

December 2017

## LEA RECOGNITION OF SERVICE

## **Terry Sawade**

## For services to Lutheran schooling 2001 – 2017

The Lutheran Church of Australia thankfully acknowledges the faithful and committed service of Terry Sawade to Lutheran schools for 17 years

Terry commenced his service in Lutheran education in 2001 when he was appointed as the Year 7 Teacher at Loxton Lutheran School in South Australia. Not long into this appointment, Terry's health took a turn for the worst and he was required to take recuperative leave. Following major heart surgery he thankfully made a full recovery, resuming the teaching role he cherished and later moving into leadership as Principal of Loxton Lutheran School in 2006.

Terry's drive, courage and determination saw Loxton Lutheran School develop into an extremely well-regarded educational institution with a strong digital technology program and excellent facilities. Meanwhile, his focus on caring and respectful relationships and enabling student voice and parent participation ensured that Loxton Lutheran School was a place where everyone was valued and heard. His presence in the yard and an open door policy ensured he was always available to parents, staff, students and members of the wider community. Terry strove hard to maintain the 'special feel' of Loxton Lutheran School, which he would explain to everyone as 'the spirit of God at work here'. Terry's own commitment to his Christian faith and his ability to bear witness to this in his conversations, decision making and daily relationships has impacted deeply on people.

In the classroom, Terry was a passionate and innovative educator who strove to provide real-world experiences for his students, most notably through the instigation of a combined school trip to Canberra for Year 7s to see and understand the workings of Parliament. He was always looking for new opportunities to engage students in their learning and his foremost goal was that they would see the relevance and application of their educational experiences.

Terry will be remembered by his colleagues for his vision, optimism and can-do attitude. Under Terry's guidance and with his support, staff and students alike were encouraged to be curious, dream big and try new things. His tenacity, coupled with support through the highs and lows of those new endeavours was unfailing. His genuine love and concern for people and desire to see them succeed individually and collectively, has always been evident.

Terry's faithful and conscientious service to the Lutheran Church of Australia, through his service at Loxton Lutheran School, has been outstanding and highly valued.

Stephen Rudolph Executive Director

**Lutheran Education Australia** 

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