



Annual Report 2007

SYDNEY BOYS HIGH SCHOOL

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Principal's Message

Sydney Boys High School provides equal opportunity for gifted boys to achieve excellence in academic, cultural, sporting, civic, leadership and social endeavours, in an environment conducive to learning, teaching and friendship. Since 1883, its pursuit of all round high achievement, its focus on tertiary preparation and its diversity in student initiatives and outcomes, have characterised its culture.

High is uniquely placed as the only state school in the Athletic Association of the Great Public Schools (1906) and as a founding member of the Combined High Schools Sports Association (1913). Entry to High is via a DET set test for Year 7 and by way of a local selection process for Years 8-12.

Partnerships among staff, students, parents, old boys and supporters of High, are indispensable in the operation of the school. They include:

- The Sydney Boys High School Council
- The P & C Association and its sub-committees
- The Sydney High School Foundation Inc.
- The Sydney High Old Boys Union Inc.
- The High Club Inc.
- The Sydney High School Sailing Association Inc

We value our relationships with: the University of Technology, Sydney; Centennial Parklands; Southern Aurora Sailing; Tennis Wise Tennis School; Lifeline Sydney; the Sydney Swans; Woollahra Sailing Club; The Australian Children's Television Foundation and Pro Action Cricket.

I certify that information in this report is the result of a self-evaluation process and is a balanced account of the school's achievements and areas for development.

Dr K A Jaggar



McKay No1 Oval

Our Achievements

Academic Competitions

Anthony Morris returned from Vietnam and the International Mathematics Olympiad with a bronze medal – a very impressive effort.

In the 2007 National Geographic Channel Australian Geography Competition, Anthony Morris (Year 12) was again outstanding, taking out first in NSW and Australia in the senior division with a perfect score. John Wormell (Year 9) was first in Australia at the junior level and equal sixth in NSW at the intermediate level. Ashwin Rudder (Year 8) scored equal sixth in Australia in the junior division. Maxwell Phillis (Year 9) came equal ninth in Australia at the intermediate level. High won the school prize for NSW and was ranked first in Australia in the competition.

Albert Ng (Year 12) was selected as a scholar in the Chemistry Training Program for the Australian



Science Olympiads and consequently was awarded a bronze medal.

Yujin Wu (Year 7) achieved the highest score in NSW for his Year level in the International Competitions and Assessments for Schools – Science.

Will Randles (Year 7) was awarded a ‘highly commended’ for his entry in the 2007 Sydney Writers Festival *Writenow!* Competition. He was subsequently invited by DET to join a student panel of young writers at an event for school children in the North Sydney Region.

Jamian Vuong (Year 7) won a gold medal in the ICAS Computer Skills competition which is an exceptional result given the competition paper was targeted and set at a Year 8 level.

Liam Aylmer (Year 9) achieved a perfect score in the ACER German Listening Test. In the state finals of the Classical Greek and Latin Reading Competitions, Christian Katsikaros placed second in both, while Julian Byrnes received a Certificate of Commendation in Greek.

Our Chinese language students gained the highest number of High Distinctions of any participating school in the 2007 Chinese Certificate 2 tests, for the Assessment of Language Competence program conducted by ACER. Gareth Chan, James Han, Andy Liu (Year 9) and Charley Liu (Year 10) all managed perfect scores in Listening and Reading at the ACER tests for Chinese Certificate 2.

Over 3000 candidates participated in the 2007 National Chinese Eisteddfod. Henry Lu finished in 2nd place and Tian-Yu in 3rd place in the 13-15 year individual competition. In the 16-18 year individual competition, Jeffrey Xie achieved 3rd place. Jeffrey has won four prizes over the last five years. In the 13-15 year group competition 14 High Boys from Year 9 Chinese (Community class) won 3rd prize.

Justin Zuo was successful at the 2007 Australian Science Olympiads National Qualifying Examination, sat by 3000 students and was subsequently invited to become an Australian Science Olympiad Scholar and to attend the residential training program.

Ben Wilcox (7S) achieved equal second overall in Year 7 in the Australian Secondary Schools Educational Talent Search (ASSETS) conducted by GERRIC and achieved an outstanding result in English. Ben was honoured at an award ceremony in January at UNSW.

Yiming Deng and Tom Sun (Year 11) were invited to the Fortieth ANU/AAMT National Mathematics Summer School held at ANU in January – a high honour.

Zid Mancenido and Edwin Montoya-Zorrilla (Year 11) were runners-up in the UNYA-NSW competition. They qualified for the national final in Adelaide held in December.

Chess

Our Junior Chess Team retained the Junior Chess League State Championship for 2007. Our Junior A and B, Intermediate A and Senior Chess teams were successful and reached the Regional finals. Our GPS Chess team of 8 at the GPS competition hosted by High, retained the trophy won at the inaugural contest last year. High also won both the Open and Junior Divisions of the Scots College Invitational Chess Tournament. High sent a team to the Australian Junior Chess Championship. This was a first for any school supported team – a great experience for the boys!

Debating

High Debating continued its strong performance overall, with the skills lectures initiative appreciated by developing teams. Lucian Tan, Dominic Bowes and Zid Mancenido with Edwin Montoya-Zorrilla as 4th speaker won the state Karl Cramp debating competition.

Congratulations must also go to our Hume Barbour debating team (Blaise Prentice-Davidson, Anthony Morris, Michael Coutts and Kelvin Yu). The boys were narrowly defeated in the state final by Smiths Hill High. As a consolation, the Sydney Region Trophy is back in our hands after an absence of three years at SGHS.

We successfully defended our Junior and Intermediate titles at the UNSW Invitation Debating tournament. Our teams were **Junior** – Samir Kinger, Ashwin Rudder, Nikhil Autur, Michael Tickner – **Intermediate** – Julian Byrnes, Stephen Garofano, Louis Appleton and Anton Jurisevic.

Ashwin Rudder (Year 8) was awarded Best Speaker in the UTS Brennan Cup, among over 130 speakers.

Public Speaking

Public Speaking at Sydney Boys High School continues to grow and attract new students. In 2007 students involved in this activity had the opportunity to develop their skills through attending coaching sessions at school and representing High in various State and GPS competitions.

