2007 Annual Report

SCHOOL NAME: ST FRANCIS DE SALES REGIONAL COLLEGE LEETON

CONTACT DETAILS:

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School Profile

Introduction

St Francis De Sales Regional College is a Catholic Co-educational Day and Weekly Boarding School providing a comprehensive education across Years 7-12, for students from Leeton, Narrandera and surrounding rural areas in the Riverina.

The purpose of the College is to contribute to the Church’s Mission to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ and to offer to the Catholic Community and others within our Region an educational foundation for life – meaning development towards the physical, intellectual, social, emotional and moral growth of the students.

St Francis College is registered with the New South Board of Studies as a systemic school within the Diocese of Wagga Wagga.

Student Profile

The following information describes the student profile for 2007:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Girls</th>
<th>Boys</th>
<th>LBOTE*</th>
<th>Indigenous</th>
<th>Total</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>377</td>
<td>378</td>
<td>117</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>755</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Language background other than English

Enrolment Policy

The Diocese of Wagga Wagga has established an Enrolments Policy which is Diocese implemented by all schools in the. The full text of this policy can be found at www.cso.wagga.catholic.edu.au

The implementation of this policy is monitored by the Catholic Schools Office.

St Francis College has permission to vary this policy. The College’s Policy has siblings being offered enrolment as its first priority. The rest of the policy is then in line with Diocesan Policy.

Staff Profile

The NSW government requires that this report details the number of teachers in each of the following categories:

a) have teacher qualifications from a higher education institution within Australia or as recognised within the National Office of Overseas Skills Recognition (AEI-NOOSR) guidelines

b) have qualifications as a graduate from a higher education institution within Australia or one recognised within the AEI-NOOSR guidelines but lack formal teacher qualifications
c) do not have qualifications as described in (a) or (b) but have relevant successful
teaching experience or appropriate knowledge relevant to the teaching context.

Such teachers must have been employed:

- 'to 'teach' in NSW before 1 October 2004 (either on a permanent, casual or temporary
basis), and
- as a ‘teacher’ during the last five years in a permanent, casual or temporary capacity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>a</th>
<th>b</th>
<th>c</th>
<th>total</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>51.97</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>53.97</td>
</tr>
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</table>

### Teachers Attendance and Retention Rates

The federal Schools Assistance Act 2005 requires that each school report on the average
attendance rate of staff members in a given school. The end figure is determined by
calculations including certain periods of absence due to sickness, personal carers leave,
leave without pay, special leave and accident/workers compensation leave. An attendance
rate of 96.1% was achieved in 2007 by staff at St Francis De Sales Regional College,
Leeton.

### Student Attendance and Retention Rates

Schools are required to calculate the average student attendance rate for 2007 as a single percentage.

\[
\text{\% attendance rate} = \left( \frac{\text{total days present}}{\text{total days possible}} \right) \times 100
\]

\[
\text{\% attendance rate} = \left( \frac{7756}{755 \times 200} \right) \times 100 = 95\%
\]

### RETENTION RATES

<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Completed Yr 10 in 2007</td>
<td>Completed Yr 12 in 2007</td>
<td>Completed Yr 12 in 2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>97%</td>
<td>72%</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### STUDENT DESTINATION

Based on student information from the HSC class of 2007 the following table represents a destination
survey:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workforce</th>
<th>Further study</th>
<th>Unknown</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Student Satisfaction**

St Francis offers a unique range of opportunities not only in academic achievement but also in our sports and creative arts departments.

We feel students are encouraged to become involved in all aspects of the College from the variety of sports available such as tennis, netball, soccer, touch and AFL, to the endless creative arts and extra-curricular activities including School Musical Productions, Choir, Showcases, Chess Club, Debating and the Science Fiction Club.

Our great facilities also enable students to excel, whether that be arts, sports, science, technology and the ‘hands on’ subject of textiles, wood and metal work.

Some of our fondest memories of St Francis come from the School Socials, Trivia Nights and St Francis Fun Days, Staff/Student Soccer matches and Casual Clothes days that are usually held each year.

Students at St Francis are also offered the opportunity to go on great excursions, to places such as Sydney, Melbourne and Albury.

The thing we appreciate and value the most about St Francis is the friendly warm environment. Each student and their individual needs are met, as our school not only promotes growing and excelling academically but also encourages personal growth.

