

## **FJCS School Advisory Committee Annual Report for 2023**

Good evening, everyone and welcome,

It gives me great pleasure to present the FJCS School Advisory Council Report (SAC) for 2023 in what has been a much-improved year for our school.

Since 2019, the SAC has been striving to address the poor financial performance of the school because of deteriorating student numbers. To this end, several initiatives have been implemented to bolster student numbers. School fee structures, pre-kindergarten programs, increased social media presence and streamlined communication channels are some improvements implemented to address our school's challenge.

This year, I am delighted to report that FJCS has reached a significant milestone, and finally, there is light at the end of the tunnel.

- At the beginning of 2022, the likelihood of FJCS going to a one-stream school looked like a real possibility. However, thanks to the incredible efforts of the school leadership team, staff, and the greater community, FJCS is no longer a school under pressure. The school's student numbers are on the rise, and for the first time in almost five years, we will see positive net growth in student numbers, expecting between 390 and 400 students in 2024.
- FJCS ended 2022 with a deficit, and this trend was expected to continue in 2023 and beyond if the school could not change its present circumstances. However, due to the improved student numbers, FJCS is expected to generate a profit for 2024 and maintain its dual-stream status in the future.

### **Catholic Identity**

Francis Jordan remains unapologetically a Catholic and family-orientated school providing an environment where children feel safe, nurtured, and valued. At the heart of our Catholic Identity is the parish of St. Simon Peter, and I would like to thank Fr. Mariusz for the spiritual guidance he provides and for helping maintain a strong connection between our school, our community, and our church.

### **Excellence in Education**

In 2023, FJCS received very encouraging NAPLAN results (written by Year 3 and Year 5 students in 2022). The school outperformed similar schools in the geographical area in Reading, Writing, Spelling, Grammar, and Numeracy subjects. This outcome, in conjunction with the outstanding performing arts

program and sporting achievements sets FJCS apart and offers our students a unique and rich education.

### **School Community**

The school recognises the fantastic efforts of our parents/guardians, teachers and professional staff, who have done an incredible job raising The School's profile through positive word-of-mouth and social media engagements. At Francis Jordan, we are fortunate to be surrounded by incredible individuals (throughout the school) who have done exceptional work in building an authentic and close-knit community. This sense of a "Connected School Community" enriches our children's lives and improves their learning outcomes and opportunities.

### **Stewardship**

As always, a special mention to Chris, Gloria, and Megan. Under their guidance and leadership, FJCS is thriving and continuing to provide our children with the best learning and personal growth opportunities possible. Furthermore, to our relentless and tireless teachers and professional staff, none of The School's success and achievements would be possible without your support and dedication.

Finally, a special mention must go to the staff leaving FJCS this year: Tereasa Young (secondment to St Francis of Assisi), Carolyn Ince (Years Leave), Jannine White, Geri Nagy and Caroline Sullivan. You have become like family to many of us and will be missed. Thank you for all you have given to us and The School.

On behalf of our School Advisory Council, we wish all of you, your children and your families a very Merry Christmas and a safe and prosperous New Year.

Thank you,



**Gareth Jacob**  
**School Advisory Council Chairperson**