



ANNUAL REPORT 2020



Principal

Mrs Louise Lont

Board Chair

Mrs Sharon Arena

Annual General Meeting

9 June 2021

SCHOOL CONTEXT

School Motto

The Pioneer Village School motto **Aim for Excellence** recognises the importance of encouraging each student to always strive for their own personal best to reach their full potential.

School Values

All members of Pioneer Village School community are expected to demonstrate and act in line with Pioneer Village School values: Excellence, Integrity, Perseverance, Fairness and Respect.

School Philosophy

Learning

Our priority is to develop a strong foundation in education via the essential skills of reading, writing, mathematics, and a broad range of academic programs and offerings. We believe all students are diverse and exhibit different talents. We provide students with the opportunity to extend themselves and reach their full potential. Academic success is imperative and we create opportunities for our children to experience success by providing a broad curriculum.

Leading

We provide an environment where students develop their self-respect, confidence and a positive attitude towards life. We pride ourselves on providing a quality, value-based education program, and aim to develop resilient children who understand diversity, and can lead in their chosen field with a strong sense of compassion and integrity.

Life

If a love of learning is developed early, a life-long love of learning should follow. Life-long education is essential for ongoing personal growth, creativity, resourcefulness, independent thought, and also in developing an inquiring mind. We provide an environment where learning is stimulating and enjoyable, and an education that aims to develop that life-long love of learning.

Love

Family is vital to the overall success of each child's education, and we gladly welcome parent/caregiver participation in school activities. Our school offers the security of a close working relationship between students, teachers and families. Our students build relationships with all teachers regardless of year level and will always have a connection to their classroom teachers- even once they have moved year levels.



ENVIRONMENTAL CONTEXT

Pioneer Village School is an independent, non-denominational, co-educational primary school nestled in a picturesque heritage protected environment. Pioneer Village School caters for students from 3 year old Kindergarten to Year 6.

Student Cohort

At 2020 August census, Pioneer Village School had 117 PP to Year 6 students, 27 four year old Kindergarten students, and 11 three year old Kindergarten students, with relatively equal numbers of boys and girls. This is a total enrolment of 155 students and a funded enrolment of 144 students as Kindergarten 3 is a self-funded program. There were 4 Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander students and 13% of students speaking a language other than English at home.

Student Attendance

The 2020 average student attendance rate was 93.07% for compulsory schooling years (PP–6).

At Pioneer Village School we take unexplained absences very seriously. Early intervention for children at risk of developing irregular patterns of attendance is crucial so that these patterns may be reversed. The School's policies and practices are such that where a child is absent from school;

1. The parent is required to notify the office before to inform of the absence.
2. All unexplained absences are recorded and an SMS is sent to families before 9.30am.
3. Families are expected to respond and absences are recorded.
4. In the case of no response, a phone call or email is made to confirm the absence.
5. Should there be no response, a follow-up call may be made to the nominated emergency contact.

In the case of a student's absence dropping below 90% the principal will meet with the family to work through an individual attendance plan in line with the Attendance policy, and all efforts will be made to increase the student's attendance to above 90%.

To further increase student attendance rates, family holidays during the school term were discouraged. To remove children from school during the school term for holidays, parents and guardians are expected to gain written approval from the Principal.

Staff

The School employed the following staff as at August 2020 Census; 1 Principal, 9.3 full-time equivalent teaching staff and 7.5 full-time equivalent non-teaching staff. There were 3 male staff (teaching and non-teaching); and one staff member of Indigenous descent.

All teaching staff met the requirements for approved teaching in WA schools and were registered teachers in the state of Western Australia. Teachers' qualifications included Master of Education, Honours and Post Graduate Studies, as well as Bachelor Degrees.

NAPLAN ACHIEVEMENT

Due to the Coronavirus pandemic NAPLAN 2020 was cancelled.

Celebrations

Despite the upheaval the pandemic caused, Pioneer Village School students and community were able to participate in a wide variety of events that celebrated learning, friendship and family. Events included but were not limited to: Book Week Parade and Fair, Afternoon on the Green, Swimming, Crazy Sock Day, Perth Hills Discovery Centre excursion, Outdoor Education Day, Year 6 Graduation, and sports days.

We were also able to celebrate as a whole school with a visit to Perth Zoo. This was a wonderful day out and thoroughly enjoyed by all students and teachers alike.

The students were also able to extend their interaction with the wider community through carol singing at the local nursing home. This annual event was enjoyed by all residents.

The Arts were celebrated with events and learning such as; a whole school end of year performance, the classroom visual arts program, and the school music program. Unfortunately the Edu-Dance dance program was cut short and the concert was cancelled due to the pandemic. The whole school play was also unable to proceed.

School leaders were given more responsibility in regards to organising school events, decision making, and running the assemblies. The leaders were flexible and resilient in the face of the pandemic. While face to face speaking opportunities were limited they were able to build their confidence and skills by presenting online.

