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Vision

Our vision is to cater for every student by providing quality state secondary schooling through innovative curriculum in a caring, safe and supportive environment.

Principal's foreword

Introduction

Forest Lake State High School provides educational programs and services for over 1300 students in years 7 – 12 in a co-educational environment. The school comprises a middle school (years 7, 8 and 9) and a senior school (years 10, 11 and 12).

At Forest Lake State High School, we are committed to meeting the needs of 21st century students by:

- providing high quality educational programs and services to the diverse group of students enrolled at Forest Lake SHS
- providing opportunities for student excellence in academic, cultural and sporting pursuits
- preparing young people to be active, informed and reflective Australian citizens
- supporting students to become active in community, economic and political life
- building students' confidence in their relationships with other cultures in Australia and abroad
- creating a safe, tolerant and disciplined environment for students and staff
- developing in students and staff, skills and desire for lifelong learning
- building workforce capability through focused professional development and learning
- developing caring relationships with all members of our school community; and
- involving parents in all aspects of school life.

Forest Lake State High School is a great place for students, staff and the school community to

share the excitement of learning in a challenging, safe and supportive environment.

Future outlook

Priority areas for 2008 – 2009 include:

- improving student outcomes for every student in every classroom
- providing quality literacy programs that deliver opportunities for all students to achieve and reach their potential
- providing opportunities for students to have an increasingly strong voice in the design of their learning pathways and accept increasing accountability for their own learning process; and
- increasing students' resilience and sense of belonging to the school community.

School Profile

Forest Lake SHS is an enrolment managed school enrolling students from Forest Lake, Carole Park, Pallara and sections of Inala. The school is distinctive in that it is characterized by a middle school (years 7-9) and a senior school (years 10-12) operating in world class, purpose built facilities. The school prides itself on developing caring relationships, staff commitment, student involvement and enthusiasm in curricula and non-curricula activities, community relationships and excellence in all aspects of school life.

In February 2008, 1329 students were enrolled. The student population is very diverse – ethnically and socio-economically. Forty-two different ethnic groups are represented in the school. Major groups include students from the Pacific Islands and New Zealand (18%) and students from Vietnam (8%). Approximately 3.5 % of students identify as being of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islands descent. Students with physical impairment, intellectual impairment, ASD and other disabilities are also catered for in an inclusive manner.

The school values its diversity and this is reflected in all aspects of school life.

Curriculum offerings

Our distinctive curriculum offerings

In addition to a full range of traditional academic and vocational education and training subjects the school offers:

- a middle school curriculum tailored to meet the learning and interests of students
- school based literacy, numeracy and ICT subjects developed to scaffold the learning of students in years 7 - 9

- a range of SOSE/science electives in Semester 2 year 10 serving to introduce senior science/SOSE options
- specialist sporting subjects, for example advanced athletic development and rugby league studies, to support the school's identified focus on sport; and
- a range of vocational education and training options including a Certificate III in Children's Services and Certificates III and IV in Fitness
- The strength and breadth of the Forest Lake SHS's industry partnerships resulted in the school being identified as a Manufacturing and Engineering Gateway School. Other valued partnerships include the BEACON Foundation and GHD. Such partnerships ensure relevance in curriculum and offer real world experiences to students and staff.

Extra curricula activities include:

- homework tutorials
- performing arts including student stage, concert and rock bands
- cheerleading
- debating
- Youth Rostrum and various public speaking competitions
- sports competitions eg Vicki Wilson Cup, Bronco's Cup

How computers are used to assist learning

- The school has 7 fully equipped computer classrooms and 7 clusters x 15 computers across middle school pods/classrooms. Data projectors and laptop computers are available for standard classroom presentations and curriculum delivery.
- Virtual Classrooms (online classrooms) are implemented across all KLAs to ensure a blended approach to learning through the use of ICT (information communication and technology). Classrooms are accessible through the school webpage from both school and home.
- Forest Lake SHS has 13 trained ICT Mentors in our school. They manage the use of ICT within their curriculum area. This ensures consistency of implementation in ICT across each unit of work.
- Video streaming direct to the classroom has increased the use of training and documentary and analysis videos ensuring a rich, academic approach to media in the classroom.

