SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

School Name: POINT PEARCE ABORIGINAL SCHOOL
School Number: 0846

1. General Information

Part A
School Name: POINT PEARCE ABORIGINAL SCHOOL
School No.: 0846 Courier: Postal region Maitland
Principal: Mrs Bronwyn Milera
Postal Address: Point Pearce 5573
Location Address: Point Pearce 5573
District: Yorke
Road distance from GPO: 200 km Phone No.: 08 88367210
CPC attached: YES Fax No.: 08 88367234

February FTE Enrolment
Primary

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July total FTE Enrolment 24 22 25 24 22 32
Male FTE 12 11 13 9 10 13
Female FTE 12 11 12 15 12 19
July School Card (Persons) 24 14 11 9 22 30
NESB Total (Persons) - - - - - -
Born O/S & in Aust less than 1 yr - - - - - -
Aboriginal FTE Enrolment 24 22 25 24 22 32

Note: Placement points for Complexity and (Base plus Isolation) can be obtained from the document, 'Placement Points History' in the 'schools/placement' section of the 'Legal and Policy Framework Library' available on the departmental CD-ROM or web site.
Part B.

Teaching Entitlement is 3.1.
Currently 5.0 (Principal 1.0, Junior Primary 1.0, Upper Primary 1.0, CPC 0.5, NIT 0.5)
3 new teaching staff this year.

Ancillary Hours:
Grounds 8/week, SSO1’s 63.5/week, AEW 35/week, SSO1/ECW 8/week in CPC, Special Ed SSO 17/week.

Enrolment Trends: Primary-low thirties, CPC low teens.

Year of Opening: 1860’s.

2. Students and their Welfare

Primary students 3-7 located in a double classroom.
Junior Primary R-2 located in a separate single classroom.
CPC in a separate single classroom in same building.
Students split into 4 groups for literacy/numeracy. (R) (1) (2-4) (5-7) Resulting in improved literacy outcomes.
All Primary students are Aboriginal, split nearly 50/50 boys/girls.

Student Management:
School has a well-developed SBM policy, following ‘Stop think Do’ Program. Class rules and responsibilities negotiated with teachers at start of each year. DETE support available from Wakefield District Office located at Kadina and Clare.

Student Government: Classroom meetings are held in each class each week, with suggestions going to SRC meeting R –7, held weekly.

Special Programmes:
Literacy and Numeracy, Maths Inclusion Project, Cultural Heritage Activities, I.T, Child Protection Pilot,
The Arts (Music/Art)
3. Key School Policies

Vision Statement:
‘Walking together on a lifelong journey of learning”.
WORKING TOGETHER/LEARNING JOURNEY/CULTURAL PRIDE.

Mission Statement:
At PPAS there exists a genuine cooperative partnership between the school and the extended community of Point Pearce. PPAS has a safe, caring and challenging working environment with a focus on celebrating success. At PPAS there exists a pride in Aboriginal Culture and Heritage. To enable students to achieve their full educational through valuing their Narungga heritage and identity.

Long Term Objectives:
To enable children and students to enjoy success at school and broaden their future career options. To promote self esteem within each student.

School Strategic Priorities:
Improve attendance.
Improve reading and spelling ages of Aboriginal students.
Increasing student competency in computer technology.
Improving student social skills and group work.
To maintain interest and connections in Narungga culture and heritage.
To develop a commitment to the Reconciliation Process.

Recent Key Outcomes:
Developed stronger links with Maitland Area School.
Reclamation of some Narungga Language through songs.
Improvements in attendance figures through appropriate strategies.
Positive student engagement.

4. Curriculum

Subject Offerings:
The 8 required areas of study plus Narungga/Cultural Studies.

Special Needs:
SSO time is allocated to students with learning difficulties in literacy and numeracy, Speech, hearing and behaviour.

Teaching Methodology:
Contextualised Maths and English Language Acquisition programmes operate throughout school. SSO’s and AEW provide classroom, small group and individual support.
NCP’s are implemented for the students with special needs.
Assessment Procedures and Reporting:
Standardised spelling/reading tests are done in Terms 1 and 4. LaN are implemented in Term 3 as well as NSW Maths competition.
During term 2 parents and teaching staff meet to discuss student progress. They are also provided with a written report.
Term 4 written report is provided to parents.
Running records operate using PM Benchmarks.
SEA completed after first 10 weeks of School for Reception students.

5. Sporting Activities
Students can access SYP SAPSASA Teams.
Attend the Yorke Peninsula Cross Country Event.

6. Other Co-Curricular Activities

General:
Camps are held each year.
Cultural Awareness Week is celebrated in the first week in September each year.
Point Pearce Aboriginal School links with District to promote Narungga Culture and Language.
NAIDOC week activities.
Croc Festival cultural camp/activities in Port Augusta occurs during Term 3.

7. Staff (& their Welfare)

Staff Profile:
Currently 4.0 teachers share the bulk of the teaching load CPC-7
The Principal deals with SBM issues and teaches Literacy to reception students.
JP teacher has R-2 students.
UP 3-7 students.
Middle Primary Teacher 2-4 Literacy/ Numeracy groups plus NIT.
CPC Teacher provides NIT.
Teacher/Librarian 1 day a week.

Leadership Structure:
Point Pearce operates within a collaborative decision making process that allows for inclusiveness of all staff that is equal to a PAC.
Staff Support Systems:
T&D is provided according to site plan. Information is shared through a daily white board, a daybook and a Term planner. OHSW matters are attended to at each staff meeting or as needs arise, and Performance Management Meetings are held at least once per term. Timetabling is addressed at the beginning of each year.