Pioneer Village School staff worked tirelessly to ensure our students' learning was not heavily impacted throughout the pandemic. The staff worked tirelessly on providing online learning content and must be commended for their combined effort. They supported our students, our families as well as each other through what has been one of the most difficult periods in our working lives.

The Early Years' team continued to embed the Early Year's philosophy within the school as part of the NQS framework. Teachers from the early years gathered on many occasions to engage in professional discussions based on current research, planning documents, teacher programs day to day activities, and timetabling. These discussions allowed for teachers to contribute their knowledge and practices, in line with current guidelines to ensure the play-based curriculum offered in the Early Years is an accurate reflection of the Early Year's philosophy.

Meet the Teacher night was held to ensure parents started the year with a clear understanding of classroom expectations and understood the running of their child/childrens' classrooms. A family information session was held in November to inform parents of what to expect when their child begins school.

Due to the pandemic Pioneer Village School offered an altered version of the Gifted and Talented Program. We continued to use the identification and screening process to identify hidden abilities in our students. This was done in order to ensure our students are given a fair opportunity to translate their gift into talent. We continued our relationship with MENSA Australia but were unable to host the testing onsite in 2020.

In 2020, Pioneer Village School continued to make a difference to those students needing substantial support. The evidence-based intervention reading program was continued with great success for students underachieving in this area. The evidence-based assessment pack was used effectively to ensure continued correct identification and tracking of students at risk of falling behind in reading. To further support our students with special needs, classroom teachers wrote Individual Learning Plans (IEP), differentiated the curriculum accordingly to cater for need, and met with families at scheduled times throughout the year to update them on their child's progress.

To further support the social and emotional well-being of our students and their families, Emily Piller-Dalby, our Parkerville social worker, continued her support sessions with students and their families. Emily runs a lunch time

student drop-in club and small groups that are responsive to student need. Emily also meets with students and/or parents one-on-one.

The strong relationship with Australian Independent Schools Western Australian (AISWA) continued and PVS utilised many of their services. The School staff worked diligently to improve outcomes by revising policies and engaged in future planning meetings. The Board and school staff set the 2020-2024 Strategic Plan and Improvement Goals and despite the pandemic were able to work through the goals set.

The teaching staff also engaged in a wide variety of Professional Development in 2020. On top of their own personal professional reading and off-campus choices of PD, they engaged in Mandatory Reporting, Staff and Student Code of Conduct, First Aid, and Protective Behaviours. Three teachers were chosen to participate in the High Impact Teaching Professional Development and shared their knowledge amongst staff.

Areas for Improvement

Further strengthening student voice, leadership and agency will be a strong focus moving forwards. School leaders will continue to be given more responsibility in regards to organising school events, decision making, lunch clubs, as well as preparing and running assemblies. The student body will be also presented with further public speaking opportunities to build the confidence and skills that they need to to present themselves for future leadership positions.

As we ease out of the pandemic we aim to reinstate our community events as well as school incursions, school plays, dance concerts, excursions and Inter-School sporting events.



Celebrations

Sustainability practices to guide Pioneer Village School in the best practice for waste management continued to grow and develop in 2020. The continued focus for the year was to educate our students, staff and parents on waste management and how to reduce waste in our lives as well as at school. The importance of litter free lunch boxes remained a focus and the number of different recycling stations available for children to place the rubbish into increased in number. We also made available an area to deposit recyclable batteries and joined the Containers for Change program.

The school has worked hard to maintain the school facilities to a very high standard. The works completed included but not limited to; installing fencing around the remainder of the oval perimeter, installing a toilet block behind the Pre-Primary room, painting classroom interiors, upgrading the indoor and outdoor space in readiness for the opening of Little Pioneers Early Learning Centre, upgrading the Reception interior, and further improving school safety by installing more on-site cameras.

We also received a number of Sporting School Grants which enabled us to bring in specialist coaches to teach a variety of sports, as well as an Indigenous Grant which enabled the purchase of materials to teach Aboriginal culture. A Sporting Schools grant which normally is used to hire sports coaches was used to purchase sporting equipment.

The P&F dedicated substantial funds in 2020 to support the development of the Kindergarten fencing and nature play area, as well as provided picnic tables and seating for the Pre-Primary space. The school recognises and thanks the extremely generous parent volunteers who contributed to the success of these projects, and the P&F for their continued fund-raising diligence despite the upheaval and uncertainty faced throughout the year.

Parent Satisfaction Summary & School Staff Survey

There were 61 responses to the 2020 Parent Satisfaction Survey. The valuable feedback was collated and a priority action list compiled.

The School student survey was undertaken by the Upper Years students, and from the feedback it is evident that the majority of students; feel a strong sense of belonging, are motivated to learn, enjoy activities such as inter-school sports and incursions, and feel that there is at least one trusted adult they can talk to in the school.