Highlights of the year include Kelvin Yu in Year 12 who continued his success in the Sydney Morning Herald Plain English Speaking Award, reaching the State semi-final. Kelvin also successfully represented High at the prestigious Lawrence Campbell Award. In addition, Cameron Morrison in Year 8 reached the Regional Final of the Legacy Public Speaking Award. This is a competition open to the entire state and requires students to present prepared as well as impromptu speeches.

Dominic Bowes (Year 11) was chosen to deliver an address during the holidays to a Secondary Principals conference on 15-19 Year Olds entitled: *Inspire, Prepare, Achieve*. Only four school speakers of great skill and confidence were chosen to perform for this large gathering of educators.

The Arts

Thomas Hurrell 'Question of a Clone' and Alex Shapilsky 'Nose Job' both had their works selected for exhibition at ARTEXPRESS – a significant achievement. Ashwin Thomas had art work nominated for inclusion in the annual selection process for the exhibitions in 2008 of ARTEXPRESS. Tom Castleton (Year 12) had two of his pictures hung at the Mosman Youth Art Exhibition.

Music

James Mackay and Muhamed Mehmedbasic were selected to play at ENCORE – another high honour for the school. Zhi Zu (Year 11) was nominated. Jason Kok (Year 12) was selected in the NSW Public Schools Symphonic Wind ensemble.

Lachlan Deacon, Chapman Siu (Year 12), Matthew Wong (Year 11) and Dominic Wong (Year 10) were selected in the NSW Regional Concert Band to perform at the Opera House in July. Ben Wilcox (Year 7) was awarded a certificate for his contribution to the Sydney Region Band.

Our Marching Band in the Anzac Day March in the CBD was the biggest and best we have sent to the march. Our 'Diminished 5ths' ensemble played impressively to win the Jazz Band Competition. In the Macarthur Piano Eisteddfod, Alexander Belokopytov won the Intermediate Championship Division, Baroque U16 and Open U16. Jeremy Ireland won the Open Romantic Division.

Volleyball

High won the NSW CHS Knockout for the third consecutive year. Oliver Konakoff and Victor Nguyen (Year 12) were selected to represent NSW in the Trans Tasman series and Oliver was selected in the Australian team. At the Australian Schools

Volleyball Cup held in Melbourne, High Achieved its highest National ranking of seventh.

Basketball

Our 1st grade had a convincing win 77-64 against Smiths Hill High in the CHS Knockout. They also defeated Tamworth High 81-45 to win a place in the last eight in the state in the knockout competition in which we ultimately placed third. This result is the best ever for High in basketball, particularly since the establishment of dedicated sports high schools around the state. The success of the team is a tribute to the great basketball administration and development of recent years, led by Ben Hayman and the passionate coaching by his brother Alex this year.

Our 15 years basketball team won the Sydney East Regional knockout competition. They also placed a gallant second to Westfield's Sports High at the final of the CHS Knockout Championships.

Athletics

Harrison Lane, Jeremy Ireland, Edwin Montoya-Zorrilla, Michael Denny-Smith, Matthew Ling, Nathan McDonnell, Ty Linegar, Tom Castleton, Roshan Karunaratne, Eugene Stadnik, Pasan Pannila and Samuel Lane were all successful in their respective events at the Sydney East Regional Cross Country Carnival, making it through to the state CHS Cross Country carnival. Samuel Lane finished 13th in his event.

Josh Tassell won the 15s 100m and 200m at the Sydney East Regional Athletics Carnival. Dinghua Xiao matched him with two firsts in the 16 years shot put and discus. Dakshika Gunaratne won the 17 years 110m hurdles and was 2nd in the long jump. The 16s also won the 4 x 100 relay. Michael Denny-Smith was placed in four 16 years events. In all, 16 performances qualified for the CHS Carnival.

We had excellent results at the NSW CHS Athletics: Dinghua Xiao broke the school discus record with a 42.08m throw for a silver medal and won another in shot put with 14.23m (both in 16 years events). Harrison Lane ran 9.36.14 for silver in the 15s 3000m while Michael Denny-Smith posted a smart 58.54 for the 17+ 400m hurdles. Dakshika Gunaratne showed his consistency as an athlete with a bronze medal in the 17+ 110m hurdles. At the prestigious All-Schools State Carnival Michael Denny-Smith won the 400m hurdles. Dinghua Xiao was third in the shot put.

Cricket

Matthew Fetherston and Dakshika Gunaratne (Year 12) were selected for the Combined AAGPS

cricket XI. The Year 9 side retained the Barberis Cup in the annual competition against Melbourne High. The resurgence of High cricket can be shown by High having the largest number of teams in the competition.

Sailing

Phillip Kurts won the state 4.7 Laser championships in February, 2007. In the Tri-Series Sailing Phillip Kurts (Year 10) won the 4.7 Laser again, proving his skill and consistency in this class. Muhamed Mehmedbasic (Year 11) improved in full rig Lasers over the regattas to take out third. Nikita Slinko and Ashwin Rudder retained the Coal Board Trophy in Pacers at the CHS Championships at Belmont in April. David Toh and Phil Wu were second and Tadeusz Davenport and Alex Saunders third. In his first year in full rig Lasers, Muhammed Mehmedbasic sailed well for 4th. High competitors finished in the top ten in Laser radials and 29ers. Adam South has increased the skill level of our sailors this year. They are competitive.

Rowing

Ty Linegar and Andrew Pham (Year 12) were both awarded a Sydney East Blue for Rowing. At the CHS Championships held in April, Ty Linegar was awarded the Reg Galvin Award for the best male competitor. High wins at the CHS Championships included: the Championship Mens Eight (Hurrell, Kim, Kelly, Linegar, Pham, Komarov, O'Keefe, Vien, c: Huang); the Mens Quad Scull (O'Keefe, Kelly, Linegar, Pham); the Mens Coxed Four (Joo, Lee, Palau, Mackay, c.Desmond); the U17 Quad Scull (Harvey, Ling, Ridges, Reid); and the U15 Quad Scull (Petrie, Fang, Connell, Chen).

Fencing

In the NSW Fencing League season, Yu Lin won a gold medal for individual performance in the Senior A Division, with Shaun Pak earning a bronze. In the Minis, Ian Ho was awarded a gold medal.