One thing we have valued at St Francis is our Pastoral Care Program. There is support offered for students in both good and bad times with all students feeling comfortable in our school.

We personally have felt encouraged to try new experiences such as St Vincent De Paul Appeals, and the Year 12 Street Retreats in Sydney. The Pastoral Care Program also encourages students to participate in Community events such as Church Services and Buddy Days which help under-privileged children in the Community.

Every Year Group has a Retreat each year ranging from Year 7 at Murrumbidgee Agricultural College to Year 12 Retreat in Harrietville in Victoria. These retreats provide students with the chance to meet new people and have fun while reflecting and exploring their own spirituality.

The teachers at St Francis provide a wealth of knowledge for students to reach their full potential. Our teachers go the ‘extra mile’ with many providing after school classes, tutoring and tirelessly giving their time to help all students through this, students are able to develop close relationships with teachers and the staff are willing to accommodate for all students’ needs.

Kayla Dryburgh and Matthew Gibson 2007 College Captains
Catholic Life and Mission

Catholic Heritage
St Francis De Sales Regional College is a Catholic School. The school is a community of faith based on belief in God and a Christian way of life. The spirit and values of the Gospel determine the atmosphere of the school and underpin all that is done and said.
This spirit is apparent to those who enter the College and in all our dealings with students, between staff, and with parents and members of the wider community.
The religious orientation of the College as a Catholic school relies on the presence of a committed staff who understand, give witness to and accept the ethos of the school.

Liturgical Life
St Francis College is committed to providing liturgical experiences which reflect the life of the community, celebrate God among us and which affirm the leadership of men and women in ritual and ministry. Liturgy reflects the rhythmic cycle of the Church's seasons; it reflects the spirituality present in the natural seasons; it reflects stages in the life journey of the individual; it responds to events, developments and crises which touch the human community.

Mass is celebrated in the College Chapel twice a week for Boarders and others who would like to attend. As a whole College the student, staff and parents gather to celebrate the Eucharist on significant occasions such as the start of the school year, the end of the school year, commissioning of leaders and Founders’ Day.

Year Group Retreats are held throughout the year. These days provide students with the opportunity to reflect on their lives and the place of God within them. The College is strongly committed to its Retreat program, which is constantly being updated and changed to meet the different demands each Year Group brings. It is an expectation that every student attend Retreat each year.

Students and staff uphold a vibrant prayer life by participating in prayer each morning during the Pastoral period and the opportunity exists for students to attend an active Prayer Group which is held weekly. Staff gather each morning for prayer and each year begins and ends with a special and meaningful Staff Liturgy.

The School in the Life of the Parish and Diocese
Year Groups are organised to prepare Saturday Night liturgy on a regular basis in both Leeton and Narrandera parishes. Many of the boarding students play a significant role in liturgy in their own parishes. The College has the services of a Chaplain who is the assistant priest at St Joseph’s Leeton; the priests of Leeton Parish celebrate the Boarding Masses, the Narrandera Parish priest is also active in the liturgy and retreat programs of the College; parents in the Hay parish encourage St Francis students to take on responsibilities during weekend liturgies in Hay.
Religious Education Curriculum

The Religion Department bases its teaching on the principles enunciated in Sharing Our Story, the Diocesan Education program, the Studies of Religion syllabus, CSO policies, as well as the Goals agreed upon by the College Staff in its Vision Statement.

The College follows ‘Sharing Our Story’ for all students in 7 – 10, Studies of Religion (1 & 2 Unit) in 11 & 12. Students have the option of choosing Studies of Religion in Year 12 / Stage 6 or studying ‘Sharing our Story’ program.

Religious Education is assessed and reported to parents in semester reports.

Preparation for World Youth Day 2008 was a major focus of Religious Education during 2007. St Francis College hosted a Pilgrimage of all Year 10 students from the five secondary schools in the Diocese in May.

Catholic Worldview

St Francis De Sales Regional College is committed to the promotion of social justice. The College supports community organizations such as Caritas Australia, the Pontifical Missions and the St Vincent de Paul Society. There is a strong history of generous donations to causes with which the College has a connection e.g. students working voluntarily in orphanages in Africa, associates who work with the Afar people, as well as connections with our sister town Luro in East Timor. The newly formed Social Justice Group work in collaboration with the Pastoral Care teams and Religion teachers to educate and urge the students to be involved in fund raising for these worthy causes. Students are also exposed to immersion experiences in social outreach through attendance at the ‘Street Retreat’ during their Senior years of schooling. Year 12 students are also becoming committed to an end of year visit to the Santa Teresa Mission in the Northern Territory.

