

AGPPA NEWS 2025

Term 3



AGPPA
Australian Government
Primary Principals
Association

Message from the President

Welcome to the Term 3 edition of AGPPA News – an update to keep you informed about key developments in the national education space.

In this term's issue, we cover highlights from the recent inaugural joint ASPA/AGPPA Meeting, the AGPPA Presidents Meeting, meetings with the Federal Education Minister, the APPA Conference and State Conferences representation. We also raise an important reminder about your wellbeing and we celebrate Australian Primary Principals Day.



Joint ASPA/AGPPA Meeting

On Monday, 21 July, the AGPPA Presidents met in Adelaide for the inaugural meeting with the Australian Secondary Principals' Association (ASPA). It was a historic occasion, bringing together two national peak bodies representing all public school leaders across Australia. Our associations are united by our shared commitment to equity and excellence, and with our common vision: to support the learning and wellbeing of every Australian child.

During the course of the meeting, we put together a joint statement with the policy priorities we see important for a world-leading education system. These policies sit around:

- Principal Wellbeing and Efficacy;
- Occupational Violence;
- Policy Design and Collaboration;
- National Education Policy Reform;
- Leadership Support and Development; and
- Student Wellbeing, Engagement and Safety.

By working together, we believe we can achieve a world-leading education system that is productive, nationally coherent, and child-centred, with educators leading the way. Our joint statement reflects our unified approach to addressing the challenges and opportunities in public education and our determination to advocate for the policies, practices, and resources that will enable every school leader to drive meaningful change in their schools and communities.

AGPPA Presidents Meeting

On Tuesday, 22 July, the AGPPA Presidents held a half-day meeting where AGPPA representation was discussed, an overview of state and association issues occurred (a mini-State of the Nation), and the group strategised how to further advance AGPPA.

The meeting was a success with strong discussion and connection a feature.

National Principals Reference Group Meeting with the Federal Education Minister

As AGPPA President, I was invited to the National Principals Reference Group meeting which was hosted by the Federal Education Minister Jason Clare during the recent school holidays. I was joined at the meeting by APPA President Angela Falkenberg and QASSP Vice President Debbie Hansen, who represented the Australian Primary Principals Association (APPA).

During our meeting, the Minister provided updates on the progress of the Better Fairer Schools Funding Agreement and emphasised the urgent need to tighten child safety legislation. We also discussed the agenda for the upcoming Education Ministers Meeting (EMM) and the Rapid Review aimed at establishing a consistent national standard for addressing bullying in schools. We also explored the process for reviewing and updating the National Teacher Workforce Action Plan, including a focus on school leader wellbeing. The meeting was a valuable opportunity to advocate for our national priorities in education.

AGPPA Meeting with Minister Clare

As President of AGPPA, I met with Federal Minister Jason Clare with Andrew Dalglish, in his capacity as Vice President of AGPPA. We discussed critical issues affecting government primary schools nationwide.

The conversation highlighted several key topics, including curriculum development, student absences, and inclusion strategies. The meeting addressed concerns about violence in schools and the Federal review into bullying, as well as the review of AERO. We emphasised the need for meaningful engagement with the profession, particularly regarding Principal leadership and the rewriting of ATSIL Principal Standards to include Deputy Principals. Additionally, they underscored the importance of incorporating recommendations from the National Disability Royal Commission and prioritising Principal wellbeing in the upcoming Teacher Workforce Action Plan.

Australian Primary Principals Day – Friday, 1 August 2025

On Friday 1 August, we celebrated Australian Primary Principals Day, an initiative of the Australian Primary Principals Association (APPA) to publicly recognise and celebrate the leadership and dedication of primary school principals across Australia. The significant impact of primary school leaders to students, staff and their families is invaluable.



AGPPA Representation at State Conferences

AGPPA is strategically enhancing its presence at State Associations conferences, with a member of the Executive delivering a brief address at each event. These presentations focus on AGPPA's identity, vision, achievements, and future initiatives. This year, AGPPA has already addressed the QASSP, TPA, and SA conferences. Looking ahead, presentations are scheduled for the VPA, WAPPA, and NSWPPA conferences in the upcoming semester, reinforcing AGPPA's commitment to collaboration and engagement within the education sector.

APPA Conference & AGPPA Function

A reminder to all AGPPA members to register for the APPA National Conference in Brisbane from Tuesday, 26 August, to Friday, 29 August. Don't miss the opportunity to connect with colleagues and share insights.

Additionally, join us for an AGPPA function specifically for government primary school leaders on Wednesday, 27 August, at the Soleil Rooftop Bar, Rydges South Bank Brisbane, starting at 6.00pm.

We look forward to seeing you there!

<https://appaconference.com.au/>



Prioritise your Wellbeing

Wellbeing is crucial for AGPPA members, and it is essential to prioritise self-care and stay connected with one another. School leadership is a rewarding yet challenging role that demands exceptional resilience. As the year progresses, these challenges can intensify, especially for government primary school leaders who are often expected to do more with fewer resources. Many states won't see significant increases in support until the latter half of this decade.

Remember to lean on your peers, share experiences, and foster a supportive community. Together, we can navigate these challenges and continue to thrive in our vital roles.

Stay Connected

Thank you for reading the latest edition of AGPPA News. Please share this update with your colleagues for their information.

If you have any queries or would like further information on any of the items mentioned, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Regards



Pat Murphy

President

Australian Government Primary Principals Association (AGPPA)

E: President@agppa.asn.au | **W:** agppa.asn.au