



ANNUAL REPORT 2021

18/05/2022

PRINCIPAL

MRS LOUISE LONT

BOARD CHAIR

MRS SHARON ARENA



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 the 2021 August census, Pioneer Village School had 130 PP to Year 6 students, 20 four year old Kindergarten students, and 33 three year old Kindergarten students, with relatively equal numbers of boys and girls. This is a total enrolment of 183 students and a funded enrolment of 150 students as Kindergarten 3 is a self-funded program. There were 8 Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander students and 16% of students speaking a language other than English at home.

STUDENT ATTENDANCE

The 2021 average student attendance rate was 89.76% for compulsory schooling years (PP-6). This was a 3.3% drop in attendance from the year prior. Due to the pandemic, symptomatic children were required to not attend school as a precautionary measure and as a result we have a lower overall attendance rate.

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;

- The parent is required to notify the office before to inform of the absence.
- All unexplained absences are recorded and an SMS is sent to families before 9.30am.
- Families are expected to respond and absences are recorded.
- In the case of no response, a phone call or email is made to confirm the absence.
- 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 the August 2021 Census; 1 Principal, 11 full-time equivalent teaching staff and 8.2 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 2021

NAPLAN 2021

It is important to note that NAPLAN is not used by teachers for planning, it is a snapshot of a day in the life of a child. Scores must therefore be considered in conjunction with other classroom testing methods. It is however a snapshot of how our students performed on the day compared to students with a similar starting score and compared to the previous years' results.

PVS students completed NAPLAN online for the second year in 2021. There were less connectivity issues and disruptions than the first year of implementation. The results when comparing with 'similar schools' were not as strong as in past years. However, when we look at students' growth between 2019-2021 the 'Percentage of Students Making above Average Progress' was higher in this period than the last comparison period, 2017-2019 (see final table below).

The NAPLAN growth results take all students with the same starting score or similar background in Year 3 and compares their NAPLAN scores again in Year 5. Between 2019-2021 students' growth improved in all areas (Reading, Writing and Mathematics). It is pleasing to note that Reading and Writing growth was again 'close to' students and schools with a similar background and the same starting score. It was also pleasing to note that 2021 Mathematics scores are now in the (to use NAPLAN language) 'close to' category, an improvement from the aforementioned comparison period. In that comparison period, Mathematics growth was 'well below' schools with a similar background and the same starting score. To address this, and to improve students' Mathematics engagement, all teaching staff and education assistants engaged in approximately 50 hours of Dr Paul Swan Mathematics training, and First Steps Mathematics Professional Development. We were then able to successfully move from delivering Mathematics with a text book to a hands on approach.

Since 2017 we have invested a great deal of time implementing evidence-based programs, and upskilling all staff in high impact teaching strategies. Pie Corbett's Talk for Writing is noticeably improving Writing outcomes and to ensure gains in Reading growth, we continue to upskill staff in PLD Resources (a structured synthetic phonics program that we use in all classrooms across school) and other whole school Literacy programs. In regards to Learning Support, we use evidence-based strategies such as a Direct Instruction program, and decodable readers to support struggling students.

