

Thursday, 27 March 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

After 13 years as Deputy Principal at Broadbeach State School, and a couple of birthdays past 60, I officially announced by retirement to the staff last week. In 2012, I came to Broadbeach State School from Merrimac State School on “loan”, but with growth and new opportunities one year grew to thirteen incredibly rewarding years.

Retirement has not been an easy decision, as education has been in my veins for over 40 years, providing me with amazing opportunities and experiences within Queensland and internationally.

1984	Doomadgee State School - teacher
1987	Vale View State School – Principal (teaching) Westbrook Remand Centre – Education Officer
1989	Education Advisor – Indigenous Education Cape and Gulf based in Cairns
1992	Bororen State School – Principal (teaching)
1994	Dysart State School – Deputy Principal
1997	Dysart State School – Acting Principal (Term 1)
1997	Merrimac State School – Deputy Principal
2004	Uniworld International School – Curriculum Writer - Vietnam (Semester 1)
2006	Southport State School – Acting Principal (short term)
2007	Surfers Paradise State School – Acting Principal (Semester 1)
2012	Broadbeach State School – Deputy Principal (and short-term periods of Acting Principal)

I reflect positively on my career which has provided me with the opportunity to motivate, inspire and shape the minds of children and support pathways for teachers, teacher aides and support staff.

In recent years, Broadbeach has experienced significant growth along with the implementation of clearly articulated learning pathways based on the science of teaching and learning. Michael Roberts, Principal from 2010-2017 introduced innovative pedagogical approaches based on his experience visiting schools in North Queensland. After his departure in 2017, Mr Langes was appointed principal, further refining the pedagogical approaches along with implementation of clearly defined policies and procedures required to support a fast-growing school. As a result of the dedication and vision of both Mr Roberts and Mr Langes, Broadbeach ranks as a high achieving school, evidenced by outstanding achievement in NAPLAN and the high rate of enrolment interest. To have been a member of the leadership team during this period of transformation has been exciting, inspiring and incredibly rewarding.

Last week I shared with staff my immense pride to have been a leader at Broadbeach, acknowledging their professionalism, focus and commitment in shaping Broadbeach to be the outstanding school it is today. It is this team, along with the wonderful students and committed families and community members I will greatly miss.



Although academic achievement is important, it would be remiss to not acknowledge the importance of social and emotional learning and student wellbeing. We know student-teacher relationships are important in developing grounded, focused, respectful and capable citizens of the future, however, we must not overlook the critical partnerships between school and home as well as teacher and parent that also support the development of healthy and respectful relationships.

In reflection, I have been privileged to have contributed significantly in this space in the development of our *"Healthy Minds Program"* which encompasses key elements of the *"You Can Do It"* and *"The Zones of Regulation"* programs. As exciting as the world is for our young people, negotiating the pressures associated with a 'connected' world requires significant adult input to ensure our children develop a positive social compass. For this reason, the parent, teacher, school partnership has never been more wanting.

The bookends of my career could not be more polar opposite with my career commencing as a secondary maths-science teacher in Doomadgee, in one of the most remote and isolated parts of Australia, with minimal exposure or understanding of First Nations People and only the barest of daily essentials and limited communication. Now after 40 years my career draws to a close at Broadbeach in one of the most populated parts of the state adjacent to a beautiful beach, with a highly professional staff and supportive local and international community, with access to everything imaginable.

I am not sure of my next steps but I look forward to a slower pace and a little more relaxed lifestyle along with opportunities as a community volunteer, spending more time with family and ticking off some of my bucket list travel adventures. It is also my intention to remain connected to Broadbeach, offering my support and assistance as required.

I sincerely thank you for the support and trust you have afforded me during my time as Deputy Principal at Broadbeach State School – it has been both an honour and privilege to have served the students, staff and community.

Extending my best wishes to our Broadbeach families

Kind Regards

Wayne Jenks

Wayne Jenks
Deputy Principal

