1. **Mission Statement**
Bega High School is committed to providing excellence in education, which prepares all students to contribute responsibly to a changing world by preparing students to be:

- Skilled lifelong learners
- Balanced in their life
- Skilled problem solvers and decision makers in relation to all aspects of their lives
- Responsible and compassionate citizens
- Self-confident
- Valued group participants

2. **Principal’s Report**
The future of Bega High School was founded in 1952 and in the years since. The values of respect, responsibility, effort and ‘work conquers all’ are as important now as they have been over the last 63 years. As we move further into the 21st century the future is in students who were born in the last 15 years.

It is that time of the school year where we are looking at what has happened at the school, and what has been experienced by our students, so that we can plan for 2016 and beyond. Deepak Chopra (born 1947) warns that “Every time you are tempted to react in the same old way, ask if you want to be a prisoner of the past or a pioneer of the future.” So in our planning and processes we will do to remember that “The future depends on what you do today.” (Mahatma Gandhi: born in 1869) and the advice from Theodor Seuss Geisel, otherwise known as Dr. Seuss, that “Only you can control your future.” It is amazing to know that 25 years ago the future was being able to do research and then cut and paste information from an Internet site full of quotations from around the world and from centuries ago!

2016 will see many traditional aspects of Bega High School maintained but it will also include new initiatives and processes designed to support successful learning of students now and into the future.

Data and information collected through surveys, feedback, meetings and departmental reports informs our planning, just as the indicative funding is an important factor in what is planned. The main aim is for all students to achieve their identified learning goals and high quality outcomes and we continually review and adapt as we learn more about the physical, psychological, and social factors, combined with skills and resources that guarantee excellence.

The P & C and the AECG, student leaders, and school staff are all part of the planning and consultation in developing documentation, strategies and resources.

MADD celebrations (Music, Art, Drumming and Drama in 2015) are one example of a great collaborative effort and event that is fast-becoming a tradition for Bega High School. It is also a prime example of students not only using their existing knowledge and skills but also learning to work with timelines, cooperate with other individuals and groups, and perform for various audiences, including future fellow-students from our local primary schools. Well done to everyone involved.

We look forward to welcoming a number of new teachers in 2016 and pay tribute to the teachers that are leaving the school. Greg Bartlett (English) and Phil Harris (Science) have joined Julie Colwell (Music) and Brian Pevitt (PDHPE), in retiring from the teaching service by the end of the year.

New teachers will include Ruth Clark (Home Economics), Ritchie Faulkner (PDHPE) and Daniel Benzie (English), in addition to other positions that are yet to be finalised.

At the end of the term, we will farewell Seanine Cooper as she was successful in achieving a head teacher position at South Grafton High School and other teachers will be taking extended leave in 2016.

All these changes are part of the deliberations and planning for the curriculum and timetable establishment and will make for a new look team of more than 90 staff here to support your students into the future.

**Thought of the week:**

- ? The past is behind, learn from it. The future is ahead, prepare for it. The present is here, live it. Thomas S. Monson (born in 1927)

Mrs Linda Thurston
Relieving Principal
Coming Events

Tuesday, 24 November:
- AECG Meeting at Bega High School
- Uniform Shop Open
- Year 6 into 7 Parent Information Night (School Library) & student disco (school hall)

Thursday, 26 November:
- UC4Yourself excursion to University of Canberra – departs from front of school 6:30 am and returns 6:30 pm approx.
- Uniform Shop Closed

Friday, 27 November:
- Muscular Dystrophy Mufti Day

Tuesday, 1 December:
- MultiLit Excursion to Magic Mountain
- SCLC Stage Band Rehearsal

Wednesday, 2 December:
- Year 6 into 7 Orientation Day

Thursday, 3 December:
- Year 6 into 7 Orientation Day
- Year 10 Evening in school hall

Thursday, 10 December:
- Years 7 & 9 Presentation Ceremony – 10 am – 12 noon
- Years 8 & 10 Presentation Ceremony – 1 pm – 3 pm
- Last trading day for Uniform shop 2015

Friday, 11 December:
- Year 11 Presentation Ceremony – 10 am – 12 noon

Monday, 14 December:
- Year 11 Mathematics Assessment task
- Year 7 End of year Bournda camp (3 days)

Wednesday, 16 December:
- Last day Term 4 for students

Thursday, 17 December:
- Staff Development day

Friday, 18 December:
- Staff Development Day
- Last day Term 4 2015

Year 7 ‘Back to Bournda’ End of Year Camp

About half of the year 7 students have returned their permission slips and deposits for the end of year Camp which is going to be a great opportunity for all to learn some new skills and finish the year on a high.

