



The Role of Professional Associations in Connecting and Enabling School Leaders

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The New South Wales Secondary Principals' Council (SPC) is the largest professional association representing secondary school principals in Australia. Our 500 members lead a diverse range of government secondary schools across the state of New South Wales (NSW). This presentation will examine the role of professional associations in connecting and enabling school leaders. This presentation will cover four key aspects of our operation.

1. The NSW Context: We will examine the context of NSW public secondary schools, with a particular focus on how SPC has influenced key elements of the NSW Education Reform Agenda over the last decade.
2. Diversity of Leadership: Our membership profile is broad. Our members are drawn from a vast range of contexts and have a wide range of needs. We will provide an overview of the gender, social and cultural diversity of our members and our schools. We will discuss how our association meets the needs of principals in comprehensive high schools, multi-campus colleges, selective high schools, central schools, Schools for Specific Purposes, Environmental Education Centres and Educational Training Units.
3. Supporting Sustainable Leadership: We will examine the structure of NSW SPC and explore its role in supporting principal wellbeing, through our employed officers, our annual principal wellbeing survey and our affiliation with professional and academic partners.
4. Preparing leaders of the future: NSW SPC coordinates a significant suite of Professional Learning to meet the needs of our members, to build leadership capacity and to prepare the next generation of school leaders. We will provide an overview of our Annual Conference, regular Professional Learning Days, and the structures and personnel that we have put in place to ensure the quality of these programs.
5. Question & Answer Session (up to 10 minutes): panel style plenary with each presenter responding to questions from the audience on topics relevant to their portfolio areas.