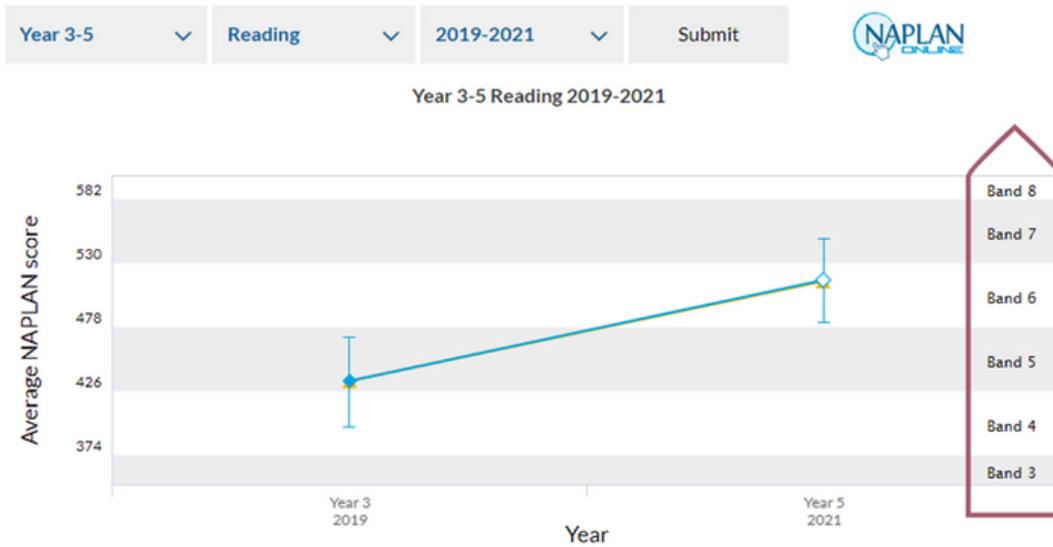
NAPLAN 2021

Student progress



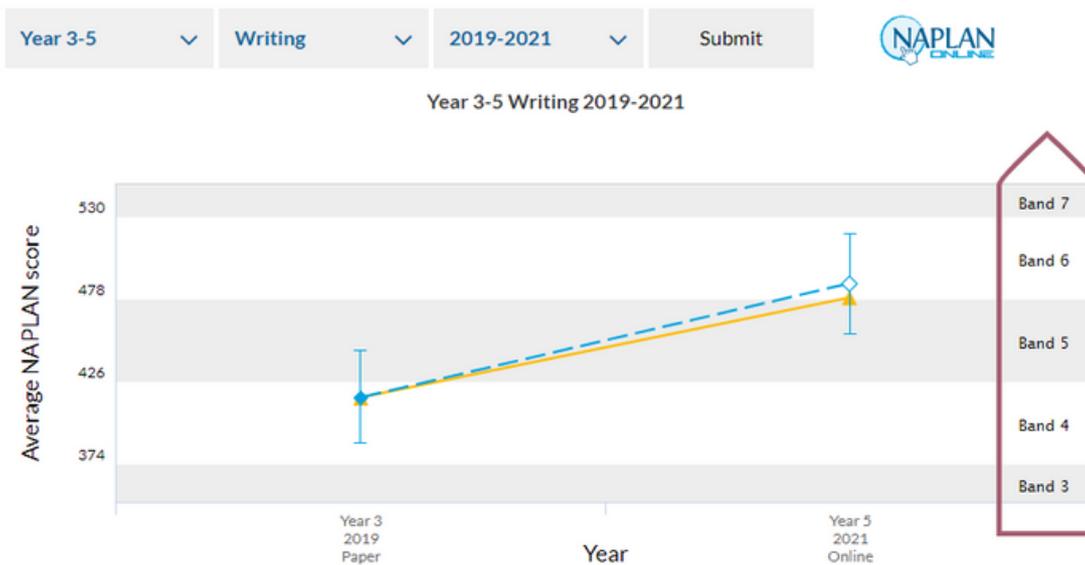
The blue line shows how much results at the selected school have improved since the students did NAPLAN two years ago. The yellow line shows the amount of improvement achieved by other students across the country who had the same NAPLAN score two years ago (same starting score) and who have similar background as the students at the selected school. Checking the 'All Australian students' box will show how the results of all Australian students have improved (grey line).

The NAPLAN Online logo shows schools that participated in NAPLAN Online. The dotted line is shown for those schools that transitioned from NAPLAN Paper to NAPLAN Online.



Select categories:

