Network Principal . . .

2013 has been a particularly eventful year with many reforms and changes across the educational landscape. We will all have to work differently with the efficiency drives impacting upon our staffing and resourcing.

As outlined in Focus 2014 schools will have the following priorities-

- Success for all students including the new national standards for disability;
- Improved student attendance, engagement and behaviour including links to School of SEN for students with challenging behaviours;
- High quality teaching and leadership including using the new Australian Teacher Performance and Development Framework and
- A capable and responsive organisation including using the National School opinion surveys.

Next year will also be a year of preparation with a number of major initiatives set for 2015-

- Australian Curriculum;
- WACE ;
- Year 7 in secondary schools;
- Student –centred funding model and one-line budgets.

Whilst it may appear daunting in some regards, as long as we plan accordingly we will be prepared to maximise any opportunities that come our way as well as support each other to deal with the changes.

As a network we are well placed to assist each other in these reforms and with the core business of teaching and learning. There are a number of forums whereby staff in the network can share their ideas and get advice.

The termly newsletter is open to anyone to add an article and I would encourage all staff to consider using it much like a community newspaper. Just send your item to your principal who will forward it to the newsletter team for publication.

Our website www.educationsupportsouthnetwork.com.au has 218 subscribers currently. Just click subscribe and you will get e-mail notifications of posts added to the website. Our member’s only section password is available from your principal if you have forgotten it.
We have 3 distribution lists for members- if you are sending an e-mail using outlook or the portal click on the “to” tab and type in ESSN and they will appear. Otherwise use- ESSN.nonteachingStaff@education.wa.edu.au for education assistants and school based staff, ESSN.Principals@education.wa.edu.au for school leadership teams and ESSN.TeachingStaff@education.wa.edu.au for teachers. We hope to have our office staff list up and running very soon.

Your contact people for your job groups are as follows-
♦ Linda.Nicholls@education.wa.edu.au for education assistants and social trainers
♦ Hayley.Ding@education.wa.edu.au for teachers
♦ Debra.Brown@education.wa.edu.au for ministerial officers, and
♦ Andrew.Wilson@education.wa.edu.au for school leaders.

As another means of communication I have created an ESSN community on the departments CONNECT platform. Some members of our network are already on Connect and it provides a quick and easy way for us to communicate. If you would like to be a member go to http://connect.det.wa.edu.au where you will log in via the portal – click on the communities tab and then select find a new community. Type ESSN in the search box and you will see the link to our page. Please register to join.

We can then put things on our notice board and start discussions on relevant topics. I have made it a restricted community so that we can talk freely.

I have put a flyer on the terms and use of Connect on the website along with some other documents on Connect. It promises a lot and I would be very interested to hear from member schools who are using it now.

I would like to acknowledge the hard work of a number of people in the network for their efforts. Their job has been to create the environment whereby our members can meet their goals. A vibrant professional learning community of schools of choice who collaborate to provide quality education for its students and families.

We need to work for each other and thanks to all those staff who did their bit.

On behalf of the Education Support South Network (ESSN) I would like to wish everybody a great festive season and a safe and enjoyable holiday break.

Take care out there.
Andrew Wilson
Promotions Group Update . . .

This term the Promotions Group continue to maintain the school website to inform all of our members of upcoming events. We have finalised our ESSN vertical banner and showcased this at the final network meeting. It looks very professional and promotes our network of schools.

MSSD – School of Distinction
Cloverdale Education Support Centre has run two school iPad and Australian Curriculum workshops for partner schools in the country this term. We have also consulted with six partner schools to support implementing Maths Curriculum with students with disability in mainstream schools. Each school has delivered positive feedback regarding the workshops and ongoing support.

Susan Moran, project coordinator and I have developed an outstanding tool which aligns the Maths Curriculum with iPad applications. The success of the project is in the planning and delivery of the project product with staff in partner schools. They are building capacity on how to allow students with disability access to the curriculum. We look forward to sharing the achievements of schools in 2014.

Clay Project
Cloverdale ESC worked with mainstream staff to develop hands from clay. They sculpted and glazed their art independently.

Melinda Manship
Principal, Cloverdale ESC

Coolbellup Learning Centre Students Win National Prize.

Students from all year levels at CLC recently entered the Sunny Kids – Read2Remember online competition. They were required to make a 2 minute iMovie on the topic of courage. The competition brief was that “Their production depicted the characteristics of courage and resilience found within our servicemen and women, and how this translates into the everyday life of a school student or community”.

The students chose to focus on anti-bullying.

