The future is NOW!

Principal - Mr Stephen Leslie

The theme for the Annual Report for 2012 is taken from the title of an article written about our school and some of our exceptional, up-and-coming young teachers/leaders. The more I have thought about the concept, ‘The future is NOW!’ the more I think it captures how the context of education has changed in the ten years I have been Principal of Northside Christian College, and how we are adapting to meet this challenge.

The focus of education has always been to prepare young people for the world they will live and work in as adults. In 2012 the College leadership embarked on a series of strategies to ensure that the College was well-equipped, skilled and focussed on delivering relevant 21st Century learning and integrating mobile digital technology into the learning program. Some of the critical steps taken in 2012 included:

• The iPad Pilot Project, which involved students in Years 5, 6 and 9 bringing their own iPad to school and being trained in the use of this device as another resource in the learning process. iPads or other devices do not replace pen and paper or books, but are a powerful tool for research, recording ideas, presenting data and communicating within and beyond the College.

• Teacher Professional Development. To ensure that all teachers are skilled and resourced to be able to move into this new dimension of teaching and learning, teachers were provided with both a lap top and an iPad and fortnightly PD has been conducted in the specific set-up and use of these devices for the past 18 months. Two younger members of staff have been identified as specifically skilled and gifted in this area and they have been supported to attend some very high level conferences and receive additional consulting. Chris Gatt was appointed eLearning Coordinator (whole school) and Annelie Zuccolo Primary Curriculum and ICT Leader. Both these teachers have shown great ability as emerging leaders.

• Upgrade of infrastructure and software. In 2012 wireless modems were increased throughout the school to ensure access to the internet from almost anywhere on campus. We also purchased the Elite Attendance program so that teachers could mark rolls digitally from anywhere on the site and the data would be recorded centrally. Review of servers and bandwidth provision was also undertaken and steps to increase infrastructure and internet capacity were taken.

• Student Contracts and Ethical Use policies. As a Christian school we have taken seriously the need to build responsible, ethical attitudes into our students, and to provide clear guidelines, expectations and consequences for misuse. These have been rolled out and teaching ethical use of devices is a central theme to the program, which will eventually see the majority of students using their own digital devices at school and home.

Our progress in this area has not gone unnoticed and considerable interest in our program and learning and teacher development program has been shown by the consultants operating under the Smart Schools National Partnerships program, overseen by Independent Schools Victoria. I believe a future role of Northside will be to host professional development for other schools, as we strive to become a centre for excellent teaching and innovative learning.
### Student Statistics for 2012

- **Student Attendance** 47,300 possible student days with 4176 total days students absent.
  
  Total Attendance = 88.67% (This large increase is mainly due to the ongoing absence of 3 students for 2012.)

- **Enrolment Figures**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DEST Census</th>
<th>Primary</th>
<th>Secondary</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>132</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>262</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>137</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>270</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>136</td>
<td>276</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>136</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>286</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>141</td>
<td>136</td>
<td>277</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Proportion of Year 9 Students retained to year 12.**
  At the start of 2009 we had 19 year 9 students. Between 2009 and 2012, 9 students left to go to other schools. We gained a further 1 student over the same period. Therefore, of the original 19 students, ten (52.6%) were retained at this school to year 12 in 2011, while the total number of students to complete Year 12 was 11.

### Staff Statistics for 2012

- **Staff Numbers and Full Time Equivalent Employment**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY</th>
<th>Number of People</th>
<th>Full Time Equivalent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Teachers Primary</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teachers Secondary</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>14.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Teachers</td>
<td></td>
<td>25.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Some teachers work in both Primary and Secondary</em></td>
<td>30*</td>
<td>25.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education Assistance</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>5.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operational</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Employed</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>36.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Teaching Staff Attendance**
  Teachers were required to attend for 199 days of the year. Term Breaks are deemed as ‘non-required attendance, not Annual Leave. Teachers prepare for the coming term either at home or on campus.

- **Teacher Absence**
  Total absence from campus is less than 10%. This figure includes attendance at camps, Professional Development sessions, excursions and special events (ie, working off-site) as well as approved leave: Personal Leave, Leave without Pay or Long Service Leave. Total teaching days: 199 x 25.6 FTE = 5,094.4. Total absences from campus: 486.5 days

- **Staff Retention**
  Proportion of teaching staff retained from 2011: 97%. (Those who resigned did so for family reasons.)

- **Staff qualifications**
  All teachers have a minimum of 4 years tertiary training, with appropriate educational focus to be fully registered with the Victorian Institute of Teaching. Many teachers have several degrees, including Masters and Doctorate awards.