Parent Participation

The school works in partnership with families and parishes in providing the students with liturgical experiences, which are meaningful and ritualistic. The majority of the principal liturgical feasts are planned and celebrated within the school community to which parents are invited. Parents are invited to attend the Leadership Commissioning and Graduation Masses and they play a role in these liturgies.

Professional Learning in Catholic Life and Mission

Teachers of Religious Education have been involved in Professional Learning to implement Sharing Our Story for 7 – 10. Teachers have also attended further courses designed to assist with the implementation of the new Studies of Religion syllabus.

Some staff are studying through the Broken Bay Institute in conjunction with the Wagga Wagga Diocese to receive their Graduate Certificate in Theological Studies. This has been part of the support and encouragement required for all teachers of Religious Education to meet Diocesan requirements.

The Diocesan Policy on Professional Requirements for the Accreditation of Teachers of Religious Education can be found at www.cso.wagga.catholic.edu.au
Pastoral Care

Diocesan Policies

The Diocese of Wagga Wagga has established Pastoral Care and Discipline Policies which are implemented by all schools in the Diocese. The full text of these policies can be found at:

www.cso.wagga.catholic.edu.au

The implementation of these policies is monitored by the Catholic Schools Office.

School Implementation of Diocesan Policy

The College expresses its position on “Pastoral Care” with the following Pastoral Care credo:

- The St Francis de Sales Regional College Leeton Community believe that Pastoral Care is an all-pervasive force that animates the school community, and generates a safe and secure environment.
- The College believes that each person is created in the image of God and empowered by the spirit.
- The College believes that all are motivated by the example of Jesus and hence everyone endeavours to live out His values of love, justice, care, tolerance and hope.
- The College values each person for who they are, while at the same time challenging them to be relational people.
- The College recognises that each person is called to contribute his/her gifts to the creation of this learning community, where each person’s life journey is recognised, nurtured and celebrated.
- When Pastoral Care is effective, it enables all to create a hope-filled and affirming environment that is St Francis College.
- The College Pastoral care is modelled on Jesus whose love, care and compassion for each individual, particularly the marginalised, sought to bring them to their completeness as human beings (created in the image of God). (C6 Psalm 23; Matthew 18: 12-14)

Pastoral Care at St Francis reflects the ideals, values and emphasis of the Josephite and Marist educational philosophies. These form the basis of the College Vision and Mission statement, which embraces all aspects of school life: spiritual, academic, physical, emotional and social. It values the individual gifts of each person and facilitates their growth to their fullest potential.

Pastoral Care at St Francis is an integral process of education and life skills that is based on relationships and affirmation. Pastoral Care fosters the creation of an atmosphere of trust, where the dignity and worth of each person is continually affirmed. Consequently it is supportive and celebratory, preventative and esteem building.
Pastoral Care of Families

The College acknowledges that Parents/Caregivers are the first and foremost educators of their children. The College takes very seriously, the responsibility entrusted upon it at St Francis by parents/caregivers to provide a learning environment for their children.

Teaching, Boarding and Ancillary staffs, work in close collaboration with families to ensure open lines of communication and clear understandings. All students and in turn their families, have a hierarchical structure in which these relationships are fostered. Boarding School Supervisors, Pastoral Care Teachers, Class Teachers, Year Co-ordinators, Pastoral Care Worker, Counsellor, Pastoral Care Co-ordinator/Assistant Principal and Principal, all have an opportunity to liaise with families regarding the Pastoral concerns of students.

Regular parent information evenings are held to ensure all parties are clear on the policies and processes, and to explain any special programs.

2007 Initiatives

- A range of co-curricular activities for students and staff in the Pastoral Care areas of Drug Education, Relationship Building and Resilience was held.
- Parent Information Sessions to Resourceful and Resilient adolescents.
- Continue to encourage students to experience Immersion Experiences such as Street Retreat and the Santa Teresa Mission.
- Staff training in Mind Matters for the benefit of Adolescent Mental health.
- Robyn Moore’s presentation on “Extraordinary People”
- Rising Generations Program for year 10 students.
- Robert Pereria workshops on anti-bullying programs for junior students.
- The building of the sense of spirit, ecumenism and faith was continued.