From thousands of entries across Australia CLC made it as one of nine finalists for voting- on Friday we received an email to say we had won! Our prize is a MacBook Pro and the students can’t wait for it to arrive. Class teacher Kellie Sawyer led the production and deserves all our congratulations and thanks for the effort she put in to this project.

Thank you to all of our Network supporters who voted for our iMovie. We will happily make this footage available to any schools who would like to use it as part of their anti bullying programs.

Pauline Winrow, Principal, Coolbellup Learning Centre
Professional Learning Update . . .

**ICT in Schools by Marion Wright**

I recently attended an Apple Leadership Seminar which brought forward some interesting and thought provoking moments with regard to integrating technology into the curriculum.

One of the discussions focussed on the use of ICT (in particular iPads) in the classroom with conversation turning to the SAMR Model. Many of you are probably aware of the model, but for those who are not it shines a spotlight on our ICT classroom practices.

The SAMR Model divides use of technology in the classroom into two categories – *Enhancement* and *Transformation*. Under the Enhancement category are two sub-categories: **Substitute** and **Augmentation**. At the substitute level technology acts as a direct tool substitute with no functional change - shiny new toy.

Augmentation allows technology to act as a direct tool substitute with functional improvement. For example, it might improve a student’s writing but doesn’t change the way they write.

The goal with using ICT in the classroom is to transform learning opportunities into ones that are not possible without the technology. In the Transformation stage **Modification** takes place when technology allows for significant task redesign as a way to access information and portray learning. **Redefinition** practices allows for technology to assist in the creation of new tasks previously inconceivable. It allows the technology to take us beyond just writing about something but allows the student to connect with the real world.

So the question is: Where do your ICT classroom practices sit on the SAMR model?
Professional Learning Update (cont’d) . . .

WA Early Childhood Education & Care Conference

On Sunday 28 October Julie Dawson, Sarah Thomas, Louise Twist and Pam Cave joined Dr Diane Chambers, senior lecturer and coordinator of Special Education at Notre Dame University, to present a symposium discussing Technology Play versus Traditional Play at the Perth Convention Exhibition Centre. Sarah outlined the Department of Education’s Early Childhood iPad Trial and emphasised the importance of utilising technology appropriately, using the SAMR model and selecting apps to suit the individual needs of the student. Pam presented an overview of the ESSN iPad Project undertaken in 2012/2013 and its impact on learning for children with special needs. Julie detailed specific outcomes achieved by students at Canning Vale ESC and the ongoing use of iPads in all classes. Louise discussed the influence the Project had at Wirrabirra ESC and how the school has progressed its use of iPads since the Project, achieving a “one to one” model this year. Dr Chambers concluded the presentation with an overview of the research she is conducting, in conjunction with universities around the world, on the use and outcomes of iPads as a learning tool for students with special needs.

Participants showed a keen interest in how different schools are utilising iPads for learning and the variety of apps suited to developing skills in younger children.

Organisers of the Conference received overwhelming positive feedback from delegates who attended the Symposium.

Pam Cave, Cannington Community ESC

WADSA Tee-Ball Carnival:

The Tee Ball carnival was held on Tuesday 19th November at Success Primary School. The students showed fantastic sportsmanship, were well mannered and played their very best. CLC students were rewarded for their efforts with the Champions Trophy!

A very big thank you to all the staff for their support of the students at this event, in organisation, supervision, umpiring, and enthusiasm.

A number of students also won individual player medals – well done!

Pauline Winrow, Principal, Coolbellup Learning Centre
EDAC’S Outreach Advocacy Service in Maddington
The Ethnic Disability Advocacy Centre (EDAC) has established an office in Maddington (at the Mission Australia offices) Wattle House, 40 Orr Street, for the convenience of people with disabilities living in the south eastern suburbs.
EDAC can assist people with disabilities from culturally and linguistically diverse (CaLD) backgrounds and their families with advocacy, support and information on matters relating to disability. EDAC is a not-for-profit community organisation which has been in operation for 12 years, advocating for the rights of people with disabilities and families to obtain equitable and fair services.
Halina Krapez, our individual advocate will be available to see clients in the Maddington office, every Wednesday from 9.00 am to 5.00 pm. At the moment it is by appointment only.
Contact:
Subiaco Office: - Monday to Friday
320 Rokeby Road, Subiaco WA 6008
Ph.: 9388 7455 Fax: 9388 7433
Freecall: 1800 659 921

Maddington Office: - Wednesday only
Wattle House, 40 Orr Street, Maddington WA
Mob.: 0431 015 610
Email: halina@edac.org.au

ESSN Tabloid Sports Day
Our Network interschool Tabloid Sports Carnival was held on November 4th at Wirrabirra ESC. Five education support schools participated in the days events and lots of fun was had by all. Though the day was a little overcast it was still very hot and humid and I think the flies were winners in most events. Despite the weather all students had a great time and were all tired on the bus ride home. I extend a big thank you to each of the staffs for their efforts on the day, especially those at Wirrabirra for organising such a great event. This year’s carnival was won by Wirrabirra ESC. The students were all great sports and cheered for all the participating teams.

