at Totally Sports & Surf for providing the in-ground basketball hoop system to the P&F at a very good price, and transporting it from Perth to Albany; it's wonderful to have Parklands family and local business support behind the P&F.

Our weekly volunteer-run Canteen and Tuckshop were very popular again this year, and they continue to be our main sources of fundraising income. With Canteen and Tuckshop being such cash cows for the P&F, this really does relieve the burden of having to do much - or any - other fundraising throughout the year. Thank you so much to all of the P&F volunteers for keeping the canteen going, I know most of our kids and parents really appreciate this! In addition to providing nutritious snacks for the kids to purchase and enjoy, Tuckshop is also a friendly, non-threatening place for the students to practice their money handling skills.

At the Athletics Carnival the P&F ran a special Sports Day Canteen and cake stall with an impressive variety of home-baked treats being donated to sell. The cake stall alone raised an impressive \$724.

Kiri Lewis did a sterling job running the P&F Second Hand Uniform shop again in 2021.

As many of you are aware, a dedicated group of Parklands parents, along with teachers, students and the School Board, worked hard all year on updating our school uniform to make it more functional, comfortable and inclusive. We thank the dedicated parents who put so much effort into designing and testing the new uniform products. The new uniform will be phased in from the middle of 2022, with a transition period of about two years.

Miriam Little ran our second successful Tea Towel fundraising venture. The P&F was pleased to gift a tea towel to each Parklands 2021 staff member at Presentation Night, to say "thank you" for all of their efforts and enthusiasm in teaching our children.

In 2021, P&F ran two Scholastic Book Fairs, earning a total book product commission of \$1,370. We are pleased to report that these earnings were invested in upgraded shelving and books for the Parklands Library. My enormous thanks goes to Becky Mitchell and to Marisa Papalia for organising the book fairs, and I'd like to acknowledge that Marisa will be taking over this role in 2022.

Kirsten Rudolph again ran the termly Scholastic Book Club catalogues, as she has for many many years.

In September 2021 P&F ran the Spring Equinox Lantern Walk and Bonfire, at the South Coast Progress Association Hall in Little Grove. Once again this proved to be a popular and enjoyable event. We enjoyed Maypole dancing; musical entertainment provided by Mike Hyder's fiddlers group; made lanterns; ate delicious homemade soup; and tried making damper on sticks. Thanks to Pete Van Schoubroeck for leading an enjoyable lantern walk after dark, and for not losing anyone in the bush!

Other items and activities that P&F contributed to during 2021 included:

- purchasing 40 brand new basketball uniform singlets for our students;
- buying basketball team medals and trophies;
- holding a Parklands family barbecue at school in Term 1;
- paying for lunchtime drumming lessons for two terms;
- providing morning tea and P&F information, and updating class contact lists at Student Orientation day in Term 1;
- organising and supporting parent class representatives for each Year group;
- donating \$4000 to the school, to be divided by the School between each class from Kindy to Year 6; this money goes towards purchasing classroom resources that are on the teachers' wish lists.

Plans for 2022

- As in previous years we will start the year with a P&F "Welcome morning tea/meet and greet" on School Orientation Day, Friday January 28th;
- The Second Hand Uniform shop will continue to run;
- Weekly canteen and Tuckshop will return;
- Our P&F AGM will be held in March 2022;
- We hope that Scholastic Book Fairs, the Spring Equinox Bonfire and Lantern Walk will be held again in 2022;
- We hope that an Obstacle course for the whole school, which is organised by Year 5&6 and supported by P&F, will be run again in 2022;
- P&F will continue to support School co-curricular activities such as lunch time drumming lessons, hopefully the return of AUSLAN classes, as well as our Parklands basketball and soccer teams.

Acknowledgements and thanks

As usual, many people contributed an enormous amount to the achievements of Parklands P&F in 2021.

I must of course acknowledge the fabulous Renae Darmody who sadly left the Parklands School family at the end of 2021, as her youngest daughter Ruth graduated Year 6. It is impossible to understate the time, effort, passion, toil, and heart that Renae and Jim Darmody put into our school during their journey at Parklands. The Darmody family will be greatly missed, and always fondly remembered.

I would also like to thank our Vice President Carly Roxburgh, Secretary Wiebke Ebeling, Treasurer Jewels Horman, Canteen Coordinators Becky Mitchell and Renae Darmody, Tuckshop coordinator Sarah Dorman, and our Second-hand Uniform Coordinator Kiri Lewis. This year we have had so many wonderful parents contributing that it's impossible to name and thank everyone individually, so please know that your efforts are very much appreciated by the P&F, the school, and most importantly our children.

