

# 2009 NSW SRC ANNUAL REPORT



## 2009 NSW SRC MEMBERS

REGION	Name/ School
HUNTER/CENTRAL COAST	Ella, Year 11 Merewether High School
HUNTER/CENTRAL COAST	Luke, Year 11 Gosford High School
ILLAWARRA/SOUTH EAST	Bryce, Year 11 Kiama High School
ILLAWARRA/SOUTH EAST	Kahla, Year 10 Queanbeyan High School
NEW ENGLAND	Callum, Year 11 Inverell High School
NORTH COAST	Luke, Year 10 Nimbin Central School
NORTH COAST	Georgia, Year 10 Grafton High School
NORTHERN SYDNEY	Willem, Year 11 Barrenjoey High School
NORTHERN SYDNEY	Timothy, Year 11 Turrumurra High School
RIVERINA	Jenni, Year 11 Koorngal High School
RIVERINA	Sarah, Year 11 James Fallon High School
SOUTH WESTERN SYDNEY	Mai, Year 11 Bonnyrigg High School
SOUTH WESTERN SYDNEY	Ryan, Year 11 Strathfield South High School
SOUTH WESTERN SYDNEY	Robert, Year 10 Thomas Reddall High School
SYDNEY	Joseph, Year 11 Tempe High School
SYDNEY	Jordan, Year 11 Caringbah High School
WESTERN NSW	Stephanie, Year 11 Kandos High School
WESTERN NSW	Raynor, Year 11 Willyama High School
WESTERN SYDNEY	Frances, Year 11 James Ruse Agricultural High School
WESTERN SYDNEY	Madison P, Year 10 Jamison High School
ABORIGINAL STUDENT LEADER	Ashleigh, Year 11 Matraville High School
ABORIGINAL STUDENT LEADER	Marley, Year 11 Inverell High School

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The 2009 NSW SRC is the Department of Education and Training's peak student leadership consultative and decision making forum and represents secondary students in government secondary schools. It consists of twenty two (22) members elected from regions across NSW and includes two Aboriginal student leaders.

The term of office commenced in November 2008 with two days of training followed by the inaugural 2009 NSW SRC meeting held at NSW Parliament House, Sydney. Subsequent meetings were held on 12 and 13 March and 18 June and 8 September, 2009. The NSW SRC completes their term of office on 25 November, 2009.



The 2009 NSW SRC has worked primarily on resolutions passed at the Student Forum at the 2008 State SRC Conference and also ran *Enviro Inspiro!* 2009, the student-led school environment competition.

### **Actions of the 2009 NSW Student Representative Council**

The following resolutions were passed at the 2009 State SRC Conference. The 2009 NSW SRC has responsibility to address each item during their term of office.

*It is moved that the 2009 NSW SRC create a webpage linked to the current SRC website to showcase outstanding SRC projects regionally*

#### **Goal:**

To promote regional SRC events and activities on the student leadership website.  
All regions to create a 2 page SRC regional report for the student leadership website at <http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/studentssupport/studleadsrc/studentvoice/whatson/index.php>  
It is intended that the reports be reviewed and renewed annually  
All Regions to deliver an annual Regional SRC Report at the State SRC Conference

#### **Actions taken:**

The NSW SRC has:

- consulted with students and support staff in each region to determine who should write and check each Regional SRC Report
- worked with regions to create 10 draft regional SRC reports (one per region) to be showcased on the SRC website. The reports highlight the positive actions occurring with SRCs in the regions.

These regional SRC reports should be finalised soon.

The NSW SRC successfully arranged for all regions to deliver a 10 minute Regional SRC Report at the 2009 State SRC Conference.

***It is moved that the 2009 NSW SRC investigate ways to encourage and motivate boys to be actively involved in student leadership***



**Goals:**

- To investigate the reasons why boys engage and don't engage in student leadership events and activities in schools
- To provide advice and strategies to school communities on ways to encourage all students to participate effectively through student leadership opportunities at school.