Resolving Issues

The Diocese of Wagga Wagga has established a Complaints Handling Policy which is implemented by all schools in the Diocese. The full text of this policy can be found at

www.cso.wagga.catholic.edu.au

The implementation of this policy is monitored by the Catholic Schools Office.
Excellence in Teaching and Learning

Curriculum Overview

St Francis College offers a diverse and challenging curriculum. Students are prepared for the awards of the NSW School Certificate and Higher School Certificate within an environment that is strongly influenced by the College’s Pastoral Care programme, and where students are encouraged to develop their own self confidence and self discipline as they further their studies.

The College is proud of its academic record and this view is supported by the continued success of its students across all areas of the curriculum.

Religious Studies is undertaken in all junior years (Stages 4 and 5) and students complete studies from the eight Key Learning Areas of English, Mathematics, Science, Human Society and Its Environment, Languages Other than English, Technological and Applied Studies, Creative and Arts and Personal Development, Health and Physical Education. As well as the study of mandatory subjects students in Year 9 choose electives from a comprehensive pool for Stage 5.

Senior students have a wide range of subjects to choose from, with English being the only mandatory Board of Studies subject and the College requirement that seniors complete a course of studies in the Board of Studies subject, Studies of Religion. Another important and popular area of study includes the Vocational Education and Training (VET) courses. These courses are accredited by industry and have clear links to students’ post school destinations. VET Courses offered by the College include: Hospitality Operations, Business Services Administration, Information Technology and Metals and Engineering.

The Curriculum offered to students of all ages is meant to be enjoyable, yet challenging. Success in learning can be best gained by a partnership in learning between students, parents and teachers working together towards the best educational outcomes for our students.

APPROACH TO LEARNING AND TEACHING

In accordance with the St Francis De Sales Regional Policy for Learning and Teaching and Today’s Children, Tomorrow’s Adults (Diocese of Wagga Wagga, 2000) the College staff promote learning communities that are based on the six essential learning and teaching practices: meaningful learning, communication, collaboration, self-responsibility and human development. One of the goals associated with these practices is the underlying notion of differentiating the curriculum, which provides a fair outcome for students of differing abilities and interests.
SIGNIFICANT INITIATIVES

- Boys’ Education through the Success For Boys Program and the continuation of the Year 9 “Boys, Barbecue and Books” evenings.

- LYNKS structured workplace learning for Year 10: this provides workplace based learning for Year 10 students who do not wish to take up tertiary studies at the completion of their schooling.

- Study sessions for boarding students and staff: these are organized at the beginning of the year and assist with the smooth transition of boarders into the pattern of study required in the boarding house.

- A thoroughly planned and conducted careers education program based on “A Theory of Vocational Choice”. All Year 12 students are provided with the opportunity for an Individual Careers Interview with the counselor with as many follow up sessions as required.

- Differentiating the Curriculum is an ongoing emphasis throughout the curriculum. Significant resources have been allocated to the professional development of staff in this area.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

LITERACY and NUMERACY

ELLA and SNAP Results

During Term One 2007 St Francis De Sales Year 7 and Year 8 students sat for the ELLA (English Literacy and Language Assessment) and SNAP (Secondary Numeracy Assessment Program).

Overall the students performed above the state average in ELLA with 91% of SFC Year 7 students and 90% of Year 8 students achieving a High or Proficient grading. 62% of Year 8 students improved their literacy skills above the expected growth rate.

In SNAP overall 79% of Year 7 and 81% of Year 8 students achieved a High or Proficient grading. For Year 7 this result was 17% above the state average and for Year 8, 9% above the state average.
SCHOOL CERTIFICATE

The results in the School Certificate for 2007 have continued the trend of increased numbers of students achieving Bands 5 and 6. Significant improvement has occurred in all subjects with the exception of Mathematics. However, it must be noted that the particular strength of this cohort has been in literacy rather than numeracy.

