



Amalgamation Update 9

Week ending July 15, 2011

The amalgamation of Moreton Bay Boys' College (MBBC) and Moreton Bay College (MBC) is a dynamic move for the future of education on the bayside. In an effort to keep our school community informed every step of the way, we will be discussing a variety of topics relating to the amalgamation in an email to parents every Friday over the coming term.

Latest news

The Amalgamation is official!



The amalgamation came into effect on Friday July 1 and was marked by a joint celebration of staff present at both Colleges. While this date fell during the recent school holidays, members of MBC and MBBC Senior Leadership Teams were busy working behind-the-scenes to ensure everything was in place for a smooth transition to Term 3 for all staff, students and parents.

Thanks to Mr Geoff Diehm, chair of the MBC Board with Professor Stephen Gray, then chair of the MBBC Board who worked against the clock to complete the necessary constitutional changes to submit to the Uniting Church to enable the amalgamation. Thanks, too, to the Uniting Church staff who moved the material expeditiously through the relevant UC committees to meet the July 1 deadline. We are particularly grateful to Mrs Elaine Rae, Executive Officer of the UC Schools Commission for her role in this.

As with any merger, there are of course challenges in bringing two organisations together; however amalgamating the Moreton Bay schools marks an exciting new chapter in our history and we will successfully navigate this transition period and make the most of synergies between the two colleges as they emerge.

With the introduction of the new Head of College positions some rearranging of office space was required and minor building work was carried out at MBBC and more substantial work at MBC to create new offices to accommodate new and/or existing roles.

I have now officially commenced in my new role as Principal of both MBC and MBBC and am spending time at both colleges. Several MBC and MBBC parents have approached me in recent weeks to express their approval of the amalgamation, commenting that they firmly see it to be in the interests of both schools. Mrs Patchett has had similar feedback. This is both affirming and much appreciated.

Ms Helen Gabriel, formerly the Director of Finance at MBC, has also been appointed to a cross-campus role as the new Director of Business and Finance at both Colleges. Communication and reporting lines are now clear for all staff and a revised organisational chart is now in place which reflects the newly created positions and various cross-campus roles.

At MBBC as of July 1, Mr Tony Dosen, Mr Sean Smith and Ms Naomi Williams have taken up higher responsibilities in the Senior Leadership Team as announced at the end of last term. At MBC, Mr Warren Richards and Mrs Gay Barnett have also assumed their backfill positions. These arrangements will remain in place until the permanent Heads of College are appointed.



Our Acting Heads of College, Mrs Diana Patchett (MBBC) supported by Mrs Louise Seddon and Mrs Jan Howatson (MBC) supported by Mrs Glenda Law, have also assumed their respective roles and will be holding the fort until the permanent Heads of College are decided upon.

Messages from our Acting Heads of College

Mrs Jan Howatson (MBC)



This is certainly an exciting term for me personally as I move into the Acting Head of College position. I began work at Moreton Bay College 22 years ago as a part time teacher in the Home Economics department. Since then I have been a full time teacher, Head of Wesley House, and for the past 14 years a member of the Senior Leadership Team in the Head of Staff role. Having witnessed the growth and development of the College to date, I am honoured to be Acting Head of College at this significant time in the College history. I take this opportunity to thank parents, staff and students for the support afforded to me as I take on this role and I look forward to working more closely with the College community.

Mrs Diana Patchett (MBBC)



I feel extremely privileged to act as the Head of College and am grateful for the support that has been offered to me this week by the students, staff and parents. I started at Moreton Bay Boys' College in 2005 teaching Science and Maths in the middle and senior school and was appointed Assistant Principal in 2007. In my position as Assistant Principal I am responsible for the College's Student Care Program and also oversee the co-curricular and outdoor education programs. As I meet with prospective Prep 2012 boys and their parents this week, I am immensely proud of the reputation that MBBC has clearly established in the community and I look forward to sharing further celebrations with you all this term.

Recruitment Update

Our first round of interviews to secure the permanent Head of College roles are scheduled to commence within the next fortnight.

IB Accreditation

We are pleased to announce that MBBC has been formally authorised as an International Baccalaureate (IB) World School, accredited to deliver the Primary Years Program. We also expect an announcement to be made regarding the authorisation of our Middle Years Program later this term.

The IB Program offers specialised international learning programs for students aged 3 to 19 to help them develop the intellectual, personal, emotional and social skills to live, learn and work in a rapidly globalising world.

"Since 2003, we've set about developing a world-class curriculum for boys so to be recognised by the IB Organisation reinforces what we've always known about MBBC's exceptional educational offering," Mrs Patchett said.



Moreton Bay Boys' College
Life Adventurers. Life Achievers.



Moreton Bay College
Breadth of mind. Depth of heart.

Moreton Bay College is an 'Interested Candidate School' for the PYP program and Primary staff are already working closely across the Colleges to share curriculum initiatives and collaborate on the development and delivery of quality teaching and learning.

Amalgamation Feedback

Feedback received about the amalgamation from parents, former students and staff continues to be extremely positive. Below is an example:

"We would like to offer our congratulations to Ms Haynes on her new position. This is a great initiative for both MBBC and MBC, and we look forward to what will be a great future."

Coming up

Open Day

Both campuses, Moreton Bay Boys' College and Moreton Bay College, will be holding their Open Day on **Friday, August 12** from **9am – 12noon**.

Open Day is the perfect opportunity to learn more about MBBC and MBC, meet key staff, take a tour and to find out why Moreton Bay Boys' College and Moreton Bay College offer the best single-sex options for families.

With closely aligned school calendars, nearby campuses and a common Principal, there's never been a better time to encourage your friends and family members to enrol their sons and daughters in Moreton Bay Boys' College and Moreton Bay College. Limited places are available. The contact details are:

MBBC – (07) 3906 9444 or registrar@mbbc.qld.edu.au **MBC** – (07) 3249 9322 or registrar@mbc.qld.edu.au

How to keep up to date

Contact Us

If you have any additional concerns or questions, please email feedback@mbc.qld.edu.au or feedback@mbbc.qld.edu.au and we will endeavour to respond to you as quickly as possible.

Also refer to the detailed [Q&A document](#) on our websites.

Ms Jennifer Haynes
MBC Principal
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