



From the EREA Council

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE DIRECTORS OF THE INAUGURAL EREA LTD BOARD

The Council of Trustees for Edmund Rice Education Australia (EREA) is pleased to announce the appointment of the Directors who will join the Chair, **Adjunct Professor Iyla Davies OAM (QLD)** as the Inaugural Board of EREA Ltd which will transition to full operation on 1 January 2023. The composition of the Board along with the newly appointed Trustees represents the commitment of the Trustees to the Australia-wide mission of EREA and our commitment to active contribution to the 16 dioceses in which we cooperate with the Bishops, in the mission of Catholic education.

Directors:

Cynthia Rowan (QLD)

Cynthia has spent more than 25 years in senior and executive roles with the Queensland Government, mainly on Indigenous policy and inclusion, child safety and family support. Cynthia spent two terms as a part-time Commissioner for Queensland Corrective Services where she monitored the implementation of the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody. Cynthia is the Reconciliation Action Plan Manager for the Archdiocese of Brisbane. As a recently appointed continuing Board Member (2021), Cynthia ensures continuity whilst naming the challenges and contributing strategic insights to all aspects of EREA.

David Penny (NSW)

David brings qualifications in both business and theology and experience as a Non-Executive Director in complex not for profit organisations, including Director of the Australian Catholic Safeguarding Limited (ACSL) to make the church a safe place for all. He is currently Executive Director of ISMAPNG, a Non-Executive Director on a number of Boards including Calvary Ministries, Centre for Christian Spirituality Ltd and the BCA National Training Group. David brings a detailed understanding of the Catholic Church and the environment in which it operates, its civil and church responsibilities. He is grateful for his education by the Christian Brothers, has a sound understanding of the charism of Edmund Rice and is keen to contribute.

Sonia Nolan (WA).

Sonia is an accomplished senior executive and proven Board Director. She commenced her early career in communications and public relations roles and continues to actively consult and advise organisations in communications and strategy. She has played an integral role in transforming the Catholic Education of Western Australia operations in her role as Commissioner. Sonia has contributed to successful systemic change and advises Ministers, Bishops and Business Leaders. Relevantly, she is very familiar with the school systems, funding, and key challenges and opportunities for Catholic education not only in Western Australia but nationally. Sonia's sons, nephew, brother have all been educated in CB schools. As such, Sonia has a strong affinity to the charisms of Edmund Rice and is keen to contribute to the future of EREA.

Stephen Ellich (VIC)

Stephen is a proven Board Director and Senior Executive with a 25+ year proven track record of success in governing and leading large, complex, national organisations through the establishment, development and implementation of transformational change to deliver sustainable growth, profitability and strong operating cash flow, specifically in the NFP area. Stephen's commitment is evident in his ongoing contribution to the AICD Not For Profit Advisory Group and his transformation of YMCA. He brings a strong commitment to the charism of Edmund Rice and EREA through his close affinity with the Christian Brothers and his active

EREA Council

Ms Philomena Billington (President)
Mr David White (Deputy President & Treasurer)
Mr Peter Turner
Ms Beth Gilligan
Mr Peter Hamill

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membership and chairing of the Board of Edmund Rice Camps (Vic) over many years. His sons were educated at St Kevin's College and Stephen is committed to EREA in its journey of regeneration.

Brian Bissaker (NSW)

Brian brings strength in the areas of authentic leadership, design, innovation, strategy and governance. He has extensive board experience across a broad range of entities from large global firms (Citigroup P/L) to start-ups and industry associations. He has also recently stepped down from a position as an Adjunct Professor at the University of Sydney Business School working with the Executive MBA program. His commitment to education is exemplified as Chair of the Board at Monte Sant Angelo College Sydney and his role as Board Chair and part owner of Year 13 P/L, Brian has a keen interest in helping young Australians fulfil their potential in life post school to the great benefit of themselves and Australian society. Through his charitable work Brian also has an interest in striving to alleviate the dire problem of homelessness in Australia. Specifically, he continues to actively volunteer and mentor not for profits. Brian was educated by the Christian Brothers in Sydney.

Susan Stevens (VIC)

Susan is currently a Board Director of a College, Pathways Deputy Chair and Board Director 2022 on the Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools (MACS) Education Strategy & Policy Board. She brings proven experience and performance as Principal of Loreto College, membership of the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA) with responsibility for this Music VCE subject across Australia and prior experience as a member of the Mary Ward International Australia Grants Committee and Chair & Director Mary Ward International Australia. Susan's passion for quality education, dedication to Catholic education and familiarity with Victorian Regulatory Requirements will be an asset.

Mark Anderson (VIC)

Mark brings to the role over 20 years' experience in non-executive director positions in the government, for profit and non-for-profit sectors with strong experience in the finance and audit areas. Mark is currently serving as a Board Director across education, aged care, leisure entities and as a member of the outgoing EREA Board represents the continuity necessary during this period of transition. Mark is strongly imbued with the charisma of Edmund Rice and has deep knowledge of the 55 EREA schools around Australia.

The Trustees have requested that an additional Board member with a broader Catholic education experience be appointed in the near future. The process has involved an external search by the Recruitment Firm, Sheldon Harris and the process of appointment of prospective Directors was led lyla Davies as Chair supported by an external Nominations Committee according to clear and published criteria.

The Trustees are grateful for the commitment of the incoming Board and look forward to working together for the mission of Catholic education in the Edmund Rice tradition.

Every Blessing



Ms Philomena (Phil) Billington: President - Edmund Rice Education Australia

On behalf of the Trustees

David White

Peter Turner

Beth Gilligan

Peter Hamill