National Voice for Catholic School Parents Launched

An organisation aiming to give Catholic school parents a strong and united voice at national level was launched this week.

_Catholic School Parents Australia_ will play a leading role in representing the views of parents to the Federal government as well as provide a forum for state Catholic School parent bodies to consider issues and share ideas.

The inaugural Annual General Meeting of _Catholic School Parents Australia_, including election of office bearers was held yesterday.

Newly elected Independent Chair, Mr Tony O’Byrne, says “Catholic schools educate 1 in 5 Australian children and parent engagement is a very strong element of the ethos of Catholic education.”

“Catholic schools have a distinctive ethos and are therefore often faced with a unique range of policy issues.”

“We believe it is vital that our parents have a forum through which their specific views can be expressed at a national level,” Mr O’Byrne said.

The organisation has the support of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference and the National Catholic Education Commission.

An inaugural council consisting of two nominees from each State Catholic School Parent Association and the ACT Catholic School Parent Council has been appointed.

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