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The
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CARE CONVERSATIONS

FORWARD
FROM
DR TINA LAMONT // Director TEC



Dear Friend,

We are basing this semester's Care Conversations on the TEC Leadership Matrix.

Leadership in Christian schools will always remain fresh, innovative and visionary when time is intentionally created to engage with the wider Christian educational community. As Christian leaders gather from their communities and unite as a wider body of leaders, camped around a vision of authentic, Christ-centred, Biblically-based education, there is always transformation of thinking and practice that results in a greater impact for kingdom service and mission. Whilst there is a place for introspection which is contemplative and also critical, if this is the only avenue for gathering there will also be a dimension of growth that is missed. Gathering then becomes crucial to Christian leaders and the

communities they lead and participate in.

We pray God's refreshment on you as you take up the opportunities to participate in the wider community of Christian leadership.

Yours in Christ,

Dr Tina Lamont

Director TEC

The Excellence Centre

Series 14:

COMMUNITY SPIRITUAL FORMATION

REFLECTION BY
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Number 8:

GATHERING TOGETHER

Leaders in Christian Schools can often become consumed with leading their own communities, and neglect looking beyond their own community. There is always so much to do! There is a danger of becoming inward looking and inward thinking.

Leaders need constant refreshment and the challenge of new ideas and encouragement from others who are engaged in the ministry of Biblical Christian Education.

Each year, before the academic year begins, the Pacific Group of Schools hosts a “Hope Conference”. These are two-day events with a focus on Hope now, and in the future. Themes have included: Hope for the Future; Faith, Hope, Love; Hope, Joy and Peace Through Mission; Hope Through Collaboration; Hope Through Wellbeing.

These are always a great time of learning together and fellowshiping with like-minded people. Whilst most of the presentations are available on-line after the conference, there is a lot of value in being present and being engaged in encouraging, hope-filled, conversations.

During each year there is also time for Executive Leaders to meet together from across Australia and New Zealand. Executive Principals oversee multi-campus schools are often dealing with multiple, and often unique, issues. These leaders can benefit from spending time with others who experience similar situations.

The history of large and multi-campus schools tends towards dilution of vision/mission focus. When Executive Leaders meet together, for encouragement and critique of one another, it is a reminder to stay focussed on the key components of Biblical Christian Education. Leaders are also reminded that they have a responsibility to support, encourage and assist smaller schools with advice and resourcing. Many Executive Leaders re-realise, as a consequence of involvement with smaller schools, that their task is not just to run an efficient set of schools, but to lead schools that are effective, authentic and Christ focussed. The benefits of large and small schools fellowshiping together is always of benefit to both.

The importance of Christian School Leaders fellowshiping together cannot be overstated. School Leaders understand one another. They understand the pressures as well as the joys of Leadership. I would encourage Leaders to have at least a weekly interaction with another school leader, where frank and open discussions and prayer for one another can take place.

Praying for School Leaders.

Brian

Brian Cox

Consultant in Leadership & Education



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- To be authentically Christian
- Provide excellent products, services and research products
- Practice Christian Community

The Excellence Centre is a not for profit ministry of Pacific Hills Christian Education based at our Dural Campus in Sydney Australia.

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For what we proclaim is not ourselves,
but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves
as your servants for Jesus' sake.

2 Corinthians 4:5



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