Discipline Audit

Executive Summary – Tannum Sands SS

Date of Audit: 11 June 2014

Background:
Tannum Sands SS is a provincial school located 25 kilometres south of Gladstone in Central Queensland education region. The school has a current enrolment of 786 students from Prep – Year 7. The Principal, Leanne Ibell, was appointed to the school in 2011.

Commendations:
• The Principal and other school leaders have established a safe, supportive, positive and disciplined learning environment that is strongly supported by staff members, students and parents.
• The school has established the Tannum Wave consisting of four rules, Be Safe, Be Friendly, Be Responsible, Be Respectful, that culminate in I am an Active Learner. These rules are highly visible throughout the school, known by staff members, students and parents, and form the basis for all behaviour conversations.
• The school is to be commended for the innovative use of Facebook and the Schoolbag app to reinforce the Rule of the Week with families, many of whom are shift workers and may not engage with other forms of school communication. Data indicates that this is a highly effective communication strategy.
• Parents, staff members and students identify that the school has a safe and friendly environment where learning takes place.
• The school’s focus on the establishment of a positive learning engagement is evident through differentiated classroom learning, high expectations of student behaviour and explicit teaching.

Affirmations:
• The school communicates information to parents in regards to students’ transition to Junior Secondary at the local high school through the established digital pathways. Staff members from the primary and high school are beginning to collaborate on curriculum and pedagogical reforms.
• Staff members are routinely entering both positive and inappropriate incidents of behaviour in OneSchool. Positive records outweigh the inappropriate by four to one.
• The Principal and Leadership Team monitor the full range of attendance, behaviour and academic data and take timely action if there is a pattern emerging.
• Attendance has been a major focus for school leaders, where teaching staff routinely monitor the class dashboard and positively encourage students that every day is a learning day.
• The school provides regular professional learning opportunities in behaviour management for all staff members to maintain consistency of practice. The school has a number of trained and Advanced Classroom Profilers that provide teaching staff with feedback on their classroom micro skills.

Recommendations:
• Maintain the explicit teaching of the school rules on assembly followed by class lessons, while also communicating the weekly rule to families through a variety of ways.
• Continue to use the full range of school data to monitor student growth and take action as required.
• Embed the agreed consistent instructional routines in all classrooms with a view to build on learning across the years of schooling.
• Maintain the ongoing timetabled range of professional learning for all staff members in agreed behaviour practices to maintain consistency of language, processes and individual staff member confidence in meeting the agreed protocols.