Areas for Improvement

Moving forward, we will continue ongoing maintenance of classrooms, grounds, facilities, and play areas. We will continue to apply for grants to enable us to upgrade facilities, engage various sporting coaches, and further increase the understanding and awareness of our First Nations people and culture through activities and incursions.

FINANCE

The annual financial report 2020 provides a statement of the financial performance of Pioneer Village School for the year ending 31st December 2020, and its financial position as at the end of that year.

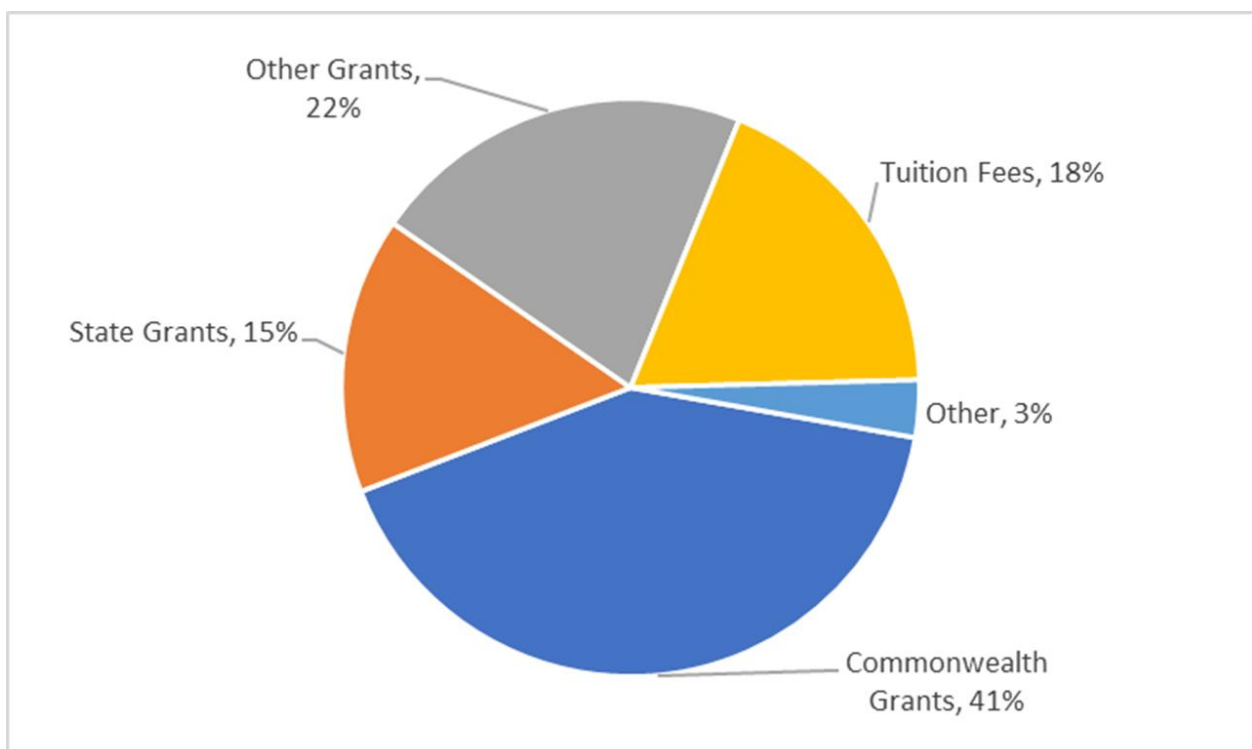
This report provides a snapshot of the finances of Pioneer Village School regarding the operating activities for the current year 2020, as determined by the School Board and management team of Pioneer Village School.

Our budget has been well-managed to provide for student learning, and is prioritised in line with the school values and maintenance of grounds and infrastructure.

Financial Performance

	2020	2019
REVENUE	\$ 2,746,146.00	\$ 2,288,580.00
EXPENSES	\$ 2,350,995.00	\$ 3,347,746.00
Operating Surplus/Deficit for the year	\$ 395,151.00	-\$ 1,059,166.00
Add Back Depreciation/Provisions/Impairment	\$ 83,108.00	\$ 1,417,131.00
Net Surplus/Deficit for the year	\$ 478,259.00	\$ 357,965.00

SOURCES OF INCOME



The school achieved a positive overall result in 2020 in part due to our ability to access Government COVID assistance packages.

Government funding was slightly less (5%) than 2019 and Tuition Revenue was 18.5% less than predicted. These results were not unexpected after the uncertainty surrounding the COVID19 restrictions and assistance measures put in place to assist the school community.

Expenses

Total operating expenditure increased by 9% over 2019. The increase is consistent with CPI increases and annual salary increases.

Financial Position

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
ASSETS	\$ 4,186,690.00	\$ 3,763,456.00
LIABILITIES	\$ 644,916.00	\$ 616,833.00
NET ASSETS	<u>\$ 3,541,774.00</u>	<u>\$ 3,146,623.00</u>

Tracey Cowlin
Bursar