Social climate

In 2008 the following contributed to a positive and supportive school climate:

- the middle school structured in pods creating a supportive cluster of classrooms which

provide a stable environment for students in the middle phase of learning

- a middle school personal development program utilizing the “*You Can Do It Program*” and focusing on student achievement in academic, social and emotional spheres. This is a local Forest Lake Community of State Schools initiative.
- a senior school ACCESS program focusing on Certificate I in Work Education, career planning, life skills and personal health and safety issues
- the Responsible Thinking Process which assists teachers in positively managing behaviour in the school and develops students’ ability to self-regulate behaviour within the classroom
- the student support team consisting of 2 Guidance Officers, a Youth Support Coordinator, Alternative Program Manager, School-based Health Nurse, Chaplain and adolescent psychologist
- a breakfast program held weekly – an initiative of the Youth Support Coordinator, school chaplain and volunteers.

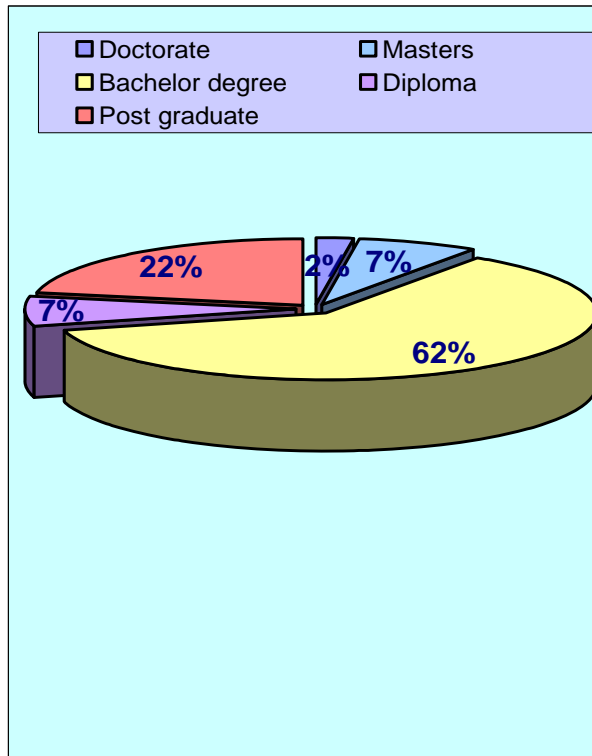
Involving parents in their child’s education.

Forest Lake SHS facilitates a strong home-school partnership model through:

- Open Day for potential students and their parents
- information evenings at the beginning of the year for middle school classes
- invitations to formal parades and functions e.g. Welcome Ceremony, Student Leader Inductions and Year 12 Graduation Ceremony
- parent and student information evenings at year level junctures
- regular newsletters available in print and posted on school web site including coloured broadsheet, “*Highlights*”, produced each term
- parents contacted as necessary regarding student issues eg. behaviour, truancy, assessment
- parent teacher interviews – twice per year and as requested by parents and/or staff
- Middle School pod structure to build relationships between families, teachers and students; and
- a small and dedicated Parents’ and Citizens’ Association that meets monthly at the school.

Qualifications of all teachers.

Highest level of attainment	Number of classroom teachers and school leaders at the school
Doctorate	2
Masters	7
Bachelor degree	59
Diploma	7
Post graduate	21



Expenditure on and teacher participation in professional development.

- The total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2008 were \$74,773. This figure includes purchased time to release teachers to access professional development during the school week. Priorities for 2008 included:
 - literacy and functional grammar
 - Queensland Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting (QCAR) implementation including alignment of teaching and learning to the QCAR framework
 - Information, communication and technology (ICT) mentors supporting teachers in the acquisition of skills to embed technology in curriculum and teaching and learning episodes
 - Professional Standards for Teachers and Developing Performance Framework
- The involvement of the teaching staff in professional development activities during 2008 was 83 %.

Average staff attendance	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For permanent and temporary staff and school leaders the staff attendance rate was 95 % in 2008. 	
Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> From the end of the 2007 school year, 89 % of staff were retained by the school for the entire 2008 school year. 	

Student attendance	
The average attendance rate as a percentage in 2008 was 89 %.	

Key outcomes

National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) results - our reading, writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation, and numeracy results for the Years 7 and 9.

