

## **NEWSLETTER COPY**

### **GREATER SHEPPARTON COLLEGE – PLANNING THE NEXT STEPS**

Shepparton's four secondary schools merge as of January next year to create the Greater Shepparton College (interim name). I'm the Executive Principal, and I want to keep you updated about how we are preparing for that. The merger will be staged over two years. We have created a School Council Advisory Group to assist the four existing school councils and school community with that upcoming transition.

#### **What is a School Council Advisory Group?**

This group represents the school community (school staff, students, parents and community) with 18 representatives.

#### **Who is involved?**

- One parent/community representative from each of the current four secondary school councils
- Four principals (one from each of the existing secondary schools)
- One Department of Education & Training (DET) staff member from each of the current four secondary schools
- Four student representatives, one from each of the four secondary schools
- Executive Principal
- DET Senior Education Improvement Leader

#### **What do they do?**

- Contribute to designing the new school uniform and branding
- Propose the make-up of the interim school council which will operate in 2020.
- Assist with the process of naming the new school
- Help develop the new school's vision and values
- Work with existing secondary school councils to plan how to honour their schools' histories
- Communicate back to each of the four current school councils regarding the merger process

#### **How often are their meetings?**

We will meet every four to six weeks.

#### **Who makes the final decisions?**

The school council advisory group provides advice and recommendations to the existing four school councils, who make the final decisions.

#### **When will this group start?**

Our first meeting was held in April 2019 and will continue until the end of the year when the new interim school council starts operating.

## **FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR NEW SCHOOL UNIFORM**

Minister for Education James Merlino visited Mooroopna Secondary College on 16 May 2019 to announce a one-off only payment for students enrolled with Greater Shepparton College (interim name) in 2020, to assist with the cost of a new school uniform.

All government school students enrolled at Greater Shepparton College (interim name) will be provided with a \$200 voucher to be redeemed at local uniform suppliers, so that all students can be wearing a consistent school uniform from the start of next year as we progress with our single school model. This voucher will provide each student with a uniform package consisting of two sets of summer uniform and one set of summer sports uniform.

Parents and students from the four current secondary schools are undertaking a joint process to design the new school uniform. Families will receive their uniform vouchers during Term 4 this year.

### **NEXT ROUND OF INFORMATION SESSIONS**

Greater Shepparton College's (interim name) vision is to give students the knowledge and skills to thrive throughout their lives.

As a school, we recognise that each student has different strengths, interests and ways of learning and to support these different styles we have developed a broad-based curriculum that will cater to all students. Our focus must be aspirational, for all of our young people and with a strong health and wellbeing focus.

We held Year 7 information sessions during May 2019 at McGuire College which appeared to go very well.

Our next round of information sessions will be oriented towards Year 8-9 students in 2020, and then Year 10-12 students in 2020.

Come and hear about our programs for next year. Dates and locations follow.

<b>DAY &amp; DATE</b>	<b>2020 YEAR LEVELS</b>	<b>TIME</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>
WEDNESDAY 12 <sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2019	Years 8 and 9	6.30-7.30pm	Shepparton High School 31-71 Hawdon Street, Shepparton
THURSDAY 13 <sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2019	Years 8 and 9	6.30-7.30pm	Mooroopna Secondary College Echuca Road, Mooroopna
MONDAY 24 <sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2019	Years 10, 11 and 12	6.30-7.30pm	Wanganui Park Secondary College Parkside Drive, Shepparton
TUESDAY 25 <sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2019	Years 10, 11 and 12	6.30-7.30pm	McGuire College 92-100 Wilmot Road, Shepparton

The school leaders and I look forward to meeting you.

**Genevieve Simson**

**Executive Principal, Greater Shepparton College (interim name)**