The School Certificate results over the past 4 years have fluctuated according to the variation in the standards of the cohort for that year. However, despite the variations in percentage of courses above state average, there has a very positive upward trend in the overall patterns of achievement.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School Certificate Percentage of Courses Above State Average</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>67</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School Certificate Percentage of Students in Bands 4, 5 and 6</th>
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<tr>
<td>---------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maths</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geography</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
HIGHER SCHOOL CERTIFICATE

The results for 2007 confirmed the trend for St Francis College to consistently achieve a greater number of Bands 5 and 6 results, between 2006 and 2007. There was a 61% increase in the number of Band 6 results and 49% increase for Band 5 results. It has been very satisfying to see this significant improvement. However, we must recognize that we had a very capable and committed cohort who very committed to their own success.

In terms of the UAI (University Admission Index) achievements, 13 students achieved above 90 and another 12 students achieved above 80. This was an excellent overall result.

The various initiatives introduced by the college has certainly contributed to the very positive trend that has occurred with HSC results.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HSC PERCENTAGE OF COURSES ABOVE STATE AVERAGE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>66</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>BAND 5 AND 6 ACHIEVEMENTS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Cohort</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
TARGETS FOR 2008

- Continue the push for all students to achieve better outcomes in the Higher School Certificate and School Certificate
- Encourage teachers to attend HSC marking sessions and professional development offered by professional organisations
- Maintain and expand upon the numeracy and literacy activities initiated by the SLANG (St Francis Literacy and Numeracy Group) Group
- Work towards positive literacy outcomes as a result of Boys Education Initiatives
- Improve the number of Stage 4 students achieving above the benchmark in National Testing. (NAPLAN)
- Continue the Stepping-Out Literacy, Professional Development Program for the teaching staff.
- The purchase of more Smart Boards for use in mainstream classrooms.
- The provision of opportunities for more staff be in-serviced on curriculum alignment.

INFORMATION, COMMUNICATION AND LEARNING TECHNOLOGIES

- The installation of whiteboards and data projectors in more classrooms.
- Professional Development opportunities provided by the Learning Technology Co-ordinator.
- The purchase of a bank of laptop computers to improve the capacity of computer usage in the library has been very successful and more laptops will be purchased during 2008.
- Development of a five year plan for the growth and implementation of Information Communication Learning Technologies at the College.

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

- Sessions on Castnet and the use of Smart Boards have been conducted by the IT Co-ordinator to maintain an awareness and improve teaching skills using these technologies.
- The numbers of staff undertaking HSC marking continues to increase. This has certainly been a very positive contributor to our continued success with HSC results.
- Three staff completed several days of ELLA marking.
- A significant number attended conferences and professional learning experiences specifically related to curriculum understanding and development.
- Attendance at other regular meetings and information sessions such as the CSSA Days in Sydney and Curriculum Co-ordinator Diocesan Days allowed executive staff to stay abreast with current and future issues.
- The Year 8 Literacy Programme using PIPS (Planning, Implementation, Professional Development, Strategies) continued this year.
EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- The St Francis College Extra Curricula Program saw students participate in a wide variety of students. Sporting Activities available to students in 2007 included: Australian Rules football, Rugby League, Soccer, Netball, Cricket, Basketball, Hockey, Tennis, Touch Football, Swimming, Diving, Athletics and Cross Country. Students were able to access Diocesan and State Representation in a range of sports.
- Throughout 2007 students were involved in Vocal Ensembles, an Instrumental program, Rock Bands and Eisteddfods.
- The Showcase week was a highlight in the College year.
- Students also participated in Mock Trial, the Art of Speech, Debating, Tournament of the Minds, Subject Competitions, Study Days, Drama Performances, Visual Arts Workshops, the LYNKS Program, Aged Care Visits, Science Fiction Club, Chess and Scrapbooking.

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

2007 Priorities and Achievements

- Successful Curriculum Reviews for the Technology and Applied Studies and Science Key learning Areas.
- Achieving Band 6s in HSC in subjects and achieving higher levels of learning gain and competitiveness in the HSC.
- Staff skill level in Information Communication Learning Technologies increasing.
- The successful re-birth of the Student Representative Council.
- Developing a Strategic Plan from New School Renewal Framework.
- Beautification of College Grounds.
- Ongoing painting and maintenance of the Boarding and Day School.
- College Security Systems further improved.
- Success in a variety of sporting endeavours.
- Values forum held.

