

Aboriginal Advisory Body Communiqué 4

Meeting 4, 27 August 2024

The Aboriginal Advisory Body (AAB) met for its fourth meeting on 27 August 2024. The AAB continues to make progress in engaging with the Department to support the creation of learning environments where Aboriginal students can succeed as Aboriginal people, where their cultural identity, wellbeing and engagement are at the centre of their learning experience and where culture can thrive.

This meeting offered many insights and discussions into key areas including:

The scope of the AAB

Discussions progress with the Department to define the scope of the AAB which will continue to help shape AAB's areas of focus and strategic priorities to ensure that the work that the Body undertakes is effective, time efficient and most impactful.

The Department highlighted a number of plans for AAB's involvement that are entering a new review and planning cycle in 2025, which will shape and impact the Department's future directions, strategic priorities and programs.

Public Sector Commission – Agency Capability Review

As part of the Department of Education Agency Capability Review process, the Lead Reviewer, Public Sector Commission (PSC) delivered a focus group session to gain AAB's input and insight on key discussion areas to offer insights on Departmental structures, challenges and opportunities to enable Aboriginal students to succeed as Aboriginal people.

Aboriginal Teaching and Learning

The AAB had the pleasure of hearing from the recently appointed Director, Aboriginal Teaching and Learning who shared about her journey and experience as well as the role of the Aboriginal Teaching and Learning (ATL) business area and opportunities for continued partnership and discussions with the AAB going forward. The Department's ATL team supports effective leadership and teaching to create culturally responsive schools; and build professional capability of educators to strengthen wellbeing, engagement and achievement of Aboriginal students.

Diversity Targets and Closing the Gap

The Executive Director, Workforce and Executive Director, Strategy and Policy discussed with the AAB the Department's progress towards diversity targets, and the progress on socio-economic outcomes and national targets mapped to Department of Education Closing the Gap measures.

For the next meeting

Members will next meet on 21 November 2024 in the Kimberley.