- **Professional Development of Staff.**
  The college spent $13,290 on Professional Development for staff in 2012. This figure is around 50% of the total figure invested, due to our inclusion in the Smart Schools National Partnerships program, which provided and paid for many PD sessions for individual, groups of teachers or whole staff programs. The figures do not include in-house PD, such as Curriculum briefing, full staff meetings, the Staff Retreat and staff preparation days.
2012 was a year of planning for the future. With anticipation and determination, the Primary curriculum, ICT and value added learning have been the foci for the Primary School. Behind all developments commenced in the Primary School in 2012 was the understanding that our current world is bombarded with future perspectives that are both innovative and challenging. Key learning areas need to be supported and enhanced as the roll out of the National Curriculum dictates but the following highlights of 2012 demonstrate that Northside is also committed to changing the learning landscape and to provide opportunities for engagement and alternate pathways to learning.

Cultural Diversity
We have a wonderfully diverse student population, with 30 different ethnic backgrounds being represented. This diversity is celebrated and enriches our curriculum and community.

Primary Assemblies
Use of the Primary Multi-Purpose room for regular Primary Assemblies has developed greater variety and scope of presentations made by students in the use of ICT. It has also been the highlight of every week as the Primary School comes together to share about the importance of living and sharing our Christian faith.

NAPLAN Results
Literacy and Numeracy results in NAPLAN compare very favourably with other schools in the area and continue to improve. LEM phonics and the Primary FIL Maths program provide outstanding support for students.

Whole School Interaction
The integration of the Primary School with the Secondary School is unique and highly valued within the school as a whole. This was demonstrated by a VCE event called the “Hunger Games” where students from P-12 played in teams as part of the last day for Year 12’s program. Parental support of these events is favourable.

iPads
The iPad program was formulated and all students in Years 5 and 6 were asked to purchase an iPad2. They were issued with an iTunes card with set apps to download. It was very well received by parents and teachers. The engagement demonstrated by students exceeded expectation.

Science Fair
Year 5/6 classes amazed both parents and teachers with projects, science experiments and presentations for the 2012 Science Fair. This highlighted the success of Inquiry Based Learning within the school.

Curriculum
The documentation and implementation of the Australian Curriculum continued and was mostly completed by the end of 2012 under the leadership of Ms Annelie Zuccolo, the Primary Curriculum Co-
ordinator. There were fortnightly curriculum meetings throughout the year to accomplish this.

- **Mandarin**
  Year 5/6 completed their final year of Italian. The decision was made to introduce Mandarin across Primary for 2013.

- **Creative Arts**
  Years Prep-2 were introduced to the new Creative Arts program with the intention of giving students performing arts skills, movement and drama skill development to increase interpersonal learning and confidence.

- **Literacy and Numeracy**
  All Primary Classes were set up with interactive white boards. The student teachers from Victoria University produced a Maths resource as part of their Project Partnership under the supervision of Mrs Tan, our Primary Maths Co-ordinator. This has provided junior teachers in particular an invaluable source of internet resources for numeracy support.

  Literacy teaching was reviewed during 2012 and the decision made to introduce CAFÉ for 2013. The teaching of implicit Comprehension Accuracy, Fluency and Expression was considered an important factor for Northside’s growing ESL (English as a second language) population. This is a new initiative for Victorian Schools and we thank Miss Taya Shevchuk for her leadership in this area. Independent Schools Victoria Consultants have agreed to support this project into the future.

  2012 marked the 10th year since the introduction of the LEM phonics program into the Primary Curriculum. Recognition is given to Mrs Linda Conn for her inspirational leadership and support to ensure that this program is supported and endorsed in all classrooms.

- **Sustainability**
  Sustainable Living Skills in Grades 3/4 is also growing from strength to strength. The college garden called “Seeds of Life” was officially opened by the Whittlesea Mayor, Mr Rex Griffen. Thanks to Mrs Pauline Longley for her inspiration and excellent development of this stand alone program.

- **Primary Sports Program**
  The Primary Sports Program initiated a dance class for all Primaries that culminated in a dance performance to parents on the basketball court. The students in Primary also participated successfully in the CSSN events including swimming, cross country and athletics. Thanks to Mr Andrew Leslie and Mrs Anna Venegas for their leadership in this area. The decision was also made to offer the Prep-2 students a separate sporting program in 2013 which aligns with what other CSSN schools are developing.

For the Primary School at Northside in 2012, these achievements honour the commitment of our staff, parents and students as we journey together to establish God as the centre of the school community, the foundation of the curriculum and the key strategist for the future. It has been an amazing year that encapsulated transformation in both knowledge and structure.
Secondary Devotions
2012 saw a continuation of the morning secondary devotions time taken by staff, guest speakers and the college Chaplain. Many topics were covered including increasing student emotional resilience, bullying (including cyber bullying) and study tips.

A key recurring emphasis was examining how God’s word impacts on daily living and learning to do His will.

iPads Pilot Program
The implementation of the student iPad pilot program was successfully completed by the end of 2012 and the analysis of its effects in 2012 resulted in the decision to rollout iPads throughout the Year 7 to 10 year levels of the Secondary school in 2013.