Tennis

Matt King was selected as the No. 1 player for Combined GPS Seconds. The CHS Stan Jones tennis team of John Gaunt, Matt King, Mitchell Kelly, Ivan Cerecina and Michael Prior had the closest of wins against Endeavour Sports High in the Regional Knockout, with a nail biting 9-7 in the super tie break. They qualified to go to Albury for the National Schools Competition.

Rifle Shooting

Our Rifle Shooting team won the Prorak Trophy, achieved 4th place in the All Schools Shoot in July and placed 5th in the GPS Shoot at Hornsby.

Cadets

Johan Santoso (Year 10) was named a Student of Merit in the Radio Operators Course at the Cadet Camp held in July. He has exhibited strong leadership qualities and proficiency.

Football

Joshua Weight (Year 12) and Lachlan Street (Year 11) were selected in the combined GPS 1st XI football team. Daniel Campion (Year 11), Aaron Shuttleworth and Gehan Karunaratne (Year 12) were selected in the combined GPS 2nd XI. Nicholas Dimitropoulos (Year 10) went to Shandong, China to participate in the Luneng Cup as a member of the Australian Elite Soccer Football Academy squad.

Community Service

Our Year 12 Youth Off the Streets collectors collected \$11,435 in a single day – a great contribution!

Skiing

The skiing team spent a week of the holidays at Jindabyne and Thredbo, competing in a variety of ski and snowboard events at the NSW Interschools Snowsports Championships. A couple of the team produced outstanding results in their events.

Recent Old Boy Achievements

In our best representation in the UNSW Co-op Program for years, Sriram Jeyaraman and Bill Sun [Actuarial Studies], Richard Yang [Accounting] and Aditya Keswani [Computer Science] were awarded scholarships. Our 2006 students Vinh Pham (University of Sydney Outstanding Achievement Scholarship) and Long Chen (University of Sydney Entry Scholarship) were recognised in a Scholarships Ceremony in May 2007.

Nikita Balashov and Russell Rahman (Class of 2006) both received UTS Co-op Scholarships. Late mentions for 2006 HSC state results: David Cao – 2nd in Chinese Continuers and 4th in extension, Henry Liu – 3rd in Chinese Continuers and 3rd in Chinese extension, and Francis Wong 5th in extension. Lewis d'Avigdor (2006) was awarded a Certificate for History Extension. Brothers Simon and Danny Ho are both University Medallists (University of Sydney) for Science (2003) and Dental Surgery (2004) respectively.



Our Programs

Sport

The delivery of Sport continues to evolve to meet the complex needs of participation responsibilities in both the GPS and CHS sports competitions. Participation rates continue to improve, most notably in Basketball and Cricket, and additional coaching staff have been employed to support the extra teams.

A further innovation has been the introduction of the ACPE Practicum Model where 2nd Year ACPE students have joined the Wednesday and Thursday sports programs as Tutors/Instructors, delivering expertise by up-skilling both SBHS Staff and students. This model will continue to develop in coming years.

High's main sporting facility, McKay Oval is now fully operational again with the new cricket square providing pitches of superior quality for competition. The new basketball courts on the Flat are proving popular as additional competition space, as well as receiving recreational usage by students on a regular basis. The SBHS cricket nets are in full operation and we are investigating the possibility of lighting the facility to increase useability.

The availability of external sporting venues to support Cricket needs continues to cause concern as does the general escalation of costs for all sporting programs.

Student Awards Scheme

There was a slight decline in participation in the Awards Scheme in 2007 and it is clear from the accompanying table that the scheme needs to be promoted more actively to Year 7 students on more than one occasion during the year. There has been some fine-tuning of qualifications for awards and more stringent recording of individual participation. In 2008 wider use will be made of electronic methods for recording qualifying activities for the awards. The Regional Director's Award was introduced in 2005 to acknowledge that some outstanding boys achieve considerably more than the requirements for the trophy award. In 2007 this award was made to four students.

Student Awards Scheme						
Year	Bronze	Silver	Gold	Platinum	Plaque	Trophy
2003	104	109	81	36	5	12
2004	139	100	84	59	28	3
2005	63	88	79	51	43	22
2006	113	68	74	83	41	38
2007	67	95	66	65	64	28

Occupational Health and Safety

The aim of the O H & S Committee is to try to provide a happy, healthy and safe environment for all the Sydney High Community. In 2007 several initiatives were introduced and programmes and policies updated and improved. These included:

- The completion and trial of a new Lockdown and Lockout Policy
- The intensive training of SASS staff in providing asthma care for our students
- A new panel in the door to the main office to improve safety when entering and exiting
- Additional surveillance cameras in key areas around the school
- The purchase and installation of more signs to improve car parking and movement in and out of the school
- The establishment of a new information sheet for casual staff which provides information regarding safety procedures within the school
- Removal of dangerous trees by Active Tree Services under our tendered tree management programme. An extensive tree pruning operation occurred in January 2007.
- Free flu injections were provided for over forty members of staff
- A review and rectification of problems with the bells around the school was undertaken.

After continued pressure by the Committee we have been promised by Asset Management that work will begin in 2008 to stabilise and repair cracks in the main building and rectify problems that lead to flooding of the Industrial Arts Staffroom during periods of heavy rain.

Student Performance

HSC High Achievers

On the all rounders list we had a reduced representation of 24 (down from 31 in 2006), despite 29 students earning UAI's of 99 or higher.

Congratulations to all our students who were placed on the HSC All-round Achievers List for achieving the highest band in courses totalling 10 or more units: Michael Chen, Edward Deng, Moussa Farhat, Reuben George, Tzu-Yun Hsiao, Tengzhou Hu, Sriram Jeyaraman, Frank Jin, Aditya Keswani, Christopher Lopes, John Luu, Anthony Morris, Rommo Pandit, Anthony Park, Ji-Kwang Park, Raymond Roca, Samuel Sathiakumar, Michael Shen, Ravi Somanchi, Eugene Stadnik, Anthony Wan, Iain Wang, Louis Yang and Kelvin Yu.

Outstanding individual HSC performances included: Anthony Morris - first in mathematics extension 1 with Trong Nguyen 3rd; in mathematics extension 2, Trong was 2nd and Anthony 4th; Blaise Prentice-Davidson came first in distinction–philosophy with Louis Yang 3rd; John Luu was 3rd in chemistry, Jeffrey Xie 3rd in Chinese continuers and 4th in Chinese extension, James Mackay 5th in music 2 extension and Aditya Keswani 8th in engineering studies.