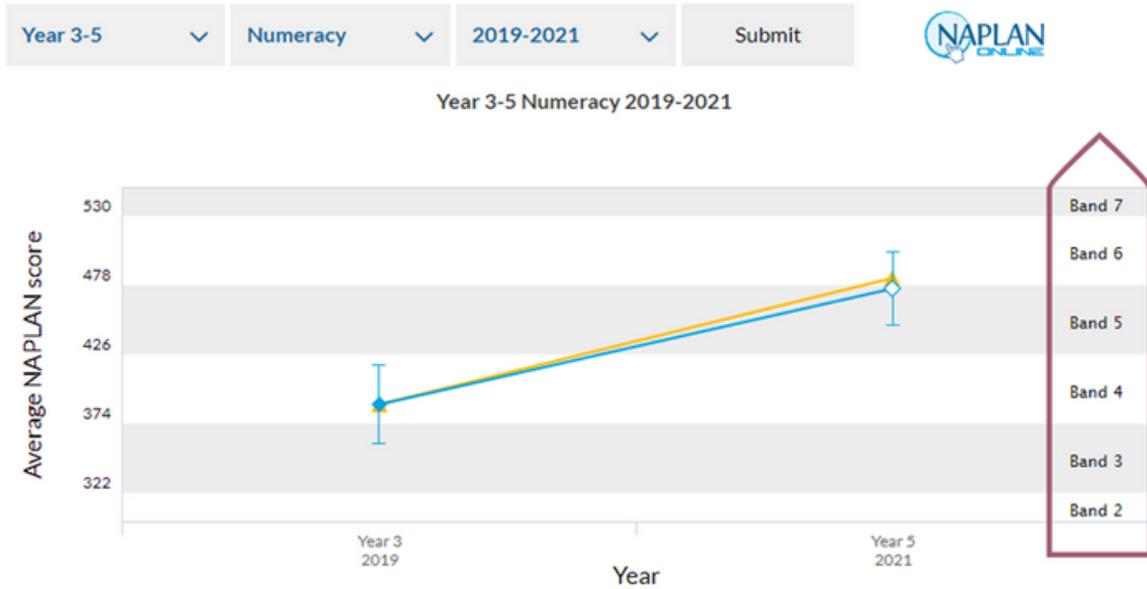
- Selected school Students with the same starting score and similar background All Australian students



Select categories:

- Selected school Students with the same starting score and similar background All Australian students

NAPLAN 2021



Select categories:

- Selected school
 Students with the same starting score and similar background ⁽ⁱ⁾
 All Australian students

Percentage of students making above average progress



The table below shows the percentage of students at the school who achieved above average progress, compared to students of a [similar background](#) and who had the [same starting score](#) on their previous NAPLAN test.

	2012-2014	2013-2015	2014-2016	2015-2017	2016-2018	2017-2019	2019-2021
Reading	60	61	61	70	47	40	52
Writing	53	41	61	59	59	42	56
Numeracy	56	45	48	65	43	30	37

⁽ⁱ⁾ In 2020 education ministers decided that NAPLAN testing would not proceed that year due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Interpreting the table

Selected school's average when compared to students with the same starting score and similar background

- Well above
- Above
- Close to
- Below
- Well below
- No comparison available

ACHIEVEMENT & WELLBEING

CELEBRATIONS

Despite the continuing pandemic there was very relatively minor impact on student learning in 2021. 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, Colour Run, SciTech Incursion, Mad Hatter's Easter Parade, Meet the Teacher Night, Grandparents Morning, World Circus Day celebrations, Reconciliation Week activities, World Simultaneous Story Day, Inter-school Rugby, Wombat's Kitchen, After-School Clubs, Outdoor Education Day, Year 6 Graduation, Year 6 Camp, and sports days. However, the major event of 2021 was the 40th Birthday Celebrations sponsored by our dedicated P&F Committee.

Our students engaged in a wide range of extra-curricular activities. During Term 1, weekly engineering classes with Young Engineers enabled our students to grasp engineering principles and engineering vocabulary through the use of Lego. The Young Engineers lessons were fantastic, and our students were highly engaged throughout.

We were also able to celebrate our students Performing Arts abilities. Due to COVID restrictions on venue numbers we split into two groups. The Years 1- 6 performed on stage in Champion Lakes, and Pre-Primary and Kindy performed for their families at school. To learn acting and performance skills, Kerry Jones from Helen O'Grady Drama School joined us weekly for 11 weeks. She worked tirelessly with our boys and girls to prepare them for their production. We were all so proud of how they persevered in learning their lines and parts, and as a result the performance quality was outstanding. EduDance was able to proceed this year, and it was a big hit. As always, our students put on an excellent show and entertained the audience with their fabulous moves.

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. Face to face speaking opportunities were better than the previous year and so they were able to build their confidence and skills by presenting to live audiences as well as online.

Pioneer Village School staff again worked tirelessly to ensure our students' learning would not be heavily impacted throughout the pandemic. They did this by ensuring that if there was a need for an entire school closure our online learning content was ready. They did this on top of their daily workload and must be commended for their effort. The uncertainty of the year was at times trying but our staff was able to support our students, our families, as well as each other, through another pandemic year.

