



DECISIONS OF THE BOARD OF STUDIES' MEETING - 7 MARCH 2006

- 1. Report from the Office of the Board on the 2005 HSC**
The procedures and enhancements to the HSC program detailed in this report were noted, and the Board agreed to provide the report to stakeholders via its website.
- 2. Report on the 2005 HSC Consultative Committee operation**
The Board noted this report, and agreed to a number of recommended enhancements to the judging process.
- 3. Report on the 2005 School Certificate Consultative Committee operation**
The Board noted this report, and requested that the Office examine factors underlying the pattern of grades awarded in Australian Geography, Civics and Citizenship.
- 4. 2005 School Certificate grade monitoring report**
The results of the 2005 School Certificate grade monitoring were noted.
- 5. Report on the 2005 trial Computing Skills Test and recommendations**
It was agreed that the time allowed for the test be 75 minutes, and that student achievement be reported as a mark out of 100, where a mark of 50 represents an agreed minimum standard that can be meaningfully reported.
- 6. Report on work samples project**
The Board noted this report.
- 7. Report on national issues**
The Board noted this report.
- 8. National Consistency in Curriculum Outcomes Project**
The NSW Statements of Position for Mathematics, ICT, Science and Civics and Citizenship were noted. The Minister has been advised that the Statements of Learning for Civics and Citizenship are not fully covered by the current NSW curriculum.
- 9. University Developed Board Endorsed Courses in the HSC**
The Board discussed the current criteria for these courses, and related issues. It was noted that the Committee of Chairs of Academic Boards will be reviewing these matters at its next meeting.

- 10. Optional components of HSC courses**
The Board agreed that the findings of this report be considered as part of the systematic review of relevant Stage 6 syllabuses. The Board’s “Principles for Examination and Assessment in HSC syllabuses” will also be re-examined in the light of this report.
- 11. Revised Information Technology Industry Curriculum Framework**
The Board noted the Consultation Report and agreed to recommend the revised syllabus to the Minister.
- 12. Industry Curriculum Framework review and development process**
The Board agreed to review its processes for the review and development of Industry Curriculum Frameworks, taking into account the potential for national consistency and collaboration in the development of senior secondary VET syllabuses.
- 13. Exploring vocational options in Stage 5 – progress report**
The Board noted this report.
- 14. Respect and Responsibility project**
The Board noted the President’s report on the progress of this project. The project includes: development of advice and teaching resources for schools; inclusion of relevant information in schools’ annual reports; and a forum to be held during Term 2, which will showcase examples of positive initiatives from schools.
- 15. Ethical scholarship**
The Board noted that action is underway to develop an ethical scholarship program, as recommended by the HSC Tutoring Allegations review.