Domain	Measures	Yr 7	Yr 9
Reading	Average score for the school	524	539
	Average score for Queensland	528.1	568.2
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008 100 %	82 %
Writing	Average score for the school	538	544
	Average score for Queensland	522.7	555.3
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008 93 %	81 %
Spelling	Average score for the school	557	563
	Average score for Queensland	528.0	567.8
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008 98 %	84 %
Grammar	Average score for the school	520	551

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and Punctuation	Average score for Queensland		518.0	563.2
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008	91 %	79 %
Numeracy	Average score for the school		535	555
	Average score for Queensland		539.0	570.7
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008	100 %	86 %

Apparent retention rates Year 10 to Year 12.	
Year 12 student enrolment as a percentage of the Year 10 student cohort.	82 %

Outcomes for our Year 12 cohort of 2008	
Number of students awarded a Senior Statement.	209
Number of students awarded a Queensland Certificate Individual Achievement (QCIA).	1
Number of students awarded a Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) at the end of Year 12.	154
Number of students awarded one or more Vocational Education and Training (VET) qualifications.	190
Number of students who are completing or completed a School-based Apprenticeship or Traineeship (SAT).	20
Number of students receiving an Overall Position (OP).	113
Percentage of OP/ IBD eligible students with OP 1-15 or an IBD.	50 %
Percentage of Year 12 students who are completing or completed a SAT or were awarded one or more of the following: QCE, IBD, VET qualification.	97 %
Percentage of Queensland Tertiary Admissions Centre (QTAC) applicants receiving a tertiary offer.	84 %

Post-school destination information

At the time of publishing this School Annual Report, the results of the 2008 Year 12 post-school destinations survey, Next Step – Student Destination Report for the school were not available. Information about these post-school destinations of our students will be incorporated into this Report in September.

Value added

Our committed and exceptional staff ensure students are provided with a broad range of curriculum experiences that promote their personal, social and academic growth and add interest and real world contexts to their learning. Examples of opportunities and achievements in 2008 follow.

- ✓ Increasing understanding of their local community and environmental issues was the focus of year 9 students' Backyard to Bay Unit and subsequent excursion to the Blunder Creek tributary behind the school. Led by teachers from **Toohy Forest Environmental Education Centre**, students collected samples and data on water quality, salinity, air and water temperature, turbidity and pH levels. They sketched and identified riparian vegetation, took photographs and used nets and scoops to collect fauna species. Ms Anne Clark from the **Oxley Creek Catchment Association** also spoke to students about the impact of Oxley Creek on Moreton Bay and its habitat.
- ✓ In March, the year 9 Lighthouse class and a group of year 10 girls participated in the regional **Science and Engineering Challenge at University of Queensland**. Challenges included Job Juggle: a problem solving activity using a company as an example; bridge and catapult making. Our highflying students defeated their closest rival by 12 points and outperformed 39 State and non-State schools to win the Challenge.
- ✓ Cody Wood and Naomi Fahey's efforts in the Australia-Japan Relations Essay Competition were highly commended.
- ✓ The instrumental music program at Forest Lake SHS continued to expand. At the 2008 regional **Fanfare Competition** the hard working and dedicated students, under the tutelage from their respective teachers, won Best Performance by a P-12 School, the concert band won a silver medal, and the strings orchestra won a bronze medal.
- ✓ Kim Darcy, was appointed **the University of Queensland Ipswich Ambassador**. Kim's role included linking FLSHS students to the university by passing on information and responding to questions about life at a university and options for future study.
- ✓ **Allied Pickfords**, one of the largest relocation and moving solutions companies in the world, has adopted Forest Lake SHS as part of the Adopt-a-School program. Seven (7) students commenced an introductory program covering 4 Units of Competency from the national Transport and Logistics Training Package. If the students continue with the program to the end of year 12, they will attend training on-site one day per week and will complete a Certificate II or III and earn 4 points towards their Queensland Certificate in Education.
- ✓ Science 21 students visited SeaWorld to explore the diversity and fragility of marine ecosystems. The highlight for most students was snorkelling in the artificial Tropical Reef with sharks and stingrays and the Dugong Discovery Exhibition.
- ✓ Laura Close spent 2008 on a one year **student exchange** to Izumi-Cho School in Japan. Her newly acquired Japanese language skills will be a great asset when she returns to

FLSHS in 2009 to continue her students.