Please remember that if your child is attending the camp to ensure the balance is paid by week 10 (7th December). There will be more information coming home in the next week or so regarding ‘what to bring lists’ etc.

If your child is not attending the camp they will be expected to attend school for normal lessons.

Mr Green
Year 7 Adviser
Hospitality Work Placement
This week three students completed work placement in the Hospitality Industry. It is important for students studying Hospitality to have access to industry experiences. We are fortunate to have a number of excellent establishments within our local area that support our students. With great feedback from the employers, I am sure that Jeremy Lee, Kyle Bell and Kiah Schuback gained some valuable learning from their experience.

Science Rocks
In recent weeks Bega High has had a number of very successful Science students receive prestigious awards and scholarships.

Victor Chang Science Award
The Victor Chang Science award is awarded to the best science student in Year 11. Shaun Smith was awarded this honour by a representative of the Victor Chang Institute in Wollongong on the 6th November, in front of his proud family. Shaun also received an invitation to tour the Victor Chang Research Institute in December.

Well Done Shaun!

Sapphire Foundation Scholarships
Two of our very talented Year 7 students have received Sapphire Foundation Scholarships. These scholarships are awarded to gifted and talented students to further their interest in Science. They are valued at $4000 over two years. Taran Gross and Aurin Yang were presented with their certificates by Mr Warwick Adams, the CEO of the Foundation.

Well done Taran and Aurin!

Taran Gross                                        Aurin Yang
Mrs Smith
Head Teacher Science

Sapphire Coast Learning Community (SCLC) Visual Arts Challenge 2015
Numerous talented Bega High students submitted work for the annual SCLC Art Challenge. The selected works were installed in Twyford Hall in Merimbula in time for the exhibition’s grand opening on Friday 9th October.

The opening was well attended by parents and students from all over the Sapphire Coast. The exhibition had a diverse range of art styles and techniques with work from K - 12 on display.

Bega High scooped many prizes across all categories. Winners included: Elya Bartholomew (Painting stage 6), Eleanore Keys (Pottery stage 5), Tiger Lambert (Painting stage 5), Josephine Woods (Pottery stage 5), Bruce Limb and Julien Comer-Kliene (Photography stage 5) and Jaqui Wilson (Painting stage 4)
MADD Night, Tuesday, 10 November
MADD Night, Friday, 13 November
Year 6 into 7 Transition Program

Students from Tathra, Candelo, Mumbulla and Cobargo primary schools participating in a Food Technology lesson with classroom teacher Mrs Jennie Smith.
Year 12 Formal, Oaklands Event Centre, Pambula, Thursday, 12 November 2015

Welcome to the 2015 Year 12 Formal

Photos of the Year 12 Formal
Fire Safety Workshops for Hospitality & Special Education students

John Cullen, Superintendent of the NSW Rural Fire Service conducted a number of workshops at Bega High School this week. Students learnt valuable life skills where they had the opportunity to put out fires using a fire blanket and fire extinguisher under controlled conditions.

I would like to thank Superintendent Cullen for giving up his valuable time and resources to come to Bega High and work with our Hospitality and Special Education students.

Mrs Maria Hay

Aurora College, the state’s first virtual secondary school aims to provide innovative, flexible learning in a whole new context, by allowing students to connect locally and learn globally.

Masterclass and Mentor programs

Aurora College offers students expanded career options through innovative partnerships with business and with scientific, cultural and tertiary education institutions.

Mentoring opportunities and master classes are key to both the online and residential school programs.

Vacancies exist in the following Stage 6 (Preliminary) subjects at Aurora College in 2016:

- Chemistry
- Physics
- Mathematics
- Mathematics Extension 1
- English Advanced
- English Extension 1
- Economics
- Italian Beginners

Application forms can be downloaded from:

Late applications will be accepted until all places are filled.

For more information contact Mark Freedman at Bega High School on 6492 9000
or Chris Robertson, Principal, Aurora College, 38 Smalls Road, Ryde NSW 2112
Ph: 9886 7560  Email: Christopher.robertson@det.nsw.edu.au
Bronze Courses

Tathra SLSC is holding Surf Bronze courses over the 2015/2016 summer. To qualify for this course you must be over 15 years of age and swim 400m in 9 minutes. Details of the courses are below:

**Course:**
**Swim Date:** 10am Saturday 9th January 2016 at Bega Pool
**Course Activities:** 9am – 3pm Monday – Thursday 11th to 14th January 2016 at Tathra Beach Surf club. Wet suits are advised for these sessions

See Ms George in Maths or email paulap8@me.com if you are interested in either of these courses.

