

LEA SERVICE AWARD

Les Seiffert

**For service to Lutheran education
1976 – 2021**

The Lutheran Church of Australia thankfully acknowledges the faithful and committed service of Les Seiffert to Lutheran education for 46 years.

Les commenced his service in Lutheran Education in 1976 when he was appointed as Principal of Tarrington Lutheran School, Victoria, which marked the beginning of his vocation as a Lutheran educator. In 1982, Les served as principal at St John's Lutheran School, Newtown Victoria; in 1989 he moved to Queensland's Bethania Lutheran School, then back to Victoria to Holy Trinity Lutheran School in Mildura (1994) and St John's Lutheran School, Portland (2004). In 2011, Les journeyed to Good Shepherd College, Hamilton Victoria, where he was appointed Principal for four years and continued as head of sub-school and teacher for the following two years. In 2017, Les joined Geelong Lutheran College as a teacher where he now closes off his exceptional career.

Les has embodied the values of Lutheran education with a very strong emphasis on sharing the faith with students, families and the community, and making connections to everyday life.

In Les's role as Principal he was known by parents, students and especially staff members as a warm and encouraging leader, with a keen sense of fun and high, positive expectations of personal conduct. He was very effective in building relationships within his schools. Les worked tirelessly as a principal to build community, both within his staff group and in the wider community. His contributions in developing concert programs and building opportunities for learning through music were significant.

In recent years, Les was well known for finding any opportunity to involve his students in affirming and encouraging others, by writing letters of thanks and encouragement to people such as teachers, graduating Year 12s and school musical cast members. To be in Les's class meant a year of learning how to treat others with kindness and encouragement.

Les's faithful and conscientious service to his Lord and the Lutheran Church of Australia, through his service in Lutheran education, has been excellent and is humbly recognised through this Award.

**Assoc Prof Lisa Schmidt
Executive Director
Lutheran Education Australia**

ACN 143 905 373

197 Archer Street
North Adelaide SA 5006
T 61 8 8267 7318
F 61 8 8267 7320
E lea@lutheran.edu.au
www.lutheran.edu.au