I would like to thank our Principal Mr Iain Murray for continuing to work closely with the P&F and for attending our P&F meetings; we appreciate his enthusiasm, support, and initiative. He has ensured that the lines of communication between the P&F and the School remain open. Thank you also to the Parklands School Board, who are always a source of support and encouragement to the P&F.

Dr Christine Oosterhuis

Parklands P&F President 2020-2022



Guiding Statements

Vision To develop confident, lifelong learners who are ready to make our world a better place	Values Community Creativity Fairness Kindness Respect
Mission Holistic education in a vibrant, nurturing community	
Motto Learning for Life	

Statement of Commitment to Child Safety

All children and young people who come to Parklands School have a right to feel and be safe. We are committed to the safety and wellbeing of all children and young people. We are committed to providing a child safe and child friendly environment, where children and young people are safe and feel safe and are able to actively participate in decisions that affect their lives.

We have a zero tolerance for child abuse, grooming and other harm and are committed to acting in students' best interests and keeping them safe from harm.

The School regards its child safety responsibilities with the utmost importance and is committed to providing the necessary resources to ensure compliance with all relevant child protection laws and regulations and maintaining a child safe culture.

Each member of the School community has a responsibility to understand the important and specific role that they play individually, and collectively, to ensure that the wellbeing and safety of all students is at the forefront of all that they do, and every decision that they make.

About the School

Parklands School, founded in 1998, is a small, independent school located in the Albany suburb of Lockyer. With just 141 full-time students, Parklands school is a close community where students, staff and parents all know one another. The School also offers a combined Pre-kindergarten and Kindergarten programme founded on Montessori principles. In 2021, a total of 23 students were enrolled in the Kindy programme. Each Friday, the School also operated a playgroup for toddlers (18 months - 3 years) and their parents, with around 10 families attending on a regular basis.

The School offers the WA Curriculum from Pre-primary to Year 6 but is authorised to present alternative reports to parents. Reports for students at Parklands School do not record grades but instead report achievement against descriptors and how well a student meets a standard.

In addition, students are able to participate in a number of extra-curricular activities. Lunchtime drumming is held weekly and open to all students from PP to Year 6. Private music lessons in piano, violin, voice and theory are also offered during the school day. The School also has sports teams that participate in local weekend competitions throughout the year in soccer, and basketball.

Being small, the School is able to place a strong emphasis on the social-emotional development of students. By focusing on character strengths, students are able to identify their emotions and those of their peers. This helps them to regulate their own emotions while also understanding others.

Attendance

Parklands School continues to enjoy high rates of attendance even in a second year disrupted by COVID-19.

Parents are required to provide written justification of all absences and this is usually done via email. An online absence form is also available on the Schools' website. When a justification is not received, the School contacts parents via both telephone and letter.

Annual attendance rates are shown in the table on the right.

Pre-primary	89%
Year 1	89%
Year 2	91%
Year 3	91%
Year 4	90%
Year 5	92%
Year 6	92%

Staff

At Parklands School, we are thankful to have a great team of qualified staff dedicated to developing our *vibrant, nurturing community*. We have a high staff to student ratio that ensures we are well placed to meet the needs of all of our students.

In the 2021 parent survey, 96% of parents noted their expectations were met or exceeded in relation to the quality of teaching, and 96% of parents noted their expectations were met or exceeded in relation to the focus on student wellbeing, providing a safe and caring environment

Parklands School's workforce composition is as follows:

	Male	Female	Aboriginal	FTE	Actual
Teachers	1	11	-	10.2	12
Education Assistants	2	8	-	5.4	10
Administration & Operations	3	4	-	4.85	7

The qualifications and 2021 roles of our staff, as of the August Census, are as follows:

Teachers

Susan Penter	Bachelor of Arts (Literature) Masters of Teaching (Early Childhood)	Kindergarten teacher
Kylie Shepherd	Bachelor of Arts (Education)	Pre-primary teacher
Annelise Babun	Graduate Diploma in Teaching (Early Childhood) Bachelor of Asian Studies	Year 1 teacher
Carly Talbot	Graduate Diploma of Education (Primary) Bachelor of Social Science, Anthropology (Honours)	Year 2 teacher

