

December 2021

LEA SERVICE AWARD

Garry Schwartz For service to Lutheran education 2001 – 2021

The Lutheran Church of Australia thankfully acknowledges the faithful and committed service to Lutheran education for 20 years.

Garry commenced his service to Good Shepherd Lutheran School, Para Vista in 2001 and for the subsequent 20 years was instrumental in leading business and financial strategy. During Garry's tenure the school more than doubled in size and outreach, from 226 students and 16 staff to more than 500 students and 60 staff.

Garry brought many strengths to his role including:

Garry Schwartz the **Servant** – Garry Schwartz knows he is loved by God. In response he felt compelled to share God's love with the entire Good Shepherd community – students, staff, parents and friends. Garry's tireless and relentless service to Good Shepherd Lutheran School is acknowledged.

Garry Schwartz the **Innovator** – Garry's wisdom and expertise as a business leader enabled the school to flourish. Garry approached every opportunity and challenge with an optimistic 'can-do' attitude. As both a deep and creative thinker, opportunities placed before him were often processed in new and innovative ways to achieve a bespoke and contextualised offering to the community.

Garry Schwartz was **Child-focused** – Garry ensured that every decision was anchored on the goal of achieving positive outcomes for learners. His passion was to make a positive difference for children and families. Garry understood that a school, as much as it was a business, most importantly, was about serving God's people.

Garry Schwartz was **Authentic** – Garry loved people and served with empathy and respect, 'playing with a straight bat' in every situation.

Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness! Matthew 25:23

Garry's commitment to his Lord has been central to all he has undertaken. His faithful and conscientious service to the Lutheran Church of Australia, through his service in Lutheran education has been outstanding and is humbly recognised through this Award.

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