**Actions taken:**

The NSW SRC has:

- distributed and analysed over 100 surveys to identify gender issues surrounding why students participate in and view leadership
- presented a workshop at the 2009 State SRC Conference to explore gender issues related to student leadership
- prepared a workshop to be delivered at the 2009 Equity Conference to be held 10 and 11 September at the Sydney Convention Centre.

***It is moved that the 2009 NSW SRC design a media resource to promote anti-discrimination throughout all NSW government schools***

**Goal:**

To develop a media resource to combat discrimination. It is intended that the media, if suitable, will go online on a suitable anti-racism website such as [www.racismnoway.com.au](http://www.racismnoway.com.au)



**Actions taken:**

The NSW SRC has:

- researched definitions of discrimination, investigated the consequences of discrimination and identified suitable places for students to seek help when discrimination is experienced
- completed a draft storyboard and script for the media resource

Filming is now underway and should be finished soon.

***It is recommended that the NSW SRC promote the improvement of links between schools and their local Aboriginal people, the custodians of the land***

**Goal:**

To improve links between schools and local Aboriginal communities.

The plan is to identify effective interactions between schools and Aboriginal groups. Examples of effective practice could go on the student leadership website at <http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/studentsupport/studleadsrc/studlead/aboriginal/index.php>

**Actions taken:**

The NSW SRC has:

- conducted research on health, social justice and educational issues for aboriginal people
- gathered responses from the NSW SRC about effective school links with Aboriginal communities
- identified practical strategies to strengthen school links with their Aboriginal communities
- examined resources such as 'Working with Aboriginal communities' (NSW Board of Studies website), the Aboriginal Education and Training Policy, and the 'Dare to Care resource'
- created a 3 page list of strategies for schools to strengthen ties with Aboriginal communities. This list of strategies may be added to the Aboriginal Education and Training website.



*It is moved that the 2009 NSW SRC review and revise 'SRCs, a Practical Guide for student leaders and teachers' and also promote the student leadership website, [www.schools.nsw.edu.au/src](http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/src)*

**Goals:**

- To revise and update the resource, 'SRCs, a practical guide for student leaders and teachers'
- To promote the Department's student leadership website and its useful resources at [www.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au) .



**Actions taken:**

The NSW SRC has:

- successfully completed a first draft of the revised practical guide
- identified ways to promote the student leadership website
- promoted the student leadership website at inter-school SRC meetings.

*It is moved that the 2009 NSW SRC promote an annual 'Green Day' in which students participate in environmentally friendly projects*

**Goals:**

- To promote a Green Day event to be held in September to encourage students to improve their local environments.
- A base line of activity would be that a school assembly be held in all secondary schools in September 2010.
- To provide a Green Day poster and a 'how to run a Green Day guide for schools'.
- On completion, these items could go on the student leadership website, possibly on the *Enviro Inspiro!* webpage at [http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/events/statecompetitions/enviro\\_inspiro/index.php](http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/events/statecompetitions/enviro_inspiro/index.php).



**Actions taken:**

The group has:

- developed a draft poster and a draft 'how to' guide to promote Green Day.

**ENVIRO INSPIRO! 2009**

The 2009 NSW SRC conducted *Enviro Inspiro! 2009*, the student-led school environment competition. The NSW Department of Environment and Climate Change generously provided funding to support this competition. In 2009, there were sixteen entries. Three NSW SRC members participated in the judging panel which met on 14 July 2009 to review all entries.



The standard of entries was high and the three winning entries were showcased at the 2009 State SRC Conference. The winning schools and their entries are:

**1st Place:**

**Keira High School, *The Organic Garden***

**2nd Place:**

**Callaghan College, *Climate Change Needs Us to Change***

**3rd Place:**

**Southern Cross School K-12, *Southern Cross Environmental Team 09***



## **CONSULTATIONS WITH 2009 NSW SRC:**

### **Forum of students with senior Department of Education and Training officers**

In November 2008, the 2009 NSW SRC met with senior officers of the Department. The following officers from the Department participated:

- Mr David McKie, Director, Student Welfare
- Ms Elizabeth Callister, Manager, Student Wellbeing Unit
- Ms Daisy Kokkalis, NSW Secondary Principals Council
- Mr Stuart Hearne, Leader, Values and Student Leadership
- Ms Gloria Provest, Leader, School Programs, Aboriginal Education and Training.