Matthew Bascombe	Bachelor of Education (Primary)	Year 3 teacher
Margaret Sefton	Bachelor of Arts Graduate Diploma of Linguistics Graduate Diploma of Education RSA Certificate in Teaching English as a Foreign Language	Year 4 teacher
Jennifer Shann	Bachelor of Arts (English) Certificate III Financial Services Certificate III Business Graduate Diploma of Education (Primary)	Year 5 teacher
Cath Hodgkinson	Master of Teaching (Primary) Bachelor of Science (Nursing) Post Graduate Diploma of Public Health Advanced Diploma of Naturopathy & Western Herbal Medication	Year 6 teacher
Amelia Dempster	Bachelor of Education (Primary)	Year 6 teacher Literacy support teacher
Tina Creese	Bachelor of Arts in Early Childhood Education Diploma in Montessori Method of Education	Specialist teacher (Art)
Freya Swarbrick	Master of Teaching (Secondary Music Education). Bachelor of Arts (Music Performance on Violin)	Specialist teacher (Music)
Cherie Williams	Bachelor of Arts (History) Graduate Diploma of Education Italia 1A and 1B Master of Arts in Writing & Literature (ongoing)	Specialist teacher (Italian)

Education Assistants

Cheryl Baum	Certificate IV in Education Support	Year 5 EA
Gaye Cochrane	Certificate III in Education Support	Year 3 EA (Special Needs)
Mark Foreman	Certificate III of Children's Services (Teacher Assistant)	Pre-primary EA
Tim Maisey	Bachelor of Applied Science (Architectural Science) Master of Business Administration Masters of Primary Teaching (ongoing)	Year 4 EA
Alice Morgan	Bachelor of Education (Early Childhood) - (ongoing) Certificate III Community Services Certificate III Conservation and Land Management Certificate III Horticulture	Year 4 EA (Special Needs)
Myla Robinson	Certificate III in Children's Services (Teacher Assistant)	Year 1 EA Year 5 EA
Tess Volckerts	Diploma of Children's Services Certificate III in Children's Services	Year 2 EA

Janet Whitehead	Certificate III Children's Services Certificate	Teacher's	Pre-primary EA
Essie Wood	Diploma in Children's Services 0-5 years		Playgroup leader Year 4 EA (Special Needs) Year 5 EA
Kim Yuswak	Certificate III Education Support		Kindergarten EA

Administration

Iain Murray	Certificate of School Management & Leadership Master of Educational Studies (Leadership) Postgraduate Diploma in Education (Primary) Bachelor of Science (Geography)		Principal
Joanna Thiel	Master of Educational Leadership (Ongoing) Graduate Certificate in Early Childhood Bachelor of Education Bachelor of Teaching (Primary)		Deputy Principal Inclusive Education Coordinator
Jenny Bunn	Advanced Diploma (Accounting) Diploma of Business (Accounting) Certificate IV in Training & Assessment Certificate IV in Superannuation		Business Manager
Chelsey Jackson	Associate Diploma of Business (Management)		Office Manager

Support

John & Chintana Metcalfe	Cleaners	Arun Burton	Maintenance
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Student Learning

Excursions & Incursions

Excursions and incursions provide an opportunity to enrich the learning experiences of students and provide a connection between the classroom and the community. Despite restrictions due to COVID-19, our students were still able to participate in the following activities:

- Annual school athletics carnival
- Camp Quararup
- Interschool Athletics Carnival
- Interschool Cross Country
- Interschool Multisport Carnival
- National Anzac Centre
- World of Maths Incursion
- Surfing
- UWA Great Southern Marine Research Centre's wave flume
- Weerlara Park

- Southern Edge Arts - circus skills workshop
- Eyre Park
- Albany entertainment Centre (various shows)
- Art exhibition at Albany Town Hall
- Mock Parliament at Albany Town Hall
- Book week activities at Albany Town Library
- Musuem of the Great Southern
- Bush School
- AFL clinics
- NRL clinics
- Soccer clinics
- Strawberry Hill/Barmup
- Hockey
- Sweet Valley Produce farm visit
- Luke Pen Walk
- Albany Music Festival
- ANZAC Day March & service

Life after Parklands

15 students graduated year 6 at the end of 2021. Students went on to join the following local schools:

- Denmark Senior High School
- Great Southern Grammar
- North Albany Senior High School (NASHS)

NAPLAN

NAPLAN is a nationwide measure through which parents, teachers, schools, education authorities, governments and the broader community can determine how well young Australians are developing the literacy and numeracy skills that provide the critical foundation for other learning and for their productive and rewarding participation in the community.