- ✓ In May, hospitality students attended an industry excursion to Treasury Casino and Hotel. They were exposed to the many career opportunities on offer in a large hotel chain.
- ✓ Seventeen (17) senior dance students participated in the Education Week **Creative Generation on Stage Spectacular** in June. The students and their teacher, Ms Cathy Gunton, rehearsed intensively with a nationally acclaimed choreographer over many weekends and for a week of technical workshops immediately prior to the Spectacular.
- ✓ **BEACON student leaders** hosted the BEACON Cluster Conference Meeting at the school in June. Other schools attending included St. James College and Loganlea, Mabel Park and Clontarf Beach State High Schools. The focus of the day was individual and team leadership development.
- ✓ In August, the annual school based careers extravaganza, **My Futures Expo**, involved all year 10 students and approximately 50 presenters from a range of industry areas and education and training providers. The day gave students a clearer indication of career options and opportunities. Comments included, "that was great – I now understand what I need to do next year" and "Wow – I didn't know that you could do that for a job".
- ✓ For the 4th year in a row, FLSHS won the **Brisbane West District Athletics Championship**. Our talented athletes won the aggregate, boys, girls and percentage trophy. 52 team members qualified for the regional championships.
- ✓ In September, 15 students in electric wheelchairs participated in sports events specifically designed for students in wheelchairs. The students from primary and secondary schools in Moreton and Logan enjoyed playing Balloon Soccer and Wheelchair Hockey. Forest Lake SHS hall was deemed to be the perfect facility for such an event.
- ✓ The **Annual ACHPER Women in Sport Breakfast**, held at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre in October, was attended by FLSHS's best female athletes. After listening to guest speakers including Stephanie Rice and Natalie Cook, the students left the breakfast inspired to pursue their goals and dreams and embrace the challenges ahead.
- ✓ Forest Lake SHS industrial technology and design students won the **2008 Billy Kart Challenge** held at Woodcrest College in October. The billy kart was built from scratch in the FLSHS ITD workshop with support from our industry partner, Austin Engineering. The project was successful in providing students with a real world perspective of manufacturing.
- ✓ Teachers, teacher aides and community members gathered over two weekends to attend the **SmartClassroom e-Learning Workshop** facilitated by Ms Robyn Simpson. Topics covered internet safety and word processing, spreadsheets, powerpoint and database skills enhancement. FLSHS students mentored the adults and several were able to use their experience as credit towards their school based Certificate III in Information Technology.
- ✓ The open rugby league team competed in the elite **Arrive Alive Competition** and finished in the top 7 schools in south Queensland.
- ✓ A group of Forest Lake SHS ITD students, in partnership with **Horizon Alliance and the Princess Alexandra Hospital**, modified a car which will be used by spinal injury patients in the physiotherapy gym at the hospital. The PAH Spinal Injury Unit physiotherapist said that dealing with vehicles is one of the most common mobility needs of any patient with a spinal injury. Students' efforts in assisting patient rehabilitation were recognised at the car handover at the PAH Spinal Injury Unit.
- ✓ Leanne Randolph, Head of Department (senior schooling) was a recipient of the 2008 **National Award for Quality Schooling**. This teacher leadership award is recognition for

establishing and leading the vocational opportunities available at Forest Lake SHS. Leanne was presented with her award by Ms Julia Gillard, Deputy Prime Minister, in Canberra on Tuesday 03 June 2008.

Parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school

The Annual School Opinion Survey collects data from all students in year 7 (40 students), a random sample of students in years 9 and 11 (115 students), and a random sample of parents. It is disappointing that only 13 parents responded to the survey.

In 2008:

- ✓ 63% of students were satisfied that they were getting a good education from school. Year 7 students are less satisfied than year 9 and year 11 students.
- ✓ 62% of parents were satisfied that they were getting a good education from school
- ✓ 54% of parents and caregivers were satisfied that the school is a good school
- ✓ 59% of staff members were satisfied with morale in the school. Teaching staff are much more satisfied with morale than non-teaching staff and this is reflected in the extremely low turn-over of teachers each year.