The Harding Miller Foundation Scholarship Program provides practical support to lift the educational and career aspirations of high potential girls who are facing disadvantage. Successful applications will receive two years of support, including:

- Annual bursary of $3,000 to cover educational expenses such as: Face-To-Face Tutoring
- Uniforms and equipment
- Stationery and books
- Excursions and camps
- Online Tutoring
- Support Laptop with mobile internet connection

At the end of the scholarship period, scholars may be invited to reapply for ongoing support through their senior years.

Applications are now being accepted for girls entering Year 9 in 2016.

For more information visit the Public Education Foundation website at http://www.publiceducationfoundation.org.au/scholarship-archive/harding-miller-foundation-scholarship/

Applications close on Friday 27 November 2015.
Campbell Page will be hosting a White Ribbon Event at Cocora Beach, Eden on Wednesday, 25 November between 4 pm and 7 pm.

Campbell Page will provide a FREE BBQ Dinner and a Mini Bus to transport member of the community to the event who could not usually attend.

For more information contact: Amanda on 0407 886 921
Find your international experience with WEP Australia!
WEP Australia offers not-for-profit student exchange programs to over 25 countries around the world! Are you dreaming of a white Christmas in Europe next year? Maybe you’re keen to discover the ‘real’ USA or Australia’s cooler cousin, Canada! Whatever your style, there’s a place for you!
To find out more, visit our website: wep.org.au or connect on social media at @wepaustralia and /wepaustralia!

Not the right time for you to be jet-setting? Hosting an overseas exchange student allows families to gain insight into another culture and way of living, without leaving the comfort of their own home. WEP host families live all around Eastern Australia. Some live on farms in the country, others live in apartments in the city. Not all our host families have kids, some are young couples and some are single. In fact, host families can come in any shape or form, but they all share a desire to learn more about other peoples and cultures! For more information and to view the profiles of students eagerly awaiting news of their host family, head to our website, www.wep.org.au/host, email info@wep.org.au or call 1300 884 733 to speak to our friendly hosting team!

The Crossing
Crossing Songwriters Camp for Years 8 – 11
Monday 14 – Wednesday 16 December
Professional musicians will be on hand at The Crossing Camp to guide participants in developing ‘my place’ songs about where they live.
The Crossing Songwriters Camp provides a music extension opportunity for young people to express their thoughts and feelings about the South East region.
In partnership with the Yuin Folk Club and other arts organisations, The Crossing offers this 3 day camp at a reduced fee of $150. Included are all meals, accommodation and instruction at The Crossing Land Education Trust near Bermagui.
There are 24 places and bookings can be made at http://thecrossing.thebegavalley.org.au/events/songwriters-camp-yr-8-11/
Participants will also have the opportunity to perform on the Youth Crossing Stage at the 2016 Cobargo Folk Festival on 27 – 28 February 2015.

Advanced Wilderness First Aid
Run over two consecutive weekends
13 – 14 & 20 -21 February 2016
The course includes Senior First Aid, CPR and Remote First Aid qualifications.
Run by Pat Guinane from Wilderness First Aid Consultants at The Crossing, the course is full of practical hands on scenarios.
$540 for local day trippers and $680 for stay overs (you can BYO tent or stay in the bunkhouse
The Crossing Land Education Trust
PO Box 72,Bermagui NSW 2546
02 6493 3400
thecrossing.thebegavalley.org.au

The Bega Valley Autism Lab is going to start in 2016!
What is the ‘Autism Lab’?
The Lab is a computer club for kids with high functioning Autism/Asperger’s. Its intent is not only to provide tuition in areas such as programming, 3D, digital design and gaming, but also to help these kids navigate social norms and build meaningful relationships.
Further information: http://thelab.org.au/)
When and where?
Lab sessions will take place in the Bega Library. The first Lab is on Tuesday, 19th of January 2016 (3:30 – 5:30 pm), the second on Wednesday the following week (to be confirmed), then again on Tuesday the next week. Initially, the sessions will be free.
Bookings are essential (Monika on 0404 798 368 or monikaryanbega@gmail.com)!

Mumbulla School for Rudolf Steiner Education
invites everyone to their
Christmas Market on
Friday 27th November from 3.15 pm till 7 pm
Quality handmade crafts, toys, clothes and jewellery, woodfired pizza, homemade lemonade, hot meals, delicious cake, coffee and chai will all be available.
For more information please contact Vickie Goldsmith on 0411 392 333