HSC Results Analysis

We had 208 students sitting the HSC and for the first time since the new HSC began, we had a negative band 6 growth at 512, or 8 fewer than 2006. Despite this top end weakness the average UAI for 208 students was 92.27, above our long term average but below the 92.46 of last year. Its standard deviation was narrower at 8.28 (9.31) Thankfully, 150 students scored a UAI over 90, just one fewer than 2006, establishing our quality in depth.

Band 6 Growth

Year	School Band 6	State Band 6	Students Awarded Band 6	State Percent Band 6 v all bands	State Band 6 per B6 student	School Band 6 per all students
2003	354	25637	11859	7.9	2.16	1.89
2004	404	28078	12932	8.6	2.17	2.18
2005	488	29110	13338	8.9	2.18	2.43
2006	520	29331	14010	9.0	2.09	2.48
2007	512	31641	14607	9.6	2.17	2.44

The growth in Band 6 awards at the HSC continues. The increase in percentage awarded and the number of awards per student were both higher than 2006. Regrettably, our Band 6 growth band rate did not follow this trend.

Band 6 growth continues to exceed the growth in candidature. There is an upward pressure on means.

	State Band 6 growth	School Band 6 growth
2003	1.04	1.05
2004	1.10	1.14
2005	1.04	1.21
2006	1.01	1.07
2007	1.08	-1.54

Year	New HSC candidates	% variation candidates
2003	63387	0.04
2004	64267	1.39
2005	63867	-0.04
2006	64274	0.064
2007	67189	1.045

HSC Department Analyses

HSC English

English HSC performance in 2007 produced a sound level of achievement in the Advanced Course and strong levels of achievement in the extension 1 and 2 Courses. The provision of additional literacy support, together with a targeted program of revision and writing that was maintained throughout the year, undoubtedly contributed to very solid Band 5 achievement in particular. This additional layer of support will continue in 2008.

In Advanced English, Band 6 achievement (14.76%) declined in comparison to 2006 but was in keeping with the positive trend in Band 6 numbers achieved in the Years 2004 and 2005. Band 5 achievement (62.38%) was consistent with student performance in 2006.



In extension 1 English significant gains have been made in student achievement. 44.89% of the cohort achieved Band E4 with the remaining students achieving Band E3. Within the context of the new HSC these results represent the strongest performance to date and reflect positively on the implementation (2006-07) of specific teaching and learning strategies designed to improve student skills and raise student expectations regarding the extension 1 Course.

Our extension 2 performance was also very strong but student numbers were small – 75% achieved Band E4.

HSC Mathematics

HSC results in mathematics were very pleasing. In extension 2 there were 122 candidates of whom 66 were awarded E4 (74 in 2006). Trong Nguyen

achieved second in the State and Anthony Morris, fourth. In extension 1 there were 179 candidates of whom 106 were awarded E4 (113 in 2006). Anthony Morris was first in the State and Trong Nguyen, third. In mathematics (2 Unit) there were 169 candidates of whom 102 were awarded Band 6 (80 in 2006).

HSC Science

Another set of strong results in physics and chemistry. The school's average score was over 84 for both subjects in the 2007 HSC. The biology results were the best on record. Our average score of 85.3 was more than a full SD above the state average.

HSC History

33 students sat for modern history where 13 achieved Band 6 (39%) and 31 candidates achieved Band 5 or greater. 28 Students sat for ancient history where six achieved Band 6 (21%) and 24 students achieved Band 5 or greater. Results in extension history were disappointing with only 2 of 20 students achieving E4 (10%) and 13 achieving E3.

HSC Social Science

There have been many outstanding achievements by students in Social Science in 2007. In terms of Band 6 awards, students achieved the following results:

Subject	Student No's	Band 6 %	Band 5's (No)	%Band 5+6
Economics	90	22	45	67
Business Studies	20	25	30	55
Legal Studies	29	45	45	90
Geography	13	31	54	85

Participation in national competitions has remained high with a large number of students receiving awards of a credit or higher. Competitions include the National Geographic Australian Geography Competition (where High was ranked first in Australia), the UNSW PwC Australia and NZ Economics Competition, the UNSW PwC Business Studies Competition and the Planning Your Own Enterprise Competition.

Excursions and fieldtrips remain a part of a wider pedagogical framework engaging students beyond traditional subject boundaries.

Other highlights of 2007 included: a presentation by Don Russell, former economics advisor to Paul Keating, to Year 12 Economics on Structural Change and Economic Reform; four Year 9 students who took part in a key inter-school

debate to raise awareness of the Kyoto Protocol and how it could be implemented in schools; and three of our senior economics students accompanied by Mr Storey visited Taiwan for the International Taiwan Youth Cultural Conference. Our boys delivered an impressive presentation on Globalisation and Australian Companies. Dominic Bowes participated in a live global web cast linking students to discuss climatic change issues as expressed at the Climatic Change Forum in Bali in December 2007.

HSC TAS

Software Design and Development

There was a considerable increase in the Band 6 candidates in 2007. 14 candidates sat the course and 33.33% achieved a Band 6 whilst 50% achieved a Band 5. This result is on par with the school's target for Band 5 and 6 results and was achieved despite the fact that still only 9% of the entire NSW candidature achieved Band 6 and 30% achieved Band 5 in 2007.

It also must be mentioned that we feel that a number of our SDD cohort were positioned at the tail end of the SBH UAI school listing, yet achieved their best results in SDD. Special mention goes to Aditya Keswani who achieved 96% and was successful in his application for a UNSW Co-op scholarship.

Engineering Studies

The engineering studies results were excellent for the 2007 HSC with four Band 6 results (33.33% of class members) compared with a state average of 6.3%. Furthermore, there were six Band 5 results (50% of class members) compared to the state average of 22.33%. Once again, special mention to Aditya Keswani who placed 5th in NSW, with a mark of 95%.

HSC Visual Arts

The highlight of the year was the outstanding HSC results with the works of three students set aside for Art Express: Ashwin Thomas [Year 11], Thomas Hurrell [AGNSW] and Alex Shapilsky [Year 11] [David Jones].

The HSC class was a combined one with four Year 12 students and four Year 11 accelerants. All students achieved in the range Band 6 to mid Band 5. Xiao Lui of Year 12 attended the National Art School gifted and talented drawing studio over 2006 and 2007.

