Amalgamation Update 21
Week ending October 28, 2011

The amalgamation of Moreton Bay College (MBC) and Moreton Bay Boys’ College (MBBC) is a dynamic move for the future of education on the bayside.

LATEST NEWS

Final amalgamation email
In light of the continued positive feedback received from parents and friends about the amalgamation’s progress, we have made the decision to discontinue the weekly update email. From next week, further amalgamation-related news will be included in the 'From The Principal' section of both weekly school newsletters.

It is quite normal for change to prompt feelings of uncertainty and over the last six months this weekly update has been an extremely important and necessary tool for sharing information about the amalgamation with our most important stakeholders, College parents, it has also been circulated to staff.

Its purpose was to inform, provide support and address any concerns that parents may have had in relation to the amalgamation of MBC and MBBC. However, given the overwhelming level of support and acceptance that has been expressed by the majority of parents in relation to amalgamation, we believe the weekly email has served its purpose.

As Phase 1 of the merger draws to an end and we begin preparations for the implementation of Phase 2, we remain committed to sharing information about the amalgamation.

You will still have the opportunity to have input into some important decisions along the way and I encourage you to direct any questions, queries or concerns to feedback@mbc.qld.edu.au or feedback@mbbc.qld.edu.au and we will endeavour to respond to you as quickly as possible.

Board matters
During its meeting last Tuesday, the Board conducted a tour of the MBBC campus, following a visit to the MBC grounds during last month’s meeting.

These are to ensure familiarity and background for the common Board’s commitment as agreed at the Tuesday meeting, work through the Building Committee reviewing the MBBC Master Plan and aligning it and MBC’s to ensure broad provision and reduce duplication where achievable.

From left to right, back row: Michael Millard, Col Sutcliffe, Samantha O’Brien, Ken Freer, John Eisenmenger, Sylvia Grigg, Peter Davey.

From left to right, front row: Kerry Harding, Matthew Sheerin, Stephen Gray (absent), Geoffrey Diehm, Jennifer Haynes, Helen Gabriel.

Enrolments
In terms of growth, MBC is set to maintain its highest enrolments in 2012, while the boys’ school numbers are expected to be up by 12% next year, which is a significant increase.
The common Board approved the recently submitted budgets with significant savings achieved across both schools. It also formally agreed on a formula for sharing the cost of salaries of staff members who work across both Colleges, which is based on per capita enrolment numbers.

**MBBC takes the World stage**

MBC congratulates Moreton Bay Boys' College on being officially authorised as an International Baccalaureate (IB) World School for the Primary and Middle Years Programs. This involved over 18 months preparation and required the commitment of all staff. MBC is an interested PYP school i.e is investigating accreditation also.

MBBC is the only school in Brisbane to offer both these programs and is one of only 42 IB World Schools across Australia.

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

The news of this prestigious endorsement is expected to bolster MBBC as an even more attractive choice for prospective international and local enrolments.

The journey to reaching accreditation has taken almost three years and I would like to commend the College’s teachers and Senior Leadership Team for their hard work and on-going commitment to the IB framework, values and mission that has resulted in MBBC’s successful authorisation. Well done.

**Joint primary staff meeting**

The next in a series of joint MBC/MBBC primary staff meetings took place on Tuesday, October 25 with the purpose of moderating student work and sharing best practice in relation to assessment.

**Joint student events**

**Senior Battle of the Bays**

During the year, the respective College Captains continued a friendly competition between the two schools that began with Theatre Sports in Term 1, Basketball in Term 2 and more recently Touch Football in Term 4 with teams representing each school in order to win the Battle of the Bays Cup. Results were Theatre Sports - MBBC; Basketball - MBC; and Touch - MBC. With the girls taking out the cup in the good natured competitions, congratulations to Hannah Stubbings and Connor Mashlan College Captains and their teams on their organisation.

**Apologies**

Last week we announced the winner of the joint Moreton Bay Speakers’ Afternoon as Tavis Bancroft (MBBC).

However we would like to clarify that there were in fact three winners across the different age groups:

- **Junior Champion:** Tavis Bancroft (MBBC)
- **Intermediate Champion:** Courtney Dobson (MBC)
- **Senior Champion:** Ankita Bellary (MBC)

Our apologies and congratulations go to Courtney and Ankita who missed out on a well-deserved mention in last week's email.

Ms Jennifer Haynes

Principal
Moreton Bay College and
Moreton Bay Boys’ College