EXCITING NEW INITIATIVES FOR NAVIGATOR IN 2017  
Neville Grieger, Principal

College Council working through the Leadership Team and under the guidance of our new Principal, has now finalized the Navigator Future Directions Action Plan which is very systematic to school improvement. The final version of the document has identified over 100 tasks, initiatives and projects for careful investigation and implementation in the near future, taking into account the input that was collected from across the entire College community. Many of these tasks are already well underway.

We would like to highlight some of the major initiatives that will change the face of Navigator College as we move forward into 2017.

PEDAL PRIX STUDENT TEAM TO HEAD TO MURRY BRIDGE!

A vision for participation in the Pedal Prix was outlined as part of our Future Directions Information nights earlier in the year. Our plan is to have two Middle School teams entered in the 24-hour event at Murray Bridge in late September next year. Ultimately we would aim to undertake much of the hands-on “vehicle” development work as part of the team entry each year. Our Head of Middle School, Andrew Jericho will initially be responsible for overseeing our inaugural Pedal Prix entry.

DESIGN - TECHNOLOGY EXCITING FACILITIES EXPANSIONS

The task of increasing our options and expanding opportunities in practical, hands-on, materials, design and construction areas is high on our list of priorities. An immediate response to this identified need for 2017, is for the College to double the practical classroom working space that it has available for these practical areas. This will enable us to offer an expanded range of practical experiences to our students particularly across the Middle School in Years 6 – 9. From Year 10 level, students will be able to access any of the Construction Pathways courses that are available through TAFE. We are also keen to facilitate school-based apprenticeship opportunities, particularly in and around the building trades. We have created a significant staff PAR (Position of Additional Responsibility) to oversee the Student Pathways area of curriculum development at the College.

FOCUS ON THE WELL-BEING OF COLLEGE COMMUNITY MEMBERS

A Pastoral Care Leadership Team will be put in place for the start of 2017. This group will be responsible for the oversight of the well-being of all members of the College community. We would also like to remind families of the recent introduction of a hotline that we have set up specifically as another way of bringing any alleged bullying concerns to our attention. For your information once again, the email address is: nobullying@navigator.sa.edu.au. This can also be accessed from the home page of the College website.

BRING ON THE BRASS BAND - MUSIC IS ABOUT TO TAKE OFF

All of the necessary planning in staffing, resourcing and logistical arrangements are now well advanced in relation to our launch of a bold and adventurous initiative that we believe will transform the music program of Navigator College to amongst the top echelons of music schools in Australia. While it is not uncommon for schools to focus on music, it is rare for young people to be given an experience like the one being planned for Navigator from 2017. Our program will be underpinned by a blanket instrumental immersion scheme, commencing in Year 6 and 7 next year. Every student in these year levels will be provided free of charge, with a concert band instrument – either a trumpet, trombone, flute or clarinet. The College will also provide the instrumental tuition for each student in this program. Ultimately we would love to be able to participate in one of the top school music events in Australia – the Generations for Jazz festival held annually in Mt Gambier.