HSC LOTE

Chinese results were excellent with 100% of students achieving Band 6 in continuers and also 100% of students achieving Band 4 in extension. Only one student studied Classical Greek and he achieved a Band 6. In French continuers, one

student achieved Band 6 and the remaining three achieved Band 5. Therefore 100% of students achieved above 75% compared to the State pattern where 57.48% achieved above 75%. Our Latin results were also excellent with both students achieving the highest Band possible in their respective Latin courses.

Means Comparison Table

The table below indicates the means in selected HSC courses for 2007 and a 5-year average of course means at Sydney Boys. In 2007, in 9 of the 16 means, SBHS was higher than the local selective schools group means and in 9 means it was higher than its own five-year mean average. The seven figures in bold represent good performances against both benchmarks –

selective schools and our own medium term means. It should be remembered that High's candidature is the largest of any selective school, so maintaining high means is difficult. However, the results indicate that we still have quite a lot of work to do to meet selective school benchmarks in a number of courses. Students and parents should be aware that the benchmark HSC score for a 2-unit course is 85 and that our strong expectation is that our students should equal or surpass this standard in all of their 2-unit course results during stage 6. Students should set their sights higher than the mid-Band 5 level that this average score represents. Our school should exceed **one Band 6 for every three papers sat**.

Higher School Certificate Course Summary Table

Course	School 2007	School 2003 - 2007	LSG 2007	State 2007
Ancient History	85.4	86.5	86.0	70.1
Biology	85.5	84.3	85.5	72.1
Business Studies	81.4	84.0	83.6	68.2
Chemistry	84.5	84.3	84.7	74.5
Economics	82.3	84.9	85.0	75.8
Engineering Studies	85.1	85.3	83.7	72.6
English (Advanced)	83.7	83.4	85.0	78.0
English Extension 1	86.7	79.2	83.7	78.0
Geography	86.2	87.7	85.6	74.7
History Extension	75.2	81.1	84.0	73.7
Legal Studies	87.9	86.2	87.1	72.7
Mathematics	89.1	87.0	85.2	74.1
Mathematics Extension 1	87.9	86.7	86.2	78.7
Mathematics Extension 2	88.0	86.4	87.6	82.3
Modern History	87.5	85.4	85.9	72.4
Physics	84.5	84.7	83.5	73.1

University Admission Index Results

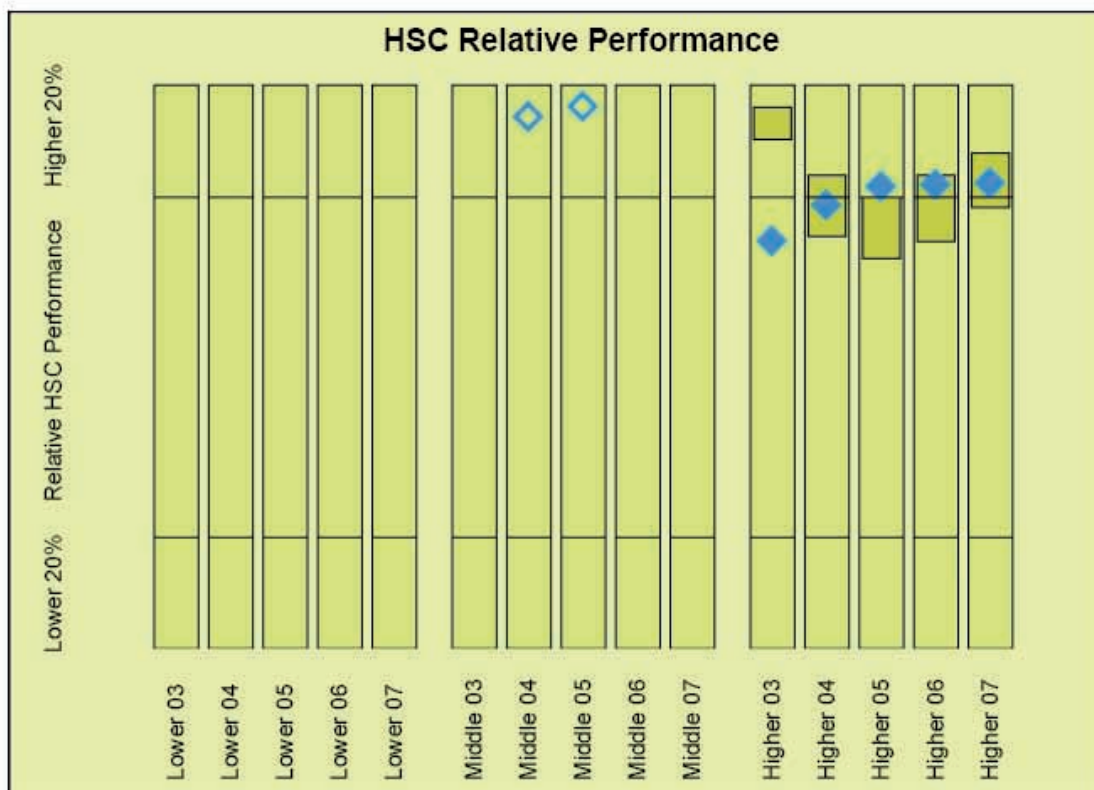
Average calculated or reported UAIs

Reported or Calculated UAIs

Year	Yr. 12	99+	95-99	90-94+	>=90	85-89	80-84	<80
2003	186	34	57	43	72.04	17	17	18
2004	185	25	73	41	75.96	24	7	16
2005	202	33	65	45	70.79	20	11	28
2006	208	48	73	30	72.60	28	12	17
2007	210	29	82	39	71.77	24	14	20

Year	Year 12	Average UAI	Standard Deviation
2003	187	91.33	10.39
2004	187	92.68	8.29
2005	201	90.4	12.34
2006	208	92.46	9.31
2007	210	92.27	8.28

Sydney Boys High School - Higher School Certificate, 2007



Groupings Based On Previous SC Performance

Value Added Data

High's performance in terms of adding value to our School Certificate results by the time of the HSC is indicated in the bar graph by the blue diamonds. The rectangle surrounding the diamond represents the combined value added results of the top selective schools: James Ruse, Baulkham Hills, North Sydney Girls, Hornsby Girls and Sydney Girls.

