



The aims of the conference are to:

- provide an opportunity for educators in rural and regional schools to connect and share their knowledge and experiences
- learn of initiatives taking place across sectors
- discuss the future of education in the rural and regional context
- learn from the research in youth health and wellbeing in rural and regional settings
- continue to develop great school leaders

Target Audience: This conference is for all educators in rural and regional schools.

Key Themes:

- **Know yourself:** To effectively lead others, you need to know yourself first. Prior to the conference, participants will complete a Talent Insights Profile which includes both DISC and Driving Forces diagnostic assessments. At the conference, participants will have the profiling tool explained and see snapshots from their profile. The full report maps how you behave and communicate and why you take action. In the immediate weeks following the conference, each participant will receive their report and have an individual 1.5hour de-brief/coaching conversation with Janine Stratford, Executive Coach.
- **Placing yourself well in the market: understanding the employment landscape**
A school recruiter with experience in both government and non-government schools will speak about the opportunities and pathways that exist and how to tap into them.
- **The Future –students, schools and leadership**
The research and trends around the future of work for our young people and the impact of leadership and school culture on student behaviour.
- **Sharing school innovation**
Educators will share the innovation taking place in their schools in the areas of wellbeing, teaching and learning.
- **The Health of our Young People**
The current research of our young people's health and wellbeing in rural and regional settings.

Future Connections 2017

Rural & Regional Schools' Conference Program

Day 1: Friday 28 April, 2017

8.00am **Registration and Coffee/Tea**

8.30am **Welcome**

Presenters:

Teresa Deshon, Principal, Moama Anglican Grammar, NSW
Janine Stratford, Executive Coach, Coaching Focus

8.45am **Is your leadership style preparing your students for the future?**

The 2017 conference themes are connecting our teaching and learning to the future needs of our young people and connecting as colleagues across schools. Are we as educators utilising the findings from current research on the future of work and the skills needed right now? Are we adopting these skills and approaches ourselves now and modelling them for our students? There is also the impact of our leadership on school culture and how we as colleagues relate to each other. Are our daily interactions worthy of being mirrored by our students? Is your leadership style preparing your students for the future?

Presenter: Janine Stratford, Executive Coach, Coaching Focus

10.00 - 10.30am **Morning Tea**

10.30am **The Health of our Young People**

The needs of young people in rural and regional settings is unique. The community is closer, the relationships more interlinked, the daily happenings less private and the activities and possibilities are fewer. Are these merely generalisations? What is the research telling us are the concerns and issues that young people feel most strongly? We will explore the health and wellbeing of young people in rural and regional settings from current research and look at how we can address these needs and issues in our schools and communities.

Presenter: Youth Affairs Council Victoria (YACVIC)

11.30am **Sharing School Innovation: Wellbeing - Applying Positive Psychology Research to Positive Education: The Five Domains of Positive Functioning**

The concept and philosophy of Positive Education has been growing in popularity among many Australian schools with the development and application of numerous theoretical, outcome based frameworks for Positive Education. Minimal reference, however, is made to what teaching strategies or pedagogies lead to these outcomes, or how Positive Education should be taught. This session will focus on how Positive Psychology research can be applied to classroom practice – specifically using The Five Domains of Positive Functioning (DPF-5; Rusk & Waters, 2015), a psycho-social systems based approach to Positive Psychology and wellbeing through a case study from The Hamilton and Alexandra College.

Presenters: Ben Hawthorne & Tim Budenberg, The Hamilton and Alexandra College, Hamilton, VIC



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12.30 - 1.30pm **Lunch**

1.30pm **Placing yourself well in the market: understanding the employment landscape**

The leadership landscape is changing and the current trends, skills and attitudes that leaders of future schools require is where your focus should be. Fiona will share with you the trends she is seeing in school recruitment and how you can prepare yourself to be 'available to market' and well placed on the employment landscape.

Presenter: Fiona Hutton, Director, Hutton Consulting

2.30pm **Moral Purpose and School Transformation**

Moral purpose is both ends and means. The means – staff behaviours – matter if you want to achieve your school's moral purpose. Schools everywhere are in a process of transformation driven by the need to develop young people able to thrive in an uncertain and changing future. Almost every teacher has a similar moral purpose – the intent to make a difference in students' lives – which they view as being in alignment with the overarching direction. However, staff can be at four different starting points in the behaviours that they see as appropriate in meeting their declared moral purpose. Such starting differences can stall change initiatives within schools. From this session you will gain a deeper understanding of why staff may be at different starting points, what the different starting points are and strategies for moving all staff towards the behaviours that are implied in the progressive initiatives underway today in schools.

