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Dear Prospective Frankston High School Families

At this time of the year, families are making important decisions about choosing a secondary school for their child. There is a common view that if you send your child to a private school your child will get better results, however the facts show that this is wrong. A review of almost 30 academic studies revealed public schools achieve similar student outcomes to catholic and independent schools across a range of education indicators (Cobbold, 2015). The review showed there were no significant differences between the results of students from public, catholic and independent schools in national and international tests and in university completion rates. In the first year of university students from public schools outperform other students - they achieve higher grades in their first year of university than students from catholic and independent schools.

As a leader in the public school system, I believe it is important that families know about this information because it can help inform their decision-making. Public schools are just as good as private schools in the area that matters most - developing your child's potential. There are other good reasons to consider enrolling your child in a public school such as Frankston High School. They include the following:

- Public schools are great value for money compared with private schools, which charge families up to \$30,000 each year in tuition fees per child. Tuition at public schools is considerably cheaper, with families paying for books, excursions, camps and overseas trips and some essential items.
- Children in public schools learn to work with and get along with a wide range of students from different backgrounds. These advanced social skills - cooperation, collaboration, empathy, problem solving - are increasingly prized in the modern workplace. They equip students for success in life and in work.
- Leadership development with a focus on growth coaching and instructional leadership that builds the capacity of our staff. At Frankston High School we invest time and resources into developing our leaders so they can further improve their instructional leadership, and in turn their ability to build the capacity of our staff.
- High quality teaching is one of the biggest factors that influence student learning. At Frankston High School our team of teachers are up there with the best in the world. Our teachers are constantly reflecting and working collaboratively to improve their teaching based upon inquiry and evidence. Such ongoing improvement in teacher performance leads to continual improvements to learning outcomes for our students.
- Student leadership, student voice and student agency. At Frankston High School we provide rich leadership development opportunities for students. We value and provide authentic opportunities for student voice in regards to how we can further improve our school, and promote student agency in their learning to further develop metacognition and empowerment.
- Extra-curricular opportunities to excel in Sport, Music, Lifesaving and the Arts. We have developed a culture of excellence outside the classroom where our staff give up their time to provide opportunities for students to excel. Our facilities are first class and we encourage our students to develop their passions in different areas.

Frankston High School has a learning culture of excellence that is the equivalent and, in many cases, better when compared to private schools. Our students are able to thrive in such a culture to gain the best possible ATAR scores for entrance and ongoing accomplishment at university.

Yours sincerely

Andrew Batchelor
Principal