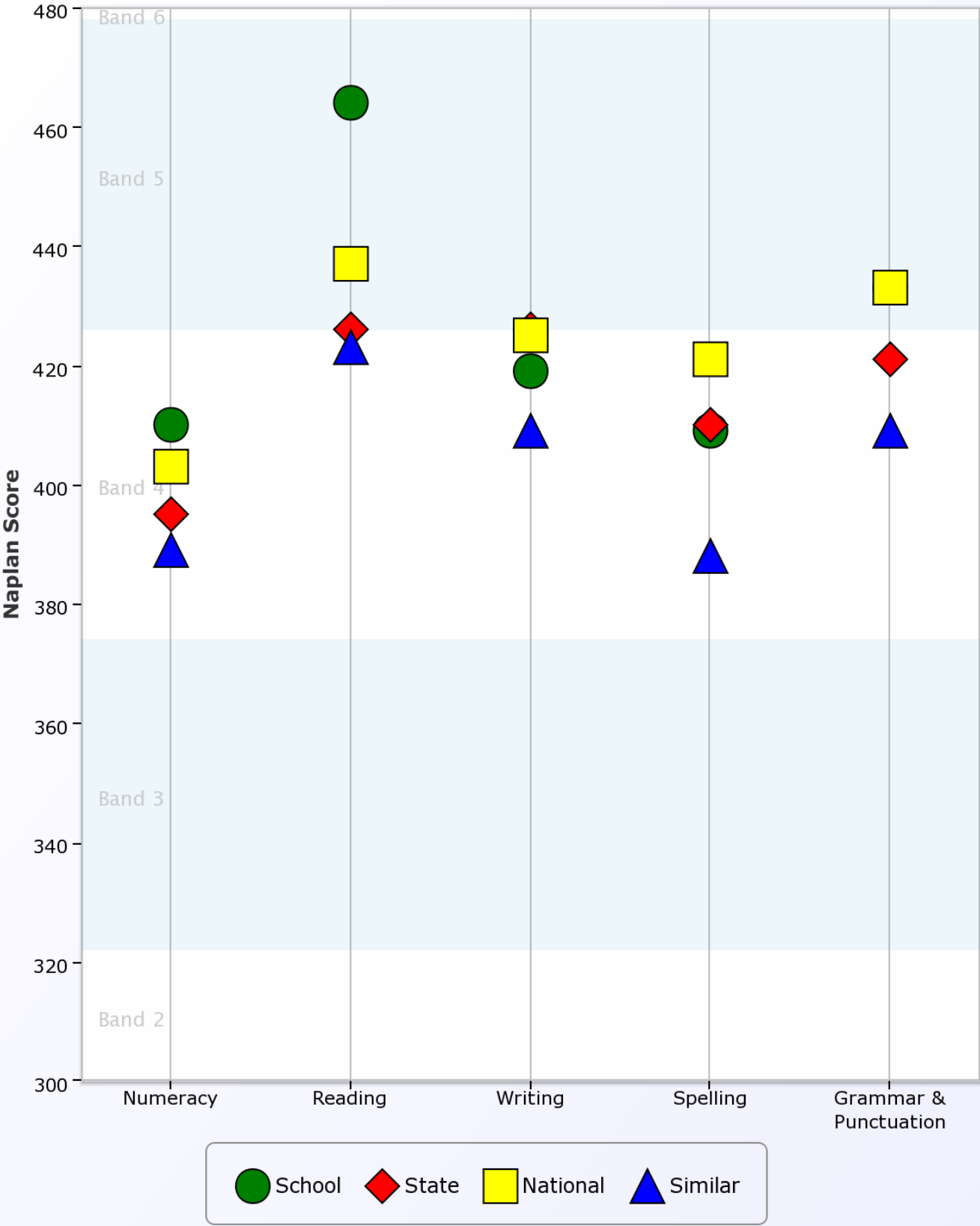
NAPLAN tests are one aspect of each school's assessment and reporting process. NAPLAN does not replace the extensive, ongoing assessments made by teachers about each student's performance. A child's teacher will have the best insight into the child's educational progress. NAPLAN results do not measure overall school quality.