Presenter: John Corrigan, Director, Group 8 Education

3.15 - 3.45pm **Afternoon Tea**

3.45pm **The value of profiling**

The key to relationships is healthy communication. The DISC is a powerful profiling tool, revealing your behavioural style and how you prefer to communicate to others. It also demonstrates how you can improve your communication with others. We'll discuss your profiling report and how you can immediately implement success strategies. Your personal debrief with Executive Coach, Janine, after the conference will also be mapped out.

Presenter: Janine Stratford, Executive Coach, Coaching Focus

4.30pm **End of Day 1**

6.30 – 10.00pm **Conference Dinner:** 2 course meal- main and dessert

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Day 2: Saturday 29 April, 2017

8.30am **Reconnect and Coffee/Tea**

9.00am **Conference resumes: review and re-focus**

Presenter: Janine Stratford, Executive Coach, Coaching Focus

9.15am **On the road to teacher efficacy - a reflective journey**

This presentation is an honest look at why and how The Scots School Albury is reinvigorating its professional learning and development culture by introducing a teaching and learning framework, using action research teams and appointing an educational coach in a bid to improve teaching agency and practice.

Presenters: Dale Zawertailo and Sarah Spiteri, The Scots School Albury, VIC

10.00 – 10.30am **Morning Tea**

10.30 am **Social media: Building Your Own Professional Learning Network**

This presentation will uncover how you can tap into Social Media to become a better educator and create a professional presence in key social media platforms. Tracy will share the journey Strathcona has taken with social media from the staff point of view.... how they engaged the whole school – from teachers, to lab techs, to the school cook – in using Twitter and LinkedIn.

Presenter: Tracy Herft, Strathcona Baptist Girls' Grammar School, VIC

11.15am **The Importance of Business and School Partnerships**

If we want to improve the fundamental issues facing our country around skill shortage and employment, we must devise new ways to increase involvement between education and business/government. Business's partnering with educational institutions of all levels and sizes is the way to develop in students the mindset that is needed for the future; one that embraces critical questioning, innovation, service and continuous improvement.

Schools must strive to provide more than just an environment for learning, they need to provide the conditions that will mentor future technologists, entrepreneur's and business leaders. We need to see schools be proactive, making the connections and building relationships with businesses, government and other organisations to access their resources and expertise so that the force of the future is innovative, enthused and full of the entrepreneurial spirit.

This session will discuss avenues for schools to investigate partnerships opportunities, ways to link them to curriculum and pastoral projects, discuss the sustainability of the partnerships, advantages and disadvantages, access to government grants that promote partnerships and detail successful examples of business/school partnerships.

Presenter: Teresa Deshon, Principal, Moama Anglican Grammar, NSW



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12.00pm What motivates you?

Your motivators move you to action. It is important to know both what motivates you and what drains your energy. As part of your profiling report, your key motivators have been mapped and will be presented and discussed. Once you understand your own motivations, you will be able to uncover the triggers that can be underlying causes of conflict in relationships with colleagues, parents and students.

Presenter: Janine Stratford, Executive Coach, Coaching Focus

12.45 – 1.45pm Lunch

1.45pm Principals' Panel

Discussion Topic: How do we equip our young people in rural and regional settings to be effective, dynamic and collaborative members of the future workforce and what aspects of our schools need to be adjusted or re-engineered to meet these needs?

Panel Members:

- Teresa Deshon, Moama Anglican Grammar
- Peggy Mahy, The Scots School Albury
- Adrian Farrer, Cathedral College Wangaratta
- Karl Stenning, Echuca South Primary School
- Waiting on confirmation
- Panel Chair: Janine Stratford, Executive Coach, Coaching Focus

2.45pm Where To From Here

A look back across the conference at what we know now and where we can take our schools from here.

Presenters: Janine Stratford, Executive Coach, Coaching Focus
Teresa Deshon, Principal, Moama Anglican Grammar, NSW

3.15pm End of Conference



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Conference Registration Options:

Full Conference for 1 delegate \$ 895 (includes GST)
(includes both days and Profile)

1 delegate for one day only, includes Profile \$ 748 (includes GST)

2 delegates for one day each \$ 930 (includes GST)
(one delegate only receives Profile)

2 delegates, both days \$1,395 (includes GST)
(one delegate only receives Profile)

If delegates are attending one day, please specify which day when registering.
The name and email address of the delegate receiving the profile is also required when registering.

Conference Dinner:

Friday 28 April, 6.30pm, The Mill, Echuca

2-course meal, drink on arrival \$ 70 (includes GST)

Attendance at the dinner is highly recommended for making connections across schools

If delegates are attending one day, please specify which day when registering.

For purchase of a Profile separate to conference, the cost is \$650 plus GST

Registrations Close: Monday 24 April, 2017

Book and Pay on line: <https://www.trybooking.com/247112>

Contact Janine if you prefer to receive a Tax Invoice for payment in 7 days

Contact Details:

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