

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### What are capital works?

Capital works are normally understood as building works that create an asset, as well as constructing, renovating or installing facilities and fixtures associated with, and forming an integral part of those works. Building of a new school, building new classrooms, and making improvements to other facilities are all considered part of the FRSA Capital works program.

### What is being done at the schools?

The most significant component of the capital works program is for the new Capel School. However, works will be done at each of the metro schools, including new classrooms in Rockingham and Kelmscott, renovations to the kindergarten toilets in Rockingham as well as renovation at the College library. The middle school toilets will also need to be renovated, along with the installation of a covered area. After significant capital works at Byford in the past years, the only capital improvements relate to the retention of basin storm water. For more information on these exciting project, just go to the FRSA website [www.frsa.asn.au](http://www.frsa.asn.au) and follow the Capital Works Campaign weblink.

### Why is avoiding debt important?

Managing debt for any business or organisation is important, particularly in an uncertain and changing financial climate. This is true for our local churches as well as for the Free Reformed School Association. However, unlike our churches that receive income exclusively from a diverse and committed membership, the bulk of the schools' income comes from one source, the federal government. This means our schools are more vulnerable to the whims of the federal government, and highlights the need to avoid debt as much as possible.

### What about reducing spending?

For each budget period, all manner of spending is evaluated and considered by the councils and board prior to seeking approval from our membership. Individuals may question particular spending in specific programs or items, or even suggest selling other assets. There are a few matters to consider; first, by comparison with other independent Schools, the FRSA operates in a cost effective manner. Second, and more importantly, we must be mindful that the board is working to a long-term strategic plan as well as with a specific annual budget that has already been approved by the membership.

### Is my donation really needed?

It is clear that God has blessed each one within our community with varying gifts and talents, as well as with differing financial circumstