

The Thriving Principal

Communities of Practice/Professional Learning Communities

A pre-program survey will be issued to principal members that will surface information that pertains to areas of interest – either *Being Influential*, *Having Some Agency and Autonomy*, *Leading Teaching & Learning*, and *Being Part of Your Community* – and relevant contextual details that will assist in the formation of our Communities of Practice/Professional Learning Communities.

Day 1: Monday 15th March (Week 8)

Purpose: To bring SASPA & SAPPa principal members together to focus on how we address the various ambiguities, paradoxes, and tensions within which we work. Since we want this professional learning program to focus on the hopeful features of the research – i.e., the important roles our professional networks play in providing structured learning “for members, by members” – the event will establish the value of Communities of Practice and facilitate their establishment.

Outcomes for the Day:

- (i) Members will be more familiar with the various ambiguities, paradoxes, and tensions within which principals work.
- (ii) Members will surface and explore strategies principals use to alleviate issues of principal workload, wellbeing, and role satisfaction.
- (iii) Members will join a Community of Practice – focusing on either *Being Influential*, *Having Some Agency and Autonomy*, *Leading Teaching & Learning*, and *Being Part of Your Community* – to challenge and support each-other’s professional growth. *See Appendices: Professional Learning Program Map.

Time	Activity	Speaker/Facilitator
8:00	Registration	
8:30am	Welcome & Setting the Scene	Peter Mader
8:40am	Relational Work	Angela Falkenberg
9:00am	Paradox and the School Leader	Dr Chris Dolan
9:50am	Session 1: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Being Influential• Having Some Agency & Autonomy Participants pre-select <u>one</u> of these options. *The panel will model the <i>Communities of Practice</i> approach for approximately 35 minutes. In the remaining 35 minutes a table group process will follow, that will flow into a Q&A discussion about the content (What are some of the strategies that are working well?) and the process (<i>Communities of Practice</i> approach).	A panel of 2 SASPA and 2 SAPPa Board members will model the Community of Practice / PLC approach (in each workshop venue)
11:00am	Morning Tea	

Time	Activity	Speaker/Facilitator
11:30am	Session 2: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Being Part of a Community • Leading Teaching and Learning Participants pre-select <u>one</u> of these options. *The panel will model the <i>Communities of Practice</i> approach for approximately 35 minutes. In the remaining 35 minutes a table group process will follow, that will flow into a Q&A discussion about the content (strategies that are working well) and the process (<i>Communities of Practice</i> approach).	A panel of 2 SASPA and 2 SAPPA Board members will model the Community of Practice (in each workshop venue)
12:40pm	Communities of Practice/PLCs	Jayne Heath & Brenton Robins
1:00pm	Lunch	
1:45pm	Session 3: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communities of Practice (Meeting #1) Principals join their CoP or PLC and hold their first meeting (i.e., establish norms, scope the work, and set a schedule for April, May, June, July, August & September)	
2:45pm	Plenary	
3:15pm	Close	

Communities of Practice/Professional Learning Communities:

It is envisaged that each CoP or PLC will meet via Zoom or MS Teams every 2-3 weeks during the months of April, May, June, July, August & September. From time-to-time, there will be opportunities for two or three CoPs/PLCs to join up, where there is a known advantage to do so (e.g., common topic or a guest speaker).

Final Day: Friday 10th September (Week 8)

This session on Friday 10th September provides an opportunity for Communities of Practice/Professional Learning Communities to share their learning journey and for SASPA and SAPPA to deepen their understanding of the strategies that are working well to alleviate issues of principal workload, wellbeing, and role satisfaction. There is potential for a series of Case Studies to emerge from this final session that could be shared more broadly across the SASPA and SAPPA networks.