In 2021, Parklands students participated in paper versions of the tests for the last time.

The results of our students compared to the national, state and similar school averages are found in the graphs on the following pages.

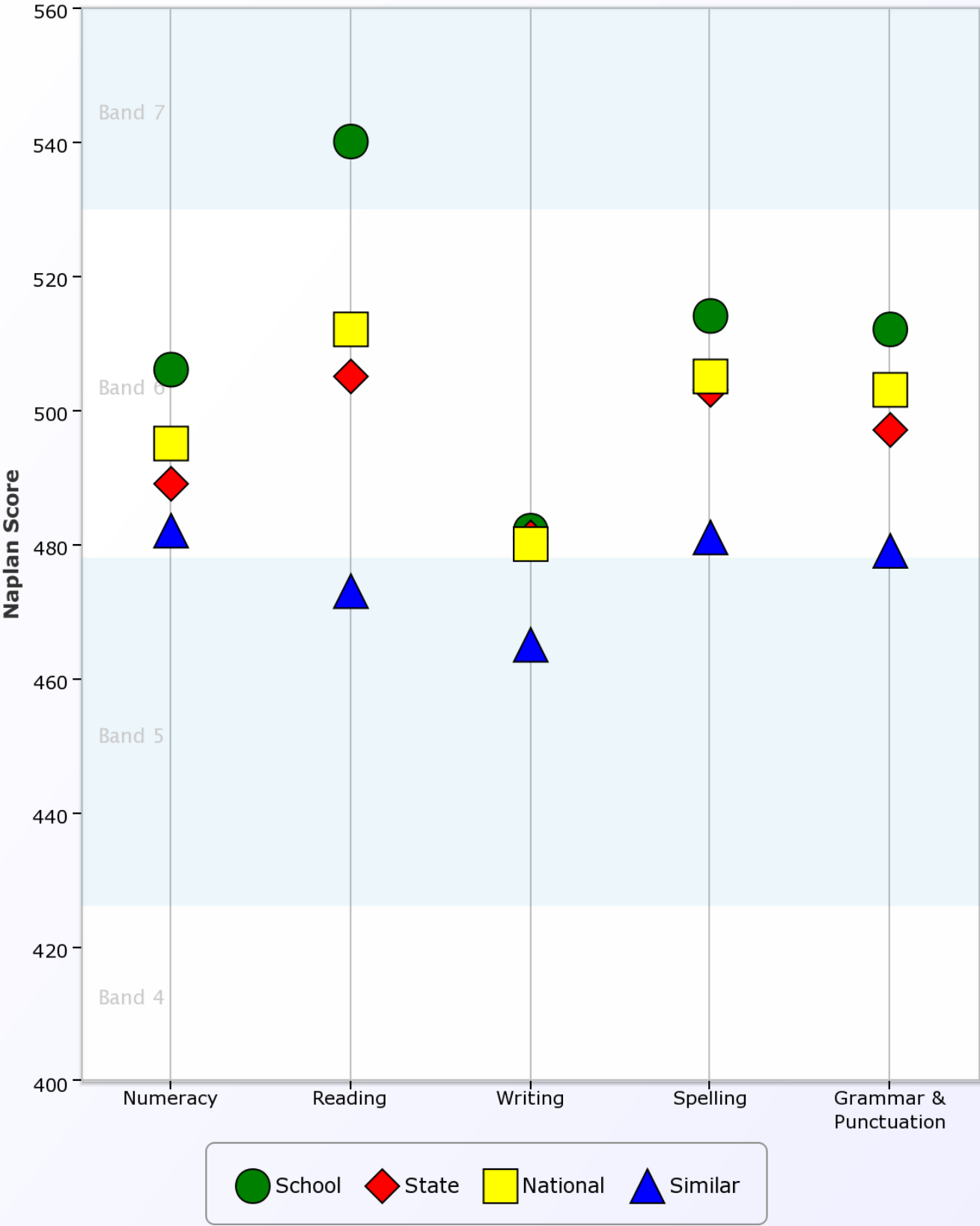
Naplan Averages for 2021

Year 3



Naplan Averages for 2021

Year 5



Stakeholder Feedback

Parklands School is committed to listening to the views and expectations of key stakeholders and commissions independent surveys to provide performance feedback on a wide range of related education topics.

The feedback from these surveys greatly assists the School with both its operational and strategic planning and its determination to continually improve the educational experience offered to the students.