Access to Special Staff:
Wakefield D.O. at Kadina and Clare is the regional centre to access Guidance, Hearing Impairment Services, and Speech, Special Education, Social Work and Behaviour Management staff.

8. Incentives, Support and Award Conditions for Staff

Complexity points 1.0
Isolation points: 2.0
Shorter Terms: None.
Travelling Time: Dependant on housing location.
Housing Assistance: None.
Removal Allowance: As applicable.
Additional Increment Allowance: As applicable.
Aboriginal Schools: Permanent teachers are entitled to one term’s study leave after 2 years at the school. The Principal is entitled to one term’s study leave after 3 years of service, and a rent rebate of $2000/ year after 4 years of service.
Locality Allowances: Yes on application.
Relocation Assistance: Yes.
Principal’s Telephone Costs: Yes.

9. School Facilities

Buildings & Grounds:
There are 2 main buildings. One houses the Administration Area, Library, Staff Room, Computer Room, Store Rooms and Toilets. The other houses the R-7 Classroom, the CPC and the Art/ Cooking Room. There is also a separate Transportable, which is our Cultural Room with many displays in it, and is used as a meeting room often. The CPC area is fenced off.

Cooling:
Both main buildings have evaporative air conditioning supplied.
Specialist/ Student Facilities:
All classrooms have at least one computer in them, and a computing room with 6 computers connected to the Internet exists. We also have digital cameras for all classes.
Sporting equipment is available and stored in each classroom.
There is also a playground in the northeast corner, which is used extensively by all.
Each toilet has shower facilities, and a disabled toilet exists.
A breakfast program is available for all students from 8.30 – 8.45. Cereal/ Toast is provided during this time.

Staff Facilities:
The Staff Room is equipped with a microwave oven, a refrigerator, sink and a permanent urn fixed to the wall.
A small preparation area.
There is a Teacher Preparation Room which houses teaching resources, a photocopier, a guillotine, a book binding machine and a laminating machine.
A video/DVD player, television, CD player, OHP, electronic keyboards and a video machine are also on site for teacher use.

Access to Bus Transport:
The school has a Troop Carrier designated to the Principal’s position, and this is used extensively to transport staff, students and community members.

Other Facilities:
There is a Health Clinic at Point Pearce, which operates most week day mornings, with a doctor in attendance on Tuesday and Thursday mornings.
The nearest School Dental Clinic is at Maitland Area School and operates two days per week.

10. School Operations

Decision Making Structures:
All staff are involved in the decision making process, with the majority of decisions being made at Staff Meetings. All staff are on the PAC due the school’s size. All staff are expected to take responsibility for particular curriculum areas and other areas of school operations. They each have chosen roles to work towards achieving our Annual Action Plan Outcomes.

Regular Publications:
The school newsletter is distributed far and wide once per fortnight. Our Partnerships Plan, Annual Reports, and Parent Information Handbooks are available.
A weekly Staff Bulletin is also produced.

Other Communication:
There are Goreta and Narungga TAFE Newsletters, which are circulated around the Community from time to time.
Students also share information during Class meetings and vote on issues. A lot of communication with parents is done orally through Home Visits.
School Financial Position:
Due to isolation, and lack of full time employment opportunities for the Point Pearce residents, the school is almost totally reliant upon Government Grants and Funding.

Special Funding:
We are able to access a wide variety of funding allocations through our Global Budget including School Card, Rurality Index, Special Needs Students, CAP funding, and Commonwealth Literacy funding. There is a strong Social Justice ethos and commitment at our school.

11. Local Community

General Characteristics:
Point Pearce is a small Aboriginal Community close to Port Victoria on Yorke Peninsula. Approximately 150-200 people live in the community. The nearest large town is Maitland 20kms away on sealed bitumen road. Port Victoria is closer 10kms south, once again on sealed bitumen. The largest regional shopping centre is Kadina about 75-80 kms away to the north.

Parent and Community Involvement:
Parents are involved formally through parent participation/Governing Council committees. The community is involved in cultural activities throughout the year and with the CPC and Playgroup.

Other Local Care and Educational Facilities:
The CPC holds 4 sessions per week, Mon-Thurs mornings. These are for students from 3-5 years of age. Secondary students travel by school bus to Maitland Area School each day. Many community members attend the Narugga Campus of TAFE SA which is located next to the school.

Commercial/Industrial and Shopping Facilities:
There is a General Store (with EFTPOS), Kiosk, Hotel, two Garages, a Post Office and Commonwealth Bank Outlet at Port Victoria. Maitland has ANZ and Bank SA facilities, a Commonwealth Bank and National Bank agency at the Post Office, a large General Store, Chemist, two Hotels, Butcher, an Electrical store, a Fruit and Veg store, a Bakery, Hardware stores and many others.

Other Local Facilities:
Two Doctors Surgeries operate in Maitland. There is a Hospital, an Ambulance Centre and a Health Centre as well. Two Police are based at Maitland and two at Port Victoria. Sporting clubs include football, netball, softball, cricket, golf, tennis, basketball, squash, shooting, hockey, darts and table tennis. A Community Library exists at Maitland Area School with a well-equipped Gymnasium. Apex and Rotary are two major Service Clubs operating there.
Availability of Staff Housing:
There are no houses available within the community itself. Limited housing is available in Port Victoria and Maitland. Private rental both within the towns and on farms is available from time to time.

Local Government Body:
The Goreta Council is the main governing body at Point Pearce. (08 88367205). The District Council of Yorke Peninsula has its Council Chambers at Maitland. Goreta is in charge of Health, Housing, Cultural Issues, Maintenance of Facilities and other matters within the Point Pearce Community.