Professional Development
To equip staff to better cater for student needs in using iPads in the classroom, primary and secondary staff attended ongoing training via fortnightly “Techie Tea” PD sessions in the use of iPads in their classrooms throughout the year.

eBooks
The use of ebooks as an alternative to hard copies was trialled successfully. Students schoolbag weights were reduced because of the reduced need to take hard copies to and from school. This resulted in less stress on students carrying heavy school bags.

Missions Trip
The end of 2012 saw the college send a small group of students and staff on a very successful missions trip to Thailand led by Mr Sam Vaiano.

Assessment and Reporting
The continued use of the “Accelerus” report writing program occurred this year, with staff gaining more familiarity with the use of the program and its use for regular assessment and record keeping. The ability of staff to create their own assessment items and scaling systems is a big advantage. The Secondary school also moved to electronic storage of student reports. This is a big advantage because staff can easily look back at a student’s report in a particular subject over multiple semesters and years from their offices.

Senior School Acceleration
The Secondary school continues to use best educational practice by allowing students in year 10 to do year 11 subjects as part of the Year 10 Options choices. As well the Secondary school offered students in Year 10 the chance to undertake a VET course in Hospitality and “Front of House Management”. This was a demanding but popular choice, giving students the skills that would better equip them for working in the hospitality Industry after leaving school. Further, Year 11 students were also accelerated by undertaking some Year 12 studies in Year 11.
Student Educational needs
The Secondary school undertook a number of initiatives this year to cater for students with different learning needs and abilities. From the decision to allow some students to join a tutorial group for more individualized instruction and organisational help, weaker students were helped to succeed in their educational endeavours. Some team teaching also occurred in subjects to cater for individual needs.

Differentiation
Towards the end of this year the decision was made to focus on staff training in how to differentiate the curriculum for 2013 from Prep to Grade 12. The ongoing need to assist staff to evaluate their teaching and learning procedures and methodologies was seen as another major emphasis for professional development for 2013 as a response to perceived needs from this year.
THE iPad Pilot Project

- Harnessing the educational power of digital devices in the classroom

- Targeting Year 5, 6 and 9 in 2012 -> Years 5-10 in 2013
- iTunes cards provided for purchase of apps
- All teachers provided with iPads and regular skill training
- Replaces textbooks with media-rich interactive apps.
- Mobile and catering for individual learning styles
- Highly engaging & versatile
- Produces rich media presentations.
- Integrates diary, notebook, reference and presentation functions into one compact device
- Access to a world of knowledge and classrooms across the world, via Skype or email.

INFRASTRUCTURE

- Wireless internet access anywhere on campus
- Elite Attendance – remote device roll marking
- PCs and Macs in targeted areas.
- Schoology – online interface for delivering course content, and communication between teachers, parents and students.

STUDENTS

- Personal ownership of device
- Personal ownership of learning strategies
- Ethical use contracts
- Workshops e.g. Cybersafety
- Appropriate apps and programs
- Online texts and reference material replaces heavy books
- Engagement and flexibility

PARENTS

- Involved in the pilot as adult partners.
- Education in managing mobile, connective devices
- Provide ethical and safe guidelines for use at home.

E-LEARNING 2012

“Preparing students for work and life in the 21st Century”
D PILOT PROJECT
"Harnessing the educational power of digital devices in the classroom"

- Fortnightly technology training
- Revised pedagogy
- 1:1 iPads and laptops
- eLearning leaders
- National Partnership consultancy support for strategy and PD
- Attendance at conferences

TEACHERS

- Targeting Year 5, 6 and 9 in 2012 -> Years 5-10 in 2013
- Provided for purchase of apps
- Fortnightly training
- With media-rich interactive apps
- 1:1 iPads and laptops
- eLearning leaders
- National Partnership consultancy support for strategy and PD
- Attendance at conferences

THE iPAD PILOT PROJECT

- "Harnessing the educational power of digital devices in the classroom"
- Targeting Year 5, 6 and 9 in 2012 -> Years 5-10 in 2013
- Provided for purchase of apps
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"Preparing students for work and life in the 21st Century"
The VCE cohort of 2012 was a mixed bunch.
We broke a record for the highest study score with Jasmine Lowe achieving 49/50 for Biology. She followed this up with a score of 46 for Further Maths. Another outstanding achievement was Rebecca Cook’s score of 46 in Biology. What is particularly impressive about these results is that both students are in Year 11. This augurs well for our 2013 results.

Nathaniel Vaiano was our Dux with an ATAR of 94.3. He received an offer for his first preference (Science at Melbourne University). All of our students who applied for tertiary entrance were offered places. This is a very pleasing outcome. Unique to this year level was the high number of students not going on to further study. Over half the cohort elected to seek work instead of pursue further study. At this time all but one has found employment.

