



MALEK FAHD ISLAMIC SCHOOL

ABN: 41003 864 891

KNOWLEDGE IS LIGHT & WORK IS WORSHIP

www.mfis.nsw.edu.au

INFORMATION UPDATE

FROM THE BOARD OF MALEK FAHD ISLAMIC SCHOOL

Friday, 28 May 2021

Visit by the team from the Centre for Islamic Thought and Education

Professor Mohamad Abdalla AM, Dr Nadeem Memon and Dr Dylan Chown from the Centre for Islamic Thought and Education (CITE) at the University of South Australia last week visited the School for our shared initiative to advance Islamic Pedagogy.

Drs Memon and Chown visited each campus and spoke with staff, students and parents. These visits are part of a three-year partnership between CITE and Malek Fahd Islamic School to build our teaching staff's understanding of, and expertise in, Islamic Pedagogy.

This partnership will see 42 teachers from across the School complete a Graduate Certificate in Islamic Pedagogy. In addition, all staff will receive professional development in Islamic Pedagogy.

Professor Abdalla and his team met parents at the Greenacre campus on Saturday to explain their work and some preliminary findings.

The appointment of the Director, Faith and Australian Islamic Identity

During his visit, Professor Abdalla sat on the selection panel for the new position of Director, Faith and Australian Islamic Identity. Also on the panel was Board members Dr Fariha Dib and Karim Amin and the Principal, Mr Rixon.

The panel reported that there were some excellent applicants but that, in the end, the choice was unanimous. Things are being finalised and Mr Rixon will announce the details of the successful applicant very soon.

The 2021-2024 Strategic Plan

At its meeting on Friday, the Board gave the go-ahead to commence the development of a new Strategic Plan to run from July 2021 to June 2024.

The current Strategic Plan has been very successful in delivering so many great programs and initiatives for the School. The Board soon will prepare a special report outlining these achievements.

The Board will ensure opportunities for parents, staff and student representatives to have input to the new plan. The results of recent surveys of parents, staff and students will form part of the input to the planning process.

Re-commencing Building Hoxton Park Stage 3

Back in 2016 the Board needed to take the decision to suspend a major building project at the Hoxton Park campus because of the uncertainty about the School's future.

Now that the future of the School is secure and assured, we are very pleased to report that the building work will re-commence in the coming weeks.

This new building will provide ten additional quality learning spaces at Hoxton Park, including two new Science Laboratories. It is scheduled to be completed by mid-November ready for the 2022 school year.

Parent meeting on Saturday 22 May

Last Saturday, the School invited parents to a meeting at the Greenacre campus. The purpose was for the Board to share with parents details of the work being done by the CITE team mentioned above, a summary of the findings from the Parent Survey and the recommendations from the review of PAC operations.

About 200 parents registered for the event but, unfortunately, less than half that number attended.

This is disappointing because the Board saw it as a good and personal way in which inform parents of some of the great things happening at our School.

On-line petition

Once again, some people have decided that the best way to have their concerns addressed is to put them into an anonymous online petition. Such an approach shows no concern for the reputation of the School or its standing in the community. It fails to appreciate that some matters necessarily take considerable time and effort to investigate fully and fairly to all concerned.

The Board has arranged for the matters raised to be investigated. It will consider the findings of these investigations when they are completed and decide what action will be taken.

The Board has also sought legal advice about whether those who created the petition and those who sign it are leaving themselves open to being sued for defamation.

THE BOARD

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