



# APPLECROSS PRIMARY INDEPENDENT PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD

## Applecross Primary School Board

We have an official role as an Independent Public School Board, as defined by the Department of Education, and this revolves around: reviewing school performance; developing and reviewing the school Business Plan; reviewing and approving school budgets and charges; and establishing and reviewing the school's objectives, priorities and general policy directions. In addition to this official role, we agree that we will be ambassadors and advocates for the school; develop a culture of service; support our staff; and be available to other parents.

## 2017 School Board Member Profiles

### School Board Chair

#### Mrs Sanchia Dashlooty



My family has been part of the Applecross Primary School community from early 2014, when our eldest son commenced Pre Primary. Since that time I have thoroughly enjoyed getting involved in this community, meeting other families from the area, learning about the school and watching as my children have developed and grown.

During this time I have been a Class Rep for four years, am active on the School's P&C as a Parent Rep on the Executive and have been a Board member since 2016. In addition to my voluntary commitments, I also work as an Educational Psychologist on a part time basis, specialising in learning and behaviour assessments. I have found being a member of the Board to be incredibly rewarding; allowing me to bring together my experience in child development and education with my passion for our particular school community and I look forward to continuing this experience as Chair of the Board.

## Staff Representatives

### Mr Kim Guelfi, Mrs Rebecca Lewis and Miss Leniette Zalsman



Staff members on the Board bring their experience and insight into the core business of delivering quality education to our children.

We have our Principal, **Mr Kim Guelfi**; Year 6 classroom teacher, **Mrs Rebecca Lewis** (who also has two boys at the school) and Year 1 classroom teacher **Miss Leniette Zalsman**.

## Parent Representatives

We have ten Parent Representatives on our Board this year. These parents have children across the year groups.

The School Board Parent Representative Members for 2017 are:

**Mr Ian Christie, Mrs Emma Dannemiller, Dr Charl du Plessis, Mr Andrew Ellerton, Dr Richard Gardner, Ms Sherelle Howitt, Mr Ryan Keys, Mr Enda O'Sullivan, Mr Vikas Sehgal and Dr David Wong.**



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## Mr Ian Christie

My son Max started at Applecross Primary in Year 2 when we moved across from Brisbane. Max is now in Year 6. Applecross Primary School has been outstanding for his development. It is a charming, friendly, vibrant, inclusive school. My primary aim as a Parent Representative on the School Board is to contribute where I can to maintain the existing culture of the school and share the load with a group of like-minded parents.



## Mrs Emma Dannemiller

I joined the Board to make a contribution to the school and share some of my skills. Up until quite recently I was working for an international engineering and construction company as a project manager and quality manager in Perth after arriving here following completion of an assignment in British Columbia. We liked it so much in WA that we decided to stay and I quit work to be a stay-at-home parent. I've made some great friends here and enjoy community activities and putting down roots in Applecross and Perth. I've been a member of the Applecross Primary School Board for over three years now and I am also a member of the

Waylen Bay Sea Scouts, Melville Rotary, the research committee for Low Carbon Schools and a member of *Living Smart*. I co-founded *Transition Town Melville* which is a community organisation aiming to nurture more resilient communities. I also commenced the *Ratna's Garden Urban Farm Project*, a community garden in Ardross and a supporter of the *Grand Marri Plant Out* project. It's great to be able to have the time to see everything our school, Applecross and Melville get up to and all the amazing people who devote their time to building our community. I think my involvement in these organisations and activities enable me to bring a broader perspective to the school.



## Dr Charl du Plessis

I am a father of three children who have all attended Applecross Primary. Our youngest is now in Year 5 and I have a great interest in the ongoing success, growth and development of our school as an Independent Primary School. I am a medical doctor with twenty years of experience in various aspects of the medical industry. Although I qualified in South Africa, I have worked in a number of African countries as well as a number of small towns in the Australian outback, equipping me with an appreciation for diversity and the importance of a strong, active community. I am an active father and spend many weekends next to the sports fields watching my daughters and supporting my wife who has an active role in coaching throughout the year.



## Mr Andrew Ellerton

I'm a software engineer and team leader. After ten years abroad, my wife and I returned to Perth just as our eldest daughter was about to start Pre Primary at Applecross Primary School in 2013.

Coming home after an extended period of time away was great but change is always a challenge. Applecross Primary School gave us a familiar, grounded centre and, in effect, helped welcome us back to Perth. We were so thankful to have a school of such a calibre and warmth on our doorstep. I've been on the Board since 2014.



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## Dr Richard Gardner

I have been a parent at Applecross Primary for seven years now with two children, Matthew and Emma, at the school. My wife has been involved with the P&C for a number of years and I have seen much of the behind the scenes work that helps make the school tick. I felt that it was time to officially be part of it rather than being a semi-active spectator manning barbecues on occasion. I am also a medical practitioner having worked in the field for over 20 years. A significant proportion of my work is paediatrics and I also have a particular interest in teaching and technology, having set up a number of courses for Australian and New Zealand universities.

I travel to the central desert a few times a year to provide a service to the remote indigenous communities. I have coached my son's Auskick teams and have even played in a few bands over the years. I enjoy being involved in such a committed group of parents, teachers and staff under the guidance of our Chair Sanchia Dashlooty and Kim Guelfi, our Principal.



## Ms Sherelle Howitt

My daughter Paige joined Applecross Primary School in Kindy in 2016. When the opportunity to join the School Board became available, this was perfect timing to understand the school's direction and vision. It has given me the opportunity to understand and contribute to the school business and development plan that will impact my daughter through her primary school years. My background is in Health and Safety Management. I enjoy keeping fit through cycling and running. It is an exciting opportunity to be part of a team that can make a positive contribution to our children's education and development.



## Mr Ryan Keys

I have lived in Applecross for more than seven years and been part of the school community for over three years with my oldest child now in Year 2. I have enjoyed seeing the development of the school in this short time in relation to the changes being introduced to the teaching program but also the extracurricular activities and school facilities. I have another child due to start Kindergarten next year and I'm looking forward to being part of the school for many years to come. I have particularly enjoyed seeing the focus on development of the students as well-rounded people with a range of experiences and skills. In my professional life I work in the property and planning industry within government. This work has given me greater insight into what is happening in Perth generally in terms of economic and population changes and how the city is adapting to these challenges. Being a parent of children in the lower school I look to compliment the mix of the Board members and ensure there is a balance of perspectives.



## Mr Enda O'Sullivan

I joined the Board in January 2015, I am sure some of you may know my wife Elaine. We are very lucky that all of our kids have attended Applecross Primary; our oldest boys, Shay and Roan, have moved to the High School while our youngest two, Aran and Neve, are still at Applecross Primary. You've probably guessed that I'm originally Irish, but I left over 25 years ago, with sojourns in Canada, Scotland and Texas before settling in Perth in 2006. My professional background is focused in private enterprise, evolving along the route of project engineering, project management, operational management, business development and business management. I am an active volunteer in the community; and we are family members of Applecross Junior Football Club and Applecross Tennis Club.





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## Mr Vikas Sehgal

We moved from sunny Brisbane at the start of 2014 and fell in love with the Applecross suburb. Since then, we have enjoyed Applecross as a vibrant, safe, classy and global community. We are working parents and love the spirit and values that run at the heart of this Community. We enjoy opportunities to contribute back to this vibrant school community through safe and active participation via school projects and community fundraising events that further enrich our school community.

We are proud parents of Jeeya (now in the High School) and Anay who is in Year 1. I joined the Board at the start of last year. It is certainly a job I love outside of my role as National Supply Chain Manager, Hitachi Group; and pursuing my accountancy studies. It is an honour to contribute to the Board achievements and to be able to define/shape longer term goals to consistently maintain Applecross Primary School as the 'Best in the West'. I strongly believe that the Applecross vision is as good as it is owned and implemented by its Board. A harmonious and strong school Board that values balance and diversity is an asset to the School.



## Dr David Wong

I am the father of three children, all of whom have attended or currently attend Applecross Primary School. My eldest son, Declan, graduated from Year 6 in 2015 and currently attends Applecross Senior High School. Ronan, my second son, is currently in Year 6, and Evan, our youngest, is in Year 4. Prior to joining academia, I worked in a variety of jobs that ranged from being a kitchen-hand during my student days, to working as an engineering consultant, market analyst, business advisor, company director and the owner of restaurants and a barbershop. However, my main occupational passion is in academia where I have spent the last 18 years working in the higher education sector.

My recent appointments have included the position of Director of Teaching and Learning at Curtin Business School, where I lead initiatives relating to online teaching delivery, curriculum design, and accreditation. I have a passion for educating and shaping our children's academic future. I hope to assist the Board using my knowledge of pedagogy and my research oriented mindset.