Our Year 12 VET students all completed their certificates and this opportunity for students to combine vocational training as part of their Year 11 and 12 studies continues to be a positive aspect of the program offered by Northside Christian College. The dedication of the teaching staff and the close attention our students receive means that all our VCE candidates succeeded in completing their VCE.
We have every reason to pride ourselves on not only enabling students like Nathaniel to achieve their best but also supporting those with a variety of ambitions including one student whose ambition was to take over his father’s chicken farm. Time was made available to him during Semester Two to attend business meetings at the farm so he was ready to take up his position as farm manager upon completion of his school assessment at the end of term 3. This student opted not to complete his end of year exams, which is a valid option for students not intending to go to University study.
After 14 years as chairman of the Northside College Board I sensed it was time to step down from this leadership position. It has been in many ways a real journey of faith with many twists and turns along the way. However, it has been an honour to see what has been accomplished as we have worked together as a College and Church community for the glory of God.

Northside Christian College is now in a strong position to move forward into the next phase of growth. In the past few years a main emphasis has been on establishing buildings and resources for the future by utilising the unprecedented government funding made available. A complementary theme in this chapter has been to build an even stronger reputation in the community based on educational excellence as a consequence of an outstanding staff who are also committed followers of Jesus Christ.

The College has a capacity to grow substantially in numbers in the next few years, which will be an integral part of the forthcoming business plan and marketing strategy.

During my tenure on the College Board, which spans well beyond my role as chairman, I have worked with five principals. Each one has made a valuable contribution and each one has been highly committed to Christian education. It is important that we honour their part in the history of the College as well as look forward to the future with great anticipation.

Mr Mark Donato will be taking over the responsibility of Chairman of the College Board of Directors from May 2013 onwards. We have carefully planned for a smooth transition over the past 6 months. Mark has vast experience in higher level leadership and governance. I know he has the skills and time necessary to guide the College Board into an even stronger place. Please pray for him as he steps into this role. We also welcomed Mr Oscar Ruiz as a new Board Member in 2012. He has brought a complimentary skill set to this leadership group. A number of changes to Board structures and processes will shortly be implemented, which will lift the capacity and effectiveness of this governing board to a whole new plane.

At the December 2012 Presentation Night we honoured Stephen Leslie for 10 years of faithful service to the College. Over these years he has brought together a strong teaching and administrative staff across both the primary and secondary levels. He has been a visionary and motivational leader with a passion for building, providing high quality facilities and resources. We acknowledge his tireless work over many years. Let us continue to work together to fulfil the strategic mandate of our College to develop students holistically; that is spiritually, physically, intellectually, socially and culturally, as God gives us the resources and wisdom for this vital task.
**Finance Report 2012**

### Income by Source

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Recurrent Government Grants</td>
<td>$2,370,403</td>
<td>62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private Income</td>
<td>$1,234,571</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Capital Income</td>
<td>$197,739</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income from Uniform Sales</td>
<td>$19,410</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest Received</td>
<td>$5,179</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Expense by Source

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salaries and related expenses</td>
<td>$2,708,234</td>
<td>76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advertising and Promotion</td>
<td>$40,667</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest</td>
<td>$140,993</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property Costs and Rent</td>
<td>$121,790</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teaching &amp; Tuition expenses</td>
<td>$192,121</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration and Other Costs</td>
<td>$292,494</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provisions for Depreciation</td>
<td>$90,082</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
NORTHSIDE CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

AUDITOR'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2012

To the Members,

NORTHSIDE CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

Scope

I have audited the financial statements of Northside Christian College for the year ended 31 December 2012 as presented in the report to the Annual General Meeting. The Members are responsible for the preparation and presentation of the financial statements and the information obtained therein. I have conducted an independent audit of the statements in order to express an opinion on them to the members of the incorporated body.

The audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards to provide reasonable assurance as to whether the statements are free of material misstatement. The procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial statements, and the evaluation of significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion as to whether in all material respects, the financial report is presented fairly in accordance with the requirements of Northside Christian College's Statement of Purposes & Rules and Australian Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements so as to present a view of the incorporated body which is consistent with my understanding of its financial position and the results of its operations and cash flows.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

Additional Qualifications

An amount of $1,076,200.00 is included as a Non-current Liability. The amount of $1,076,200.00 represents an outstanding loan account balance of the ANZ Bank.

Audit Opinion

In my opinion the Statement of Income & Expenditure and Balance Sheet have been presented in a way to exhibit a true and fair view of the financial position of Northside Christian College Incorporated for the year ended the 31 December, 2012.

Dated this 4th day of April, 2013.

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William C O'Shea
Robert J Nixon & Associates