ACHIEVEMENT & WELLBEING

Our Little Pioneers ELC (Early Learning Centre) for 3 year olds opened in January 2021. This Service allowed working families to bring their children to school for up to five days a week, 50 weeks a year. Parents were able to collect their CCS (Child Care Subsidy) should they so desire. However, they could also choose to attend one day per week under the structure of past years. Providing this Service has given families flexible options and choices. With over 40 years combined experience working with children, our team provides a high level of care and education.

The now expanded Early Years' team continued to embed the Early Year's philosophy within the school as part of the NQS framework. The ELC team focussed on ECRU's (Education and Care Regulatory Unit) Assessment and Rating readiness. 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. Prior to this, an information session was held in late 2020 to inform parents of what to expect when their child begins school.

Pioneer Village School was also able to offer the Gifted and Talented Program with a dedicated teacher. 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.

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 IEP's (Individual Learning Plans), 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.

The teaching staff also engaged in a wide variety of School PD (Professional Development) in 2021. On top of their own personal professional reading and off-campus choices of PD sessions, they engaged in Mandatory Reporting, Staff and Student Code of Conduct, First Aid, and Protective Behaviours Program. To further upskill all staff on gifted education, and to prepare for the 2022 Gifted Programming, Kylie Byce from Growing up Great joined us for our end of year PD training session.

ACHIEVEMENT & WELLBEING

AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT

Gifted Education as well as Learning Support is reviewed annually. During the 2021 review, it was decided that we would deliver the Dyslexia SPELD Foundation recommended Mathematics program in small group settings, on top of intervention Literacy Lessons in 2022. These lessons would be attended by those with a formal diagnosis, or those deemed by the classroom teacher to be in need of intervention.

Continued strengthening student voice, leadership and agency continues to 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 necessary to present themselves for future leadership positions.



PRODUCTIVITY

CELEBRATIONS

In 2021 Pioneer Village School received a Re-registration term of 5 years. Renewal of a school's registration is one of the principle processes through which the Director General at the Department of Education can be satisfied that a school continues to observe the standards. This is determined by the Minister and other registration requirements.

Schools are granted registration for between 1 – 5 years, upon which time we have to re-apply. Being awarded another 5 years is an impressive feat. Whilst the process was very involved, it provides the School Management and Board with an opportunity to review our procedures, and confirm that all standards are met and exceeded. Re-registration also incorporates a full-day audit with Department of Education representatives, who provided resoundingly positive feedback on our school. All School Management and Staff had an integral role in the re-registration process and are commended for their efforts.

The School has worked hard to maintain its school facilities to a very high standard. The works completed included but is not limited to; installing a toilet block behind the Pre-Primary room, painting classroom interiors, upgrading the indoor and outdoor space in readiness for the opening of the 4 year old Early Learning Centre, and further improving school safety by installing more on-site cameras. We also received a \$20,000 grant from Dr Tony Buti which was used to upgrade parts of the Adventure Playground.

The school recognises and thanks the extremely generous parent volunteers who contributed to the P&F. Their continued fund-raising diligence benefits the whole school community. Their hard work enables our students to enjoy fun end of term meals, celebrations, and raffles, and enables the teachers to fulfill their annual 'wish list' items.

Sustainability practices to guide Pioneer Village School in the best practice for waste management continued to grow and develop in 2021. Educating our students on how to reduce waste, recycle, and live more sustainably continued to be prioritised. We also received a number of Sporting School Grants which enabled us to bring in specialist coaches to teach a variety of sports including gymnastics, soccer, athletics, and touch rugby. We also received a PALS Indigenous Grant which enabled us to provide the students with an incursion.



PRODUCTIVITY

PARENT SATISFACTION SUMMARY & SCHOOL STAFF SURVEY

The School student survey was undertaken by the Upper Years students, and from the feedback it is evident that the majority of students; feel that there is at least one trusted adult they can talk to in the school, understand they are expected to aim high and display the school Values, and enjoy the variety of incursions and excursions offered.

This year we also had fantastic participation in our annual community survey. This survey is vital to providing feedback on how the school is performing, with the information obtained from the survey used to guide the Board and School Management improvement planning processes.