Pauline Winrow,
Principal, Coolbellup Learning Centre
School Update . . .

Kalamunda Secondary Education Support Centre is an Independent Public School located in the scenic surrounds of the Perth Foothills just a short walk from the centre of the Town of Kalamunda. The school is a secondary facility that caters to the needs of 45 young people from years 8 to 13, providing a diverse range of educational, vocational and recreational experiences supporting the development of responsible, healthy and independent young adults in becoming active participants in their local communities.

As an IPS, Kalamunda SHS ESC has taken on the challenge of being innovative in what it does as a school. There is a clear belief in promoting a positive belief in achievement and removing the many boundaries, obvious and not so obvious, which hinder young people from achieving their very best and from developing their true potential. Our vision of inclusion goes beyond the social integration model and extends more broadly and actively into the local communities in which our young people live. The students access a number of local facilities and activities including gymnasiums, martial arts dojos, sporting clubs, retail facilities and a broad range of local industry that extend and complement their experience of community.

The commitment to engagement with local community has extended further with the school’s basketball program being adopted by the Kalamunda Basketball Association. This has opened a competition for young people with disabilities to participate in and currently has approximately 60 regular attendees competing on a weekly basis. The school also has strong links with the Ivor Burge Championships, a national basketball championship for people with intellectual disability. The school has so far had 6 students represent the state in this competition with a further 10 students in the development team.

In 2011 the school made a decision to push the boundaries and to incorporate interstate travel as part of our commitment to opening up opportunities to students with disability. Mainstream students have the same opportunity and we saw there being no reason to do anything less. The Melbourne trip was an outstanding success which saw the school establish a pattern which continues as a regular feature of the school’s planning. In 2013 the school travelled to Canberra with improved numbers of participating students and staff. A great deal of valuable work preceded the trip which included visits to Parliament House, The War Memorial, AIS and Perisher. Planning has already commenced for a visit to Darwin in 2015 – a significant adventure given the historical significance of the year and Darwin’s links to Australia’s wartime history.
The school has an IT focus and students have access to a range of devices and platforms. Much of the online learning is conducted using Windows based platforms on tablets and netbooks. An Apple Mac Pro Server has recently been installed to support the broad introduction of iPads to staff and students. This will assist with the management of downloads, upgrades and applications and reduce bandwidth usage.

Plans are well advanced for 2014 and 2015 which will see the school increasing in enrolment and progressing the Australian Curriculum further.

*Steve Hordacre, Principal*

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**Gwynne Park ESC**

Gwynne Park ESC is a Level 3 Education Support Centre and shares the same campus as the Gwynne Park Primary School. Together the schools are known as ‘The Gwynne Park Schools’.

Current student enrolment numbers for 2014 are approximately 60 students.

Gwynne Park ESC offers an inclusive student centred educational, social and emotional program for students K – Y7.

Gwynne Park ESC is one of two schools in the ESSN that offer placements in the Specialist Early Intervention Program for students with ASD or GDD in Kindy and Pre Primary.

The Centre offers specialised programs including; Riding for the Disabled, year round swimming, and weekly Protective Behaviours and Speech and Language Therapies.

**School Purpose** – is to provide individualised, meaningful, age appropriate educational and functional programs which promote the social, intellectual, emotional, creative and physical development of all students within a positive and caring environment.

**Values** – GPESC values life long learning, collaboration, participation, equity, inclusive practice and excellence. This is fostered through strong partnerships between students, staff, parents and our colleagues within the Armadale Community.

*Stephen Cannell, Principal*
School Update . . . (cont’d)

Canning Vale College Hosts Canning Vale ESC Students . . .

At the beginning of Term 4, Primary students from Canning Vale ESC came to experience a morning with the Education Support students at Canning Vale College. The morning activities included making fruit kebabs, discovering technology and remote controlled cars, making artwork, participating in team sports and watching a fabulous circus performance.

The Secondary students had as much fun as the Primary students as they were provided the chance to see what happens in the local high school.

Congratulations to all involved from both schools for such a successful day!!