Two forums per year will continue to be held between the NSW SRC and senior officers of the Department - one at the commencement of the NSW SRC term of office, the other at the completion of the term of office.

### **Other consultations with 2009 NSW SRC**

Representatives from the NSW Commission for Children and Young People consulted with the NSW SRC about the role of the commission.

Other consultations were held with:

- Karyn Pullazano, State Member for Penrith and Parliamentary Secretary to the NSW Minister for Education and Training on the role of the Parliamentary Secretary.
- Alison Benoit, Leader, Student Attendance (DET) on ways to improve the anti-bullying resource, *Taking Action - Keeping Safe*
  - Rey Reodica, Executive Officer, *Youth Action Policy Association* on the actions of the group
  - Representatives from the Aboriginal Education and Training Directorate about the importance of providing student leadership opportunities for Aboriginal students
  - The Coordinator, PSP, Equity Numeracy Initiatives, about ways to improve links between the NSW SRC and the Student Equity Advisory Team
- Representatives from the Multicultural Programs Unit on ways to support the NSW SRC in their efforts to create a resource to address discrimination
- The Coordinator, Boys & Girls Education K-8, on ways to encourage more boys to engage in student leadership events and activities



- The Manager, Parliamentary Education and Community Relations, on the history of the NSW Parliament
- Ms Sue Burton, Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water and Mr Mark Caddey, Sustainable Schools Coordinator, on ways to encourage schools to engage in events and activities to improve school environments
- Mr Mark Roach on ways for students to engage in the *Duke of Edinburgh Award*.

### 2009 NSW SRC LIAISON ROLES

Each NSW SRC member liaises with a nominated departmental officer or government or non-government group or agency. Liaison roles include:



#### State SRC Conference Action Team

The NSW SRC member attended all 2009 State SRC Conference Action Team planning meetings and shared information between the NSW SRC and the Action Team.

#### NSW Youth Advisory Council

There are 2 members from the NSW SRC who liaise with the NSW Youth Advisory Council.



#### Boys and Girls Education

The 2009 NSW SRC gender equity liaison persons link the NSW SRC with the Equity Programs and Coordination Unit (DET) and attend meetings of the Advisory Group for Gender Equity.

#### UNICEF Day for Change

The UNICEF Day for Change liaison person corresponded with UNICEF Australia about ways to promote *UNICEF Day for Change* with SRCs. UNICEF ran a workshop on Day for Change at the 2009 State SRC Conference

#### Student Volunteering Reference Group

Two members from the NSW SRC participate as members of the Student Volunteering Reference Group. These members attended regular meetings of the group and provide advice on ways to engage secondary students in this initiative.



#### Healthy Canteens

A NSW SRC member corresponded with the Coordinator, School Canteens Projects, to provide a student point of view in this initiative.

### **NSW Commission for Children and Young People**

The NSW SRC liaison person communicated regularly with the NSW Commission for Children and Young People, attended meetings of the group and provided advice on issues related to the actions of the group.

### **Environment**

The NSW SRC liaison member communicated with the NSW Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water and provided regular updates on the progress of *Enviro Inspiro!* 2009.

### **Special Initiatives**

Various 2009 NSW SRC members participated in:

- The International Women's Day Luncheon held 25 January 2009 at the Sydney Convention Centre
- The launch of Education Week 2009
- The Environmental Volunteering Conference (June 2009)
- The *MindMatters*' *Leading health and wellbeing*' Conference (July 2009).



**Members of the NSW SRC at their meeting held in March 2009**

The 2009 NSW SRC wishes the incoming 2010 NSW SRC all the best for their term of office!