Our HSC results for 'higher performing' students at the School Certificate have remained static for the last three years, just inside the higher 20% level, after sharply improving in 2004. In comparative terms we have slipped back to the middle of the comparison group after an outlier result in 2005.

In UAI terms there was a falling off at the top but the depth was good to 90 UAI (150 students). Our UAI average suffered only marginally. The distribution of the UAI results around the mean was narrower this year (8.28) than in the last five years. Disappointingly, our group below 80 UAI

grew to 9.5%, due in part to some poor subject choices being made. Some students insist on attempting courses judged by teachers to be inappropriate matches for their interests and abilities.

Destinations

Our students went to the following universities in the table below. The four year comparison illustrates the trend in university offers accepted by our alumni. Two students accepted offers from TAFE. One student's destination remains unknown – possibly an overseas university. The cohort numbered 210.

Destinations	2004	2005	2006	2007
UNSW	61	79	101	107
Sydney	66	71	78	61
UTS	20	13	9	8
Macquarie	16	7	7	9
ANU	8	4	1	2
UWS	5	8	8	10
Other	5	5	3	13
Total	181	187	207	210

School Certificate Tests

In the School Certificate, the performance of students is reported in performance bands ranging from Performance Band 1 (lowest) to Performance Band 6 (highest). LSG represents Local School Group – selective schools group.

	School Band 6 Number	School Band 6 Percent	State Band 6 Percent	School vs State Band 6 %
Mathematics				
2003	128	71.11	5.52	12.88
2004	148	81.76	5.55	14.73
2005	160	88.39	7.28	12.14
2006	154	85	5.73	14.85
2007	136	75.6	6.4	11.81
LSG Average				58.2
Average		80.36	6.09	13.16
English				
2003	41	22.78	4.56	5.00
2004	77	42.54	5.89	7.22
2005	46	25.41	6.20	4.10
2006	60	33.33	5.62	5.93
2007	37	20.6	4.9	4.2
LSG Average				34.3
Average		28.81	5.75	4.78
Science				
2003	59	32.78	3.44	9.53
2004	74	40.88	5.27	7.62
2005	90	49.45	6.05	8.18
2006	42	23.33	4.69	4.98
2007	48	26.66	3.85	6.92
LSG Average				34.7
Average		34.62	4.38	7.47
History				
2003	43	23.89	4.79	4.99
2004	76	41.98	5.49	7.64
2005	93	51.38	6.04	8.50
2006	80	44.44	7.01	6.34
2007	30	16.66	2.65	2.65
LSG Average				36.3
Average		35.67	5.20	6.06

	School Band 6 Number	School Band 6 Percent	State Band 6 Percent	School vs State Band 6 %
Geography				
2003	67	37.22	3.95	9.42
2004	54	29.83	4.23	7.05
2005	75	41.43	3.92	10.68
2006	104	57.77	8.57	6.74
2007	29	16.11	6.28	2.57
LSG Average				38.3
Average		36.47	5.39	7.29

School Certificate Analysis

The cohort appeared not to take the testing process seriously with many students leaving the examination centre early. The mathematics results were not seriously affected. Mathematics performance is well in advance of our LSG mean benchmark. The science results were reasonable but 8 percentage points below the LSG mean. The English results were a disturbing 13 percentage points below selective schools benchmarks. History and geography were worse, with means 19 points below and 21 points below LSG percentages, respectively. In computer skills the highly competent percentage exceeded LSG means. Head Teachers have been asked to review their approaches to SC testing preparation for 2008.

School Certificate LOTE

Our results in the 2007 School Certificate were excellent and well above state averages in all languages studied.

PDHPE Annual Report

In the 2007 HSC there were some very pleasing results in PDHPE. The students worked very hard and deserved the rewards. 50% of the class received a Band 6 result and 50% Band 5.

There were 33% of students awarded grade B or better in the School Certificate for PDHPE, a decrease of 28% compared to the previous year. The reason for this decline was the greater emphasis on aerobic fitness assessment throughout the year. The four 1.6 km runs during the year contributed significantly to a student's School Certificate assessment.

In the 1.6 km run for the assessment of aerobic fitness there were some outstanding

performances during the year. Best time in their year were: Andreas Purcal (Year 7) 6m 07s, Sam Lane (Year 8) 5m 28s, Michael Ambrose (Year 9) 5m 24s and Jeremy Ireland (Year 10) 5m 03s.

Despite the decrease in School Certificate A and B grades due to the extra emphasis on aerobic fitness assessment this year, the physical fitness level of the general student population continues to improve.

The Introduction to Strength Training techniques program continued for Years 7 and was extended into Year 8. The aim of this program is twofold, first to make the step into a proper strength training program a little easier and second to provide students with sound lifting techniques to avoid possible back injuries in the future

Our Targets

Progress on 2007 Targets

Target 1: Implement and Refine Literacy and Numeracy Plans

During 2007, the SBHS Literacy Team continued to build on the initiatives commenced in 2006. Central to these initiatives has been the development and subsequent refinement of our SBHS *Literacy Policy*. In particular this working document currently provides a strong platform and mandate for the ongoing provision of literacy support to identified students and relevant literacy resources for staff. The key goal of the Literacy Team is to encourage and support a literacy rich environment which meets the specific needs of students within the unique context of SBHS.

Specific whole school literacy targets achieved in 2007 are as follows: the development of a practical cross-curriculum literacy resource 'Hand Book' for all teaching staff containing scaffolds and text-type templates pertinent to specific subject areas; and the introduction of a cross-curriculum writing competition. This competition will now become an annual feature of our literacy landscape. During 2007 it was generously supported by SBHS P&C on a number of levels and reflects the broader community support for a literacy rich environment. In its first year, both participation and quality of student responses was

encouraging and provides a strong foundation for 2008. This important literacy strategy is aimed at promoting an inclusive literacy environment.

The delivery of additional literacy support programs to identified students in Years 7 and 12 continued in 2007. These intervention programs specifically targeted writing and organisational skills. It is anticipated that these intervention strategies will be extended to other years in 2008.

Numeracy

Five teachers were involved in the numeracy remediation program in 2007. They spent 1 to 3 periods a cycle with groups of up to four students withdrawn from regular classes, from Years 7, 8 and 9. The composition of each group varied throughout the year according to success in class and across-the-form testing. The content was usually current work, supplemented by algebra consolidation and general mediation. Due to the small groups, there was increased opportunity for specific focus for each student involved. There was increased application to set work, especially homework, amongst all the withdrawal groups.

Despite the keenness of most students to take part in the withdrawal program, it was felt that the absence from the normal class for one or two periods per cycle outweighed the benefits of the program. Accordingly the withdrawal program will be largely replaced in 2008 by the issuing of structured homework books (linked to the issued texts) to the lowest streamed classes in Years 7, 8, and 9. It is intended that this will raise the production of written samples by whole classes.

Target 2: Establish Additional Engaging Learning Environments and Opportunities

- The new demountable building (Room 801) was purchased, installed and connected to the network. The P&C donated \$18,700 for the deposit and installation costs. The SBHS Building Fund is paying off the balance in 36 monthly instalments.
- Seven rooms were equipped with data projectors, sound systems, security cages and security cabinets.
- Twenty computers were purchased for the new room 611 which had refurbishment work completed by the end of the year

- Wireless routers were set up in the Library and room 605
- The Sir Roden Cutler Memorial Gates were completed and dedicated by the Governor General.
- Facilities at the new cricket nets were improved by the construction of a storage shed to house the bowling machines and cricket kit.

Target 3: Use Technology to Communicate More Effectively with Staff, Students and the Wider Community

The appointment of a full time Network Administrator led to improved communication within the school, better network reliability and greatly improved access by students to 'R' drive software, *Moodle* links and websites. Our part time Webmaster assisted by emailing *High Notes* to an expanding list of parents and updating the school website regularly. Our Database Officer refined and amalgamated the school's databases and the Network Administrator wrote a framework for interrogating the data according to designated groups and purposes. The school and the OBU worked together to update the consolidated data.

Two editions of *High Flyer* were produced along with the *Annual School Report*, a bumper edition of *The Record* and thirty-eight editions of *High Notes*. These publications were emailed, posted or displayed for pick up.

All students log on their attendance electronically. All unexplained student absences in the Junior School are followed up by telephone or email contact.

Target 4: Develop and Implement Programs, Structures and Strategies Appropriate to Stages of Learning to Enhance Engagement

Curriculum compacting programming occurred in Social Science departments and Creative Arts, where acceleration was offered as an elective to stage 5 students at the end of Year 9. Fifty-nine students successfully undertook courses of acceleration in Year 10 as an elective option of 8 periods per cycle.

Permission was granted to select an additional 20 students to increase Year 9, 2008 to 200 students.

Faculty developed learning enhancement strategies were implemented and *Moodle* software was used more extensively by teachers. Digital projection and 'R' drive storage of programs, materials and articles, became more widespread.

A Co-curricular organisation chart was drawn, identifying positions, people and responsibilities. Junior School Coaching Coordinators were appointed in various areas. An electronic posting system was devised to allow downloads of participants' names into the report template.

Target 5: Collaborate With the School Community to Elevate Expectations and Provide Challenging Co-curricular Activities

The experiment of using teachers in lecture-style sessions on debating topic areas proved very successful in the Year 7 debating program. Large numbers of boys attended the sessions and several teams went on to debate for the school.

Old Boy Alexander Feldman brought a very professional approach to his role as Coaching Coordinator of chess. Selection tournaments, lectures, computer exercises and games and participation in tournaments lifted the profile of chess considerably. A team even represented High at the National Junior Chess Tournament.

The performance music program was divided into ensembles, marching band, GPS music and HSC music. Funds were set aside to implement these various aspects of the program. The academic staff and tutors managed the dozen ensembles as they rehearsed and performed. Accompanists were engaged to support the increasing numbers of HSC Music 2 students in their examined performances.



Targets for 2008

Target 1: Continue to Implement and Evaluate the Literacy and Numeracy Plan 2006-08

- Embed the 'Good Word on Literacy' document into the teaching culture of the school.
- Maintain the Year 7 Literacy Testing and analysis program using a consultant.
- Continue to refine and evaluate the workshop and tutorial approach to literacy development for targeted students of concern

Target 2: Improve 'Blended Delivery' Lesson Frequency and Quality of Delivery

- Maintain the focus of professional learning on skill building in software applications such as *Moodle*, interactive whiteboard support and J-Store.
- Roll out the Commonwealth government's computers into classroom settings to provide increased access.
- Install wireless routing to bring the WAN to more classrooms

Target 3: Raise Staff Awareness of And Engagement with Pedagogical Models, to Align Their Programming with School Learning Objectives Across the Curriculum

- Apply an analysis Gagné's integrated model of talent development to whole school programs.
- Integrate Gagné's model with the major ideas of *Quality Teaching in NSW Schools*: intellectual quality, quality learning environments and significance.
- Demonstrate how Gagné's model applies to co-curricular activities

Target 4: Implement the Co-curricular Roles and Responsibilities Described on the Organisation Chart to Support the Senior School / Junior School Policy

Raise staff awareness of and support the new role of Coordinator of Co-curricular programs

- Assist the Senior School Student Mentor to facilitate the transition of new students into Year 11 using Student Mentors. Guide the

Year 9 Student Mentors in their efforts to support new students.

- Provide additional resources and support to Junior School Coaching coordinators in rugby, football, cricket, basketball and debating.
- Formalise recognition of the student leadership programs.

Target 5: Consolidate the Accommodation Expansion Program to Meet the Needs of Additional Junior School Students

- Finish the refurbishment of Room 611, install the computers and prepare the fittings for teaching to commence in Term 1, 2008.
- Complete the division of the Senior Study Centre (Computing) into rooms 703, 704 and 705, furnish and equip the spaces and provide digital projection, ready for use by Term 1, 2008.
- Supply additional speakers and fittings for the Great Hall.

Our Context

Teacher Qualifications

All teaching staff meet the professional requirements for teaching in New South Wales public schools. The table below indicates the proportion of permanent teaching staff holding particular academic qualifications:

Qualifications	Percentage of Staff
Degree / diploma (or equivalent)	100
Postgraduate qualifications	24

Further information regarding staff qualifications can be obtained from the school's reception area 'staff directory'.

Teacher Retention

The school's retention rate from 2006 was 95%. Two teachers retired; one teacher transferred, and one teacher resigned. Two teachers were on leave.

Professional Development

The distribution of expenditures in the table below describes the ratio of emphasis that

teachers placed on various aspects of teaching and learning. A school funded literacy initiative resulted in no literacy funds being spent under this dissection. However, literacy testing costs will be funded from this source in 2008. Quality teaching and Student Welfare absorbed the bulk of the budget, followed by use of ICT. Improving 'blended delivery' by improving teacher competence with Moodle was a priority.

DET Priority Area	Course Fees	Casual Salaries	Travel and Accommm	Other	Total
Beginning Teachers	1053	0	0	0	1053
Use of ICT	5500	2419	0	0	7919
Quality Teaching	4445	6261	0	2682	13388
Syllabus implementation	585	3311	0	250	4146
Leadership and career development	730	2189	0	0	2919
Welfare and equity	3336	3973	0	1731	9040
Other	4396	3093	701	0	8190
TOTAL	20045	21246	701	4663	46655

Enrolment Profile

Staying On Within the Same School, School Certificate to HSC

SC Year	All Students			SC Entries
	School	SEG	State	All Students
2001	96.6	81.2	59.1	178
2002	96.1	80.0	59.5	180
2003	95.0	80.2	61.0	180
2004	98.3	81.9	61.2	179
2005	95.0	80.1	60.8	180

Very few students leave the school between Year 10 and Year 12 or fail to complete the HSC. Some transfer to other selective schools.

Attendance Profile

Semester 1 Attendance Rates, Years 7 to 10

Year	All Students		
	School	Region	State
2003	95.6	91.5	90.4
2004	96.2	91.4	90.1
2005	95.5	91.4	89.9
2006	95.8	92.1	90.1
2007	96.4	91.9	90.1

The school has very good rates of attendance for Years 7-10. Our swipe on attendance system and telephone follow up may have contributed to the marginal improvement in attendance rates over the past couple of years. Junior attendance rates are the highest for 5 years.

Semester 1 Attendance Rates, Years 11 and 12

Year	All Students		
	School	Region	State
2003	91.1	90.0	89.6
2004	93.4	90.1	89.5
2005	93.3	90.2	89.5
2006	93.4	91.3	89.8
2007	94.8	90.9	89.7

Senior school attendance rates are at a 5-year high despite students having the freedom to swipe on when they arrive at school.

Parent and Caregiver Involvement

Sydney Boys High School P&C and its subcommittees have continued to contribute significantly this year to the School and its co-curricular activities by providing support in terms of financial as well as human resources.

During the year, P&C Association generated income of \$81,485. From its funds, the P&C Association contributed \$81,384 to the School to implement various school programmes including payment for the new demountable classroom (\$18,127), the second stage of the classroom data projector rollout (\$12,000), repayment of the tennis court loan (\$10,000), up lighting for the Roden Cutler Gates (\$8,600), replacement of two pianos in the music rooms (\$15,000) and the Library building fund (\$17,657). The Association also contributed \$25,000 to a term deposit account to start a fund to replace the School's Coaster bus when it reaches the end of its useful life in about four years.

P&C Association continues to work with the Sydney High Development Committee. A telephone fundraising campaign for the new Library project was undertaken during the year with good support from volunteer parents.

The P&C introduced a 'guest speaker' programme to the monthly P&C General Meeting on topics that are of interest to all parents. Topics covered this year include GPS sport at Sydney Boys High,

Climate Change and what we can do as a School Community, Values Education Programme in SBHS, Drugs, Alcohol & Teenagers.

The P&C is also currently working with the Sydney High School Foundation in improving the facilities at the Outterside Centre and in developing the potential of the High Store and the expanded use of the Great Hall with its licence as a Place of Public Entertainment.

Financial Statement Summary

This summary covers funds for operating costs from the No 1 account and does not involve expenditure areas such as permanent salaries, buildings, cleaning and major maintenance. A full copy of the school's 2007 financial statement is tabled at the annual general meetings of the School Council and the P&C. Further details concerning the statement can be obtained by contacting the school.

Date of financial summary:	30/11/2007
Balance brought forward	131,009.49
Income	\$
Global funds	572,642.96
Tied funds	114,050.92
School & community sources	1,561,387.28
Interest	17,914.52
Trust receipts	552,348.51
Canteen	0
Total Income	2,818,344.19
Total funds available	2,949,353.68
Expenditure	
Teaching & learning	
Key learning areas	255,339.52
Excursions	291,335.85
Extracurricular dissections	631,426.58
Library	10,497.25
Training & development	3,049.82
Tied funds	113,745.68
Casual relief teachers	77,878.30
Administration & office	339,017.33
School-operated canteen	0
Utilities	104,128.74
Maintenance	129,438.63
Trust accounts	548,225.53
Capital programs	343,573.38
Total expenditure	2,847,656.61
Balance carried forward	101,697.07

Notes on the financial statement

The statement does not account for the income and expenditure of the **Library Fund**. Parents'

donations and interest amounted to \$54,292.73. Disbursements were \$58,489.02. Balance carried forward was **\$40,4134.39**.

The **Sydney Boys High School Building Fund** received donations and interest of \$201,644.66, payments were \$17,144.02, leaving a carried forward balance of **\$569,496.68**.

The carried forward figure of the **school's No.1 operating account** included the balance of tied funds (\$28,591.44) and trusts (\$67,374.20); leaving \$5,731.43 for school purposes. The school still had unfunded commitments of: unpaid orders and invoices (\$69,417.09) and unpaid casual salaries (\$91,032.91). Commitments to be funded in the 2008 budget amounted to \$154,718.57.

Voluntary Contributions

The Sydney Boys High School Council set the general service contribution figure for 2007 at \$665 for all years 7-12.

About this report

In preparing this report, the self-evaluation committee has gathered information from evaluations conducted during the year and analysed other information about the school's practices and student learning outcomes. The self-evaluation committee has determined targets for the school's future development. Members of the school self-evaluation committee included all members of the **school executive** and:

Dr Shane Brown, Sydney High School Foundation
 Mr Simon Chan, P & C Association President
 Mr Ken Clemens, Sydney High School Foundation
 Mr Joseph Waugh, President SHS Old Boys Union
 Mr Dennis Briggs, President SBHS School Council
 Mr Steve Codey, Staff Properties, ARCO and OH&S Representative