*Merrilee Wright, Associate Principal, Canning Vale College*

Oddysea by Sensorium Theatre

Following on from the success of *The Jub Jub Tree* in 2012, *Oddysea* is the latest sensory performance and residency from Sensorium Theatre! Based on an underwater adventure, *Oddysea* is a highly specialised, hands-on, interactive theatre experience for young people with special needs, including those with multiple disabilities. Developed at Kenwick School with students from both Kenwick and Carson St, children are led through a tactile discovery journey where touch, taste and smell are as important as sight and sound in the storytelling process.

Students become familiar with the story, characters, songs and storytelling methods used in the performance through preparatory, hands-on workshops leading up to each performance. This takes place in a mini-residency at the school, introducing the children to our beautiful ocean environment and the bubbly characters living inside. All artists are highly skilled in working with children with special needs and working with your organisation to provide a rich experience for participants.

Sensorium Theatre is excited to be touring *Oddysea* in 2014. A subsidised tour is confirmed to Malibu, Gwynne Park, Gladys Newton and Carson St schools in terms 1 and 2. If you are interested in joining the tour please let us...
Also in 2014, Sensorium will be offering professional development opportunities for teachers and educational assistants. Our *Awakening the Senses* experience is a two hour, thought provoking session for up to 30 staff members. The participants are blindfolded and led through a multi-sensory walk by the artists. Removing sight has the effect of heightening other sensory stimuli. Experiences are shared following the walk leading to discussions around empathy, power and consent. A great team building exercise!

“We use the word multi-sensory all the time – but I don’t think I really understood what that meant until today.”

*(Teacher – Gladys Newton)*

Sensorium Theatre also builds professional learning sessions customised to you. These sessions may focus on creating a multi-sensory environment in your classroom or school in a cost effective way, or on ideas for Sensory Storytelling in class.

For more information contact Rachael Whitworth at rachael@performinglineswa.org.au or on 08 9200 6232. Alternatively, to create a custom professional learning session contact Michelle or Francis, the Sensorium Artistic Directors on 0407 703 883.

*Caitlin Brass, Performing Lines WA*

*Photos by Ashley de Prazer & Sarah Rowbottam*

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**Congratulations . . .**

to Sarah Thomas and Louise Twist, who teach at Wirrabirra ESC, for recently attaining their Level 3 status.

This is a fantastic achievement which is the result of a huge amount of work within our school and in sharing of knowledge with a number of other schools also.

*Iris Mickiewicz*
## WAESPAA Education Awards 2014

The annual WAESPAA Education Awards were held on Friday November 1st at Tompkins on Swan. The Awards celebrate the work being done in members’ schools and centres across the state. This year a number of recipients were from the Education Support South Network of schools – a great achievement. Congratulations to the following nominees, winners and their schools for the fantastic job you undertake everyday.

### Registrar/Support Staff Award:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Winner</th>
<th>Nominees</th>
<th>School</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sharon Whiteford</td>
<td>Carol Rodoreda, Les Ozsdolay, Jan Harcombe</td>
<td>Durham Road School, Leeming SHS ESC, Carson Street ESC</td>
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### Non Teaching/Support Staff Award:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Winner</th>
<th>Nominees</th>
<th>School</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ben New</td>
<td>Lyn Johnson, Lorraine Vann, Sandy Travers, Michelle Barrett, Terri-Anne Cope, Emma Heagney, Tracy Kowalski, Kevan Buttle, Vera Edwards, Tracey Dann</td>
<td>Rockingham Beach ESC, Leeming SHS ESC, Carson Street School, Armadale ESC, Kenwick School, Kenwick School, Kenwick School, Kannington Community ESC, Kenwick School, Cannington Community ESC</td>
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### Teacher Early Childhood:

**Winners:** Emma Coustley & Melanie Stroud

**School:** Peel Language Development School

### Primary Teacher Award:

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<th>Winner</th>
<th>Nominees</th>
<th>School</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fiona Miller</td>
<td>Catherine Houden, Sheela Varughese</td>
<td>Kenwick School, Cannington Community ESC, Armadale ESC</td>
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### Secondary Teacher Award:

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<th>Winner</th>
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<th>School</th>
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<tr>
<td>Wendy Hughes</td>
<td>Margaret Rutherford</td>
<td>Mirrabooka ESC, Atwell College</td>
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### Ed Support Leadership Award:

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Margaret Rutherford</td>
<td>Judy Gardener, Margaret Keen</td>
<td>Atwell College, Kensington School, Rockingham Beach ESC</td>
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### School of the Year:

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<tr>
<td>Career Enterprise Centre</td>
<td>Carson Street School, Cloverdale ESC</td>
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**essn News**

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