‘Gonski $’ at Tarneit Senior

Dear parents/guardians,

After several years of talking and promises; the State government will be delivering to schools the ‘Gonski $’ for the 2016 school year. The Gonski funds are Federal government money that State governments are required to pass on to students to support learning.

This is great news for our school. The additional funds in our school budget will enable us to strengthen a number of areas in our school to support your child.

Specifically the college will:

• Be creating an entirely new student well-being team with a Psychologist, Youth Worker and Leading Teacher Student Engagement and Well-being. These new staff will work in concert with our existing well-being staff and structures at the college

• Employ two Cultural workers— one with a Pacific islands focus and the other with an African communities focus. The task for these two new staff members will be to engage more directly with our Pacific Island and African communities. If you know of an individual who may be interested in applying for either of these jobs please direct them to Recruitment Online - https://schooljobs.education.vic.gov.au/psp/ROLPPRD1_EA/APPLICANT/HRMS/c/HR S_HRAM.HRS_APP_SCHJOB.GBL/ . The jobs will be advertised soon.

• Add an additional four hours per week of literacy and numeracy education for all year 10 students to ensure all our students are ‘ready’ for VCE or VCAL when they get to Year 11.

In 2016 Year 10 students will complete four hours a week of English, two hours a week of Literacy technical Skills, four hours a week of core Mathematics and two hours a week of Numeracy technical skills. Some students will also complete a further four hours a week of Advanced Maths. We strongly believe this focus on literacy and numeracy at Year 10 will prepare our students very effectively for Year 11.

• Purchase extra resources to support all students. This will range from more books in our library to more IT resourcing across the school.

The ‘Gonski $’ have only been guaranteed for 2016 and 2017 at this stage. Schools are required to use 100% of the funds in the years they are included in our budgets.

It is not often that schools are supported to such an extent in this manner by government. We look forward to investing these funds in your child’s education and future.

Yours faithfully

Michael Fawcett - Principal