This year the results indicated overall positive feedback, with notable increases in the sense of community at the school, improved affordability of fees and approachability of staff and Board members. Through comments on the survey we are also able to implement improvements, such as providing an annual school calendar rather than releasing calendars for each term to allow parents to remain better informed and maintaining the fees at the same rate for 2022 as those set for 2021.

We can also all see that our sense of community is returning after a very hard year last year. We have celebrated 40 years of PVS, had the school performance, colour run, sports carnivals, interschool carnivals, grandparents day and a range of other activities that bring us all together as a community throughout 2021.

AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT

One of our challenges is re-connecting the community after the years of COVID. The 2021 community survey showed us that this continues to be important for our school members, and will therefore remain a key focus for PVS moving into 2022.

Moving forward, plans are in place to expand the 5 day ELC option to include 4 year olds. This will provide flexibility and options for those families that need their child to attend long days, for up to 5 days a week over 50 weeks of the year.

We will also 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 ongoing activities and incursions.

FINANCE

The annual financial report 2021 provides a statement of the financial performance of Pioneer Village School for the year ending 31st December 2021, and its financial position as at the end of that year.

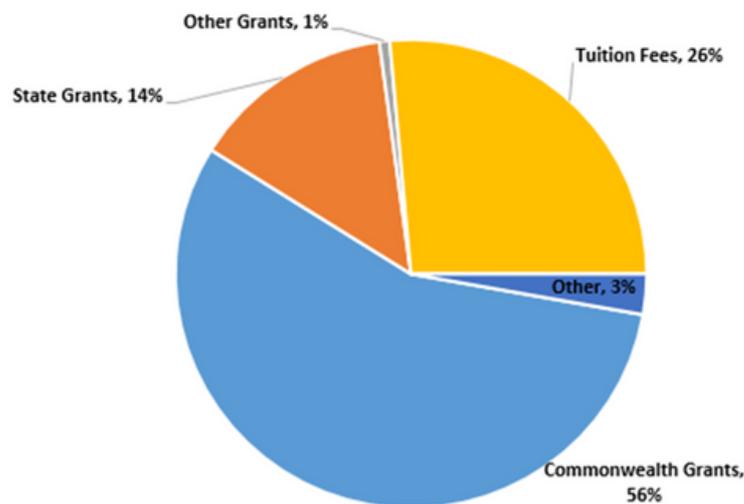
This report provides a snapshot of the finance of Pioneer Village School regarding the operating activities for the current year 2021, as determined by the School Board and management team of Pioneer Village School.

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

	2021	2020
REVENUE	\$ 2,502,698.00	\$ 2,746,146.00
EXPENSES	\$ 2,663,825.00	\$ 2,350,995.00
OPERATING SURPLUS / DEFICIT	-\$ 161,127.00	\$ 395,151.00
Add back Depreciation / Provisions / Impairment	\$ 222,432.00	\$ 83,108.00
NET SURPLUS / DEFICIT	\$ 61,305.00	\$ 478,259.00

SOURCES OF INCOME



FINANCE

In 2021 Pioneer Village School opened the Little Pioneer's ELC (Early Learning Centre) for 3-year olds. The ELC has provided a sturdy platform for strong future growth moving forward.

This project impacted the financial statements by injecting an additional income stream. However, expenses also increased due to additional salaries. This, in combination with normal operational costs, attributed to the overall deficit of \$161,127. PVS has accumulated funds from previous years which is included in 'total assets' in the table below. A portion of these funds had been put into a Reserve Account, and was available to absorb the deficit.

Commonwealth and State Government funding contributed 70% in total. Tuition fees contributed 26% to total revenue.

Revenue decreased by 8% in 2021 due in part to; the cessation of Government COVID assistance (JobKeeper), and school fees remaining unchanged.

Total operating expenditure increased by 11% over 2020. The increase is consistent with CPI increases, annual salary increases, and the startup costs of Little Pioneers. The operating expenses included but were not limited to; a significant increase in Strata Insurance, and salaries attributed to the 3-year old ELC.

FINANCIAL POSITION

	2021	2020
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 4,127,429.00	\$ 4,186,690.00
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$ 746,782.00	\$ 644,916.00
NET ASSETS	\$ 3,380,647.00	\$ 3,541,774.00

Tracey Cowlin Bursar

