

AITSL Board Meeting Report

8 May 2024

The meeting was attended by Board Directors:

- Dr Michele Bruniges (Chair)
- Mr Chris Wardlaw (Deputy Chair)
- Mr Andy Mison
- Ms Beth Blackwood
- Professor Donna Pendergast
- Dr Jennifer Buckingham
- Professor Lee Anne Perry
- Ms Renez Lammon.

Summary

Strategic Matters

CEO Report

The Board receives a report from the AITSL Chief Executive Officer (CEO) at each meeting with key updates on the delivery of AITSL's continuing work program, including corporate matters, people and culture matters, policy and program highlights, fee-for-service and international projects, and stakeholder engagement activities.

The Board discussed several key issues raised in the report that are priorities in the current education environment including the Indigenous Cultural Responsiveness Initiative, the Initial Teacher Education (ITE) Quality Assurance Board, and professional experience.

Highly Accomplished and Lead teachers (HALTs)

AITSL hosted the 2024 HALT Summit on Thursday 9 and Friday 10 May. The Summit gathers HALTs, certifying authorities, educational sector leaders, and the AITSL Board for networking and learning, celebrating HALT achievements, advocating the benefits of certification, and fostering the growth of national teacher certification.

The Summit was attended by the AITSL Board and over 290 guests in person and 168 HALTs, aspiring HALTs and school leaders online.

At the Board meeting preceding the Summit, the Board discussed the importance of HALT certification and the impact of HALTs in schools and on student learning outcomes.

The Board had a robust discussion on:

- the barriers and challenges for increasing HALT certification
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- the current operational and political environment
- the benefits of the HALT Summit, including providing professional learning opportunities, encouraging aspiring HALTs, and demonstrating the impact of HALTs
- different format options for the HALT Summit and other professional development conferences
- ongoing funding models to support the HALT Summit.

Shortened Initial Teacher Education Programs

The Board considered AITSL's policy position regarding faster and more innovative ITE pathways for consideration by the Education Ministers Meeting (EMM).

The Board had a robust discussion on the following core issues:

- volume of learning versus course duration
- compressing timeframes versus condensing content
- how to revise the *Accreditation of initial teacher education programs in Australia: Standards and Procedures* to allow flexibility in developing shortened ITE programs without compromising on quality
- credential requirements for the different pathways to teaching.

Performance Measures Review

AITSL reviews and revises its performance measures for inclusion in the Corporate Plan annually. Metrics against each performance measure are reported publicly in the AITSL Annual Report.

The AITSL Board, via its Risk, Audit and Finance Committee, ensures that the company's:

- performance measures are compliant with relevant Commonwealth Performance Framework legislation and associated guidance
- performance measures are fit for purpose in accordance with the application of Section 16E of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Rule 2014*
- performance reporting is supported by appropriate systems, processes, and assurances to accurately report results.

The Board considered the proposed key activities, performance measures, and targets for AITSL and made recommendations to better address AITSL's areas of impact.

Expert Standing Committee Review

The Board has established two expert standing committees under Rule 5.3 of the AITSL Constitution:

- Teacher Education Expert Standing Committee (TEESC)
- School Leadership and Teaching Expert Standing Committee (SLTESC).

In line with the committees' Terms of Reference, the Board conducted a governance review to assess the efficacy of TEESC and SLTESC against their intended purpose and functions.

The Board made recommendations for amendments to the Terms of Reference, including terms of appointment and membership composition, to be finalised out of session.

Standing Reports

Risk, Audit and Finance Committee

Under Rule 18.4 of the AITSL Constitution, the Board must establish and maintain an audit committee in accordance with the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2009*.

As outlined in the Committee Charter, the Chair shall report to the Board after each meeting.

The Board received the report from the Committee meeting held 23 April 2024 and:

- **noted** the report on the outcomes of the meeting
- **approved** the financial performance review as of 31 March 2024
- **noted** the update on strategic risks
- **noted** the minutes from Meeting 1 held 20 February 2024.

Communications

At each meeting, the Board receives a report with key insights from AITSL communications activities. The report includes an overview of current campaigns and promotions, digital marketing activities, website analytics, and key media mentions.

The Board **noted** the report.

Expert Standing Committee Reports

In compliance with the AITSL Constitution and the committees' Terms of Reference, a report on the agreed outcomes and actions of each committee meeting must be provided to the Board.

The Board **noted** the outcomes from:

- TEESC Meeting 27, held 27 March 2024
- SLTESC Meeting 16, held 19 March 2024.

The AITSL Board next meets on 25 June 2024.