2008 Priorities and Challenges

- Continued Staff learning and implementation of Information Communication Learning Technologies.
- Development of a wireless network throughout the College.
- Commitment to providing improved access to Technology throughout the College.
- Prepare for Curriculum Reviews of the PD/H/PE and HSIE Key learning Areas.
- More teachers to HSC Marking.
- Developing a Master Plan for the future development of the College.
- Planning for a new three year overview of the School Renewal Framework.
- An environmental group in its infancy
- Stepping Out Literacy program
- Participation in Australian Government Quality Teaching Programs
- Introducing specific Pastoral programs for Girls
- Continue to encourage staff in the area of Professional Learning

PARENT PARTICIPATION

The Parents of St Francis De Sales Regional College are welcomed and encouraged to participate in the life of the College. The College Council acts as an advisory council to the Principal and the Parents and Friends Association works tirelessly to raise additional funds for the College.

Parents are invited to:

- Working bees
- Be guest speakers
- Special Awareness Evenings
- Parent Information Nights,
- Swimming, Athletics and Cross Country Carnivals
- Participate in Musical productions
- Yr 10 and 12 Graduations
- College Masses for special occasions
- Parent/teacher Interviews

In determining the level of satisfaction the community has with the College the parents, students and staff were asked to indicate their level of satisfaction with one of the following statements. The results are indicated in the tables below.

COMMUNITY SATISFACTION

PARENT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strongly Agree</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Strongly Disagree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>60%</td>
<td>37.5%</td>
<td>5.5%</td>
<td>0%</td>
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</table>

STUDENT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strongly Agree</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Strongly Disagree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>60%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>0%</td>
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ST FRANCIS COLLEGE COUNCIL REPORT 2006 – 2007

It is with pleasure that I present the Annual Report for the year 2006-07 to the St Francis College Council.

In October last year, the College held its eagerly anticipated 50th Anniversary celebrations. This successful event was keenly supported by a wide cross-section of former students who thoroughly enjoyed the gatherings and functions that had been organised. The thanks of the School Council is once again extended to all members of the College community who helped in any way to ensure the smooth running of this weekend.

This year, the College Council has not been involved in a major undertaking, but has been looking at different options and directions for the College to take. One of these undertakings has been the issue of water, and various options have been considered, whereby the College will be able to become more self-sufficient. Similarly, an energy audit of the College is also contemplated. These activities are being considered in order to help the College reduce costs. The refurbishment of the oval pavilion is another project under consideration.

These things require patience and planning. It is essential that all considerations are thoroughly looked at before any decisions are made, and not rushed, which could have consequences in the future. In such a situation it would be well to remember the words of St Francis de Sales, when he said: “Have patience with all things, but chiefly have patience with yourself”. An area that was finalised this year has been the installation of the Hall curtains, which have helped improve the acoustics, and will definitely be of assistance for students when doing their exams.

I would like to offer my thanks to the P & F for their continued support and efforts for the college community. Their tireless efforts and fund-raising help to ensure the smooth running of the College, and I ask that all parents support them in all their endeavours. I would particularly like to express my appreciation to members of the College Council. Over the past 5 years they have provided a forum to discuss many issues of importance to the College, and their wealth of knowledge has been an invaluable asset. They bring a depth and breadth of knowledge and experience that is invaluable. I hope that future members of the Council will continue to work in harmony for the benefit of the College. It has been a privilege and honour to be able to work with you.

To all College staff I offer our appreciation for the professional manner in which the needs of the student body are met. This care and professionalism has been shown by the excellent reports that have been attained by the College in the registration and accreditation that took place over in the latter half of the year. The College came through with nothing but praise. It also applies to the teachers who so unstintingly give their time and energy to ensure that students are fully prepared for all exams. I would also like to particularly thank Brenda King for her support and assistance over the past year, and indeed the past 5 years. The work and dedication of all these people continues to enhance the fine traditions of St Francis College, a practice which I hope will continue over the coming years. I hope that parents will continue to support the College in all its endeavours to ensure that the reputation that has been built up over the past fifty years will continue to be enhanced.

Mr Paul Gibson
College Council Chairman
June 12, 2007
Financial Report

This data shown below is a summary of Diocese of Wagga School System income and expense and includes income and expense of all system schools.
The total income and expense of the school, that is included in the above, is shown below.