LEA Executive Director travel
LEA Executive Director, Stephen Rudolph, is presently in Grand Rapids, Michigan, to attend and present (in conjunction with Shane Jurecky, Principal of Good Shepherd College, Hamilton Vic) at the LEA USA Convocation. He will be back in the LEA office week commencing 24 October 2016.

LEA National Ministry Conferences 2017
LEQ 14-15 February 2017 | LSA 23-24 February 2017 | LEVNT 04-05 May 2017
Theme: Relationships, Relationships, Relationships
Relationships are crucial to the mission and ministry of Lutheran education. Relationships are difficult to develop if we don't understand each other. Mark McCrindle (pictured right top) will help us gain a deeper insight of youth culture. Dean Eaton (pictured right bottom) will help us understand what it means to be on mission with God in this current cultural setting. This will then lead in to a discussion on why and how we worship in the current climate.

The conference is for early childhood service directors, school principals, school pastors, chaplains, pastors of congregations (connected to an ECS and/or school) and all those involved in Lutheran education ministry. If you are unable to attend the conference in your region, you are encouraged to attend the conference in another region.

To minimise cost and maximise attendance the conference is being held in each of the three regions. Further details, venues, cost and registration information will be forwarded in due course.

LEA Director of Formation
[Anne Dohnt]

Australians Together Teacher Curriculum Awareness and Engagement Survey
Australians Together is conducting a national survey of teachers to determine their level of awareness and engagement in the ACARA Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander content and AITSL standards 1.4 and 2.4. The overall goal of the research is to determine teacher needs and find ways to better support them in these important areas.

We have met with Australians Together and endorse their vision. This is important work. The McCrindle research group has been engaged to manage a short anonymous survey. We would very much appreciate the participation of your teaching staff across each year level of your school. Should you be happy to participate could you circulate the following link to the appropriate staff:

http://mccrindle.asia.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_5ulwkXJcNB8YherX. The closing date is 21 October 2016.

Australians Together is a Christian NGO dedicated to seeing better relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians. Their website is www.australianstogether.org.au and Dr Susan Starling is the new Head of Education and project manager for this survey. Please contact Sue (sue@australianstogether.org.au) if you have questions regarding the survey.

Please note: Australians Together is a national organisation and has chosen the word Indigenous to describe Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. We fully respect that different terms may be preferred by different cultural groups across Australia and suggest that local schools ask their local Indigenous community about their preferred term.
The BLEA has approved a 3% increase in the LEA national office levy for 2017. This increase will cover the additional costs involved in the continued GCC/LEA governance and administration review in 2017 together with Growing deep resources to support principals and schools in the development of school improvement plans and other applications. Due to significant increases in claims on the Transfer Fund there will be an increase of $3.00 per student. There will be no increase in the Sick Leave Emergency Fund and a small decrease in the Safe School Liability Fund. In 2017 levies will be:

- National Office: $38.40
- Safe School Liability Fund: $0.20
- Sick Leave Emergency Fund: $2.50
- Transfer Fund: $5.00

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The PAIge [Newsletter of Principals Australia Institute]

[7 October 2016]

This issue includes articles on:

- John Laing Awards for professional development 2016
- KidsMatter Primary and MindMatters
- Strengthening pastoral care through KidsMatter
- Professional learning events

Read the latest edition of PAIge

ACARA Update

[30 September 2016]

Read the latest edition of ACARA Update for information on:

- NAPLAN online
- NAP – Civics and Citizenship sample assessment
- Why Finland is not a blueprint for Australian education
- Australian Curriculum – ACARA seeking your feedback

Read the full details

NAPLAN online

[29 September 2016]

ACARA and its partners have undertaken trialling in preparation for the move to NAPLAN online. The results have indicated that NAPLAN Online is on track to be implemented from next year and deliver better assessment, more precise results and a faster turnaround of information to those schools going online.

'We are leaving nothing to chance to ensure we are ready to begin the move to NAPLAN online from next year,’ says ACARA CEO, Robert Randall, ‘this is why significant planning, development, research and trialling are going on to make sure we are all ready to move online’.

Initial results from the trials and studies undertaken this year have been mostly positive. The platform trial and readiness test (PTRT) confirmed that the majority of schools have sufficient capacity to access the platform and administer the online assessment. As expected, a number of technical issues were identified, largely relating to the locked-down browser, local filtering and proxy settings, and wireless access and connectivity issues. Jurisdictions will undertake further analysis to ensure readiness of schools in the lead-up to May 2017.

Read further information about the trials and studies including the platform trial and readiness test (PTRT)