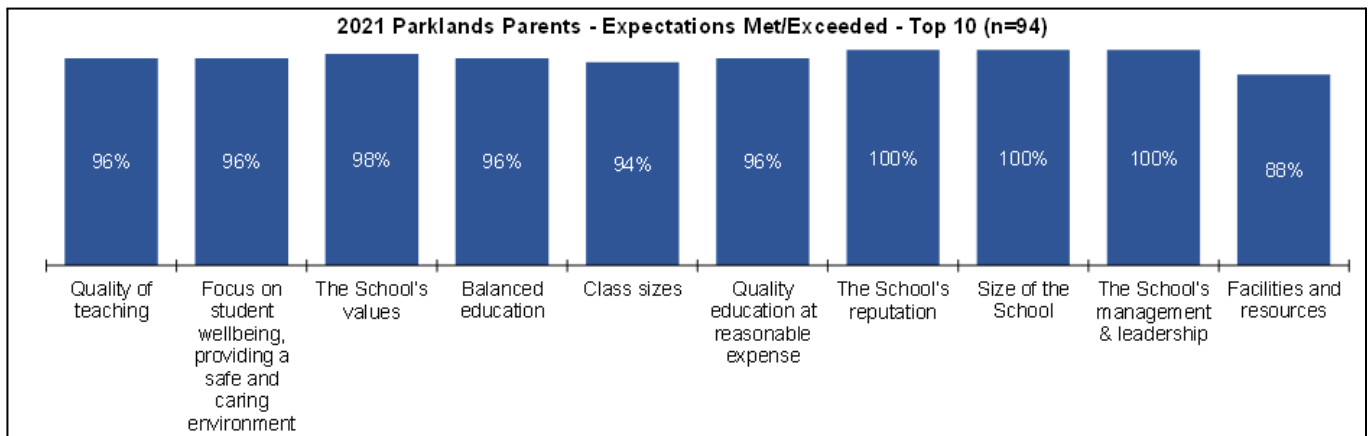
In 2021, 94 parents participated in surveys and provided views on areas such as academic performance, student wellbeing, co-curricular and communications.

Parents

A selection of the parents' top level findings are detailed below, ranked in order of the importance the parents placed on reasons for choosing a school for their children.

The top five areas are noted below:

1. 96% of parents noted their expectations were met or exceeded in relation to the quality of teaching
2. 96% of parents noted their expectations were met or exceeded in relation to the focus on student wellbeing, providing a safe and caring environment
3. 98% of parents noted their expectations were met or exceeded in relation to the School's values
4. 96% of parents noted their expectations were met or exceeded in relation to the balanced education
5. 94% of parents noted their expectations were met or exceeded in relation to the class sizes



Parents were asked to provide open responses to the most valued aspects of Parklands School. The most frequently nominated aspects were:

2021 Parklands School Parents - What do you value most about your association with the School? (Top 5)
Quality of teachers & staff
The School community
Safe, caring & supportive environment
Friendships/connections developed between students, staff & parents
Learning Program

Parent Quotes on what they value about Parklands School:

Friendship groups. In class music program this year. Healthy canteen. The kids all cheering each other on and running with their peers at the inter-house athletics carnival.

Great connection with the principal and teachers always very approachable helpful and caring

Great relationships with staff, students and parents, always feel welcome, diversity and great values.

Open door policy by the Principal, Iain./Strong environmental theme, which parents can contribute to through their professional knowledge. Strong connection with Indigenous elders and history in Albany, which encourages parents to reach out and make our own connections.

Caring staff, close attention to child's needs, tailored teaching and learning opportunities

The attention that has been given to the improvement of the quality of my child's education.

1. The sense of community between school families./2. Small "intimate feel" in the school, the kids mostly know each other from PP right up to Year 6 and learn from / are guided by/ cared for by the older students./3. Opinions and suggestions from parents are valued and acted on (where possible/viable) by school management. /4. There are not nearly as many barriers put up to potential change as there used to be./5. I know many of the teachers across the school, and see them out and about around town as "real people" as well as "teachers".

My child gets a good education and learns to be part of a nurturing community in a small and safe environment.

Accessible teachers who communicate well and clearly have the best intentions for my children. Supported by great administrative people and a caring attitude.



Income

School income is drawn from a variety of sources, as shown in the graphs below. We are very grateful to our families whose school fees allow us to provide additional resources, such as a high number of Education Assistants.

