

Members Update
Term 3, August 2014

Newsletter

A message from Jeff Wait, Chief Executive

Welcome back for term three of our school year. I trust you will find this information useful and relevant.

I welcome feedback and you can email me anytime at president@sassla.asn.au. As always I wish you all the best in your very important work on behalf of the young people in our schools and preschools.

INTEGRATED SUPPORT SERVICES MODEL

SASSLA has been very involved in the consultation process around the newly proposed Support Services Model. Members have told us that they have real concerns about the nature and level of service delivery that would be proposed under the new model. Over the last couple of months we have sought additional information, attended a number of briefing sessions and had direct contact with the Chief Executive in order to get some clarity around members' concerns.

SASSLA is aware that some members have expressed concerns over the expectations and the ability of their Partnership to be able to make decisions about this valuable resource. The consultation period officially closed on 1 August and an update has since been provided via email from the Chief Executive. Please keep us informed about any ongoing concerns and questions that you and your colleagues might have.

WORK INTENSIFICATION SURVEY

All members have received our 'Work Intensification Survey' that was emailed out last week. This was a quick survey designed to provide us with your thoughts regarding several current challenges within our system as well as your examples and ideas. This information will be treated confidentially and be used to help us with our strategic planning over the next few months. We are seeking these survey responses by Friday 8 August. Thank you to those members who have made the time in their busy schedules to reply.

REGISTRATION UPDATE

As all members are aware we are currently undertaking the process of applying for registration as an official industrial organisation. At the moment we are working with our legal team to prepare this application to the Industrial Commission. We will be inviting members to submit evidence to support our application as the process continues.

MEMBERSHIP SURGE

We are delighted with the recent surge in membership numbers over the last few months. We now have over 350 members from a diverse range of schools and settings across the state. As our membership grows so too does our ability to impact policy development and working conditions for leaders. The best way of attracting new members is by word of mouth so if you have colleagues who are eligible to join SASSLA please direct them to our website or contact the office directly on 0412 654 817.



Please remember to like us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter!



twitter.com/sassla01
[facebook/SASSLA](https://facebook.com/SASSLA)

PUBLIC RELATIONS ASSISTANCE



SASSLA is excited to announce that we can now offer our members assistance with Public

Relations matters. TGB Media Communications now offers free initial public relations advice to SASSLA members.

Members are entitled to a 30 minute phone appointment for advice on urgent media management issues, media strategy, help with promoting a “good news” story, internal communications or other public relations matters.



TGB Media Communications is a public relations and marketing company associated with Tindall Gask Bentley Lawyers and is managed by Andrew Montesi (*pictured*), a former 9 News reporter

who started his career in the communications department at the Adelaide Football Club. We are thrilled to have Andrew as part of our team!

Contact SASSLA to arrange an appointment or if you require urgent assistance from Andrew.

2014 ANZELA CONFERENCE

The 23rd Annual ANZELA (Australia and New Zealand Education Law Association) conference is to be held in Adelaide from 1-3 October. The theme of this year’s conference is:

“Walking the tightrope – getting the balance right: Issues and challenges in education law”

The Law Foundation SA is offering assistance with financial support to attend the conference. The closing date for these grants is Friday 15 August 2014. DECD is also offering assistance through the Workforce Development Unit. For more information please visit:

www.anzela.edu.au/conference/

NEW WEBSITE

Our new website will be going live shortly. We will advise when it is available so members can try out the new Members Forum page! This will allow members to chat to each other about current issues or give advice to each other in a secure online environment.

LEGALWISE SEMINAR

Our Chief Executive, Jeff Wait, attended the recent School Law Legalwise Seminar and reported an excellent program. Issues covered included managing mental and physical health of staff, managing teacher underperformance, current issues in education related employment litigation and communication, record keeping, risk aversion and use of technology.

Jeff noted that one in five employees will suffer from a mental health issue and that stigma damage after the Debelle Inquiry is prevalent, even if there is an allegation that is not proven.

The full conference papers will be available for members’ on our new website shortly.

We hope you received your SASSLA Statement of Contribution notices which were sent to members’ home addresses at the end of June. We have received some mail marked as returned to sender. Please advise us if you have changed your address or contact details. Due to privacy issues we cannot obtain your current information from Payroll. Please email Leanne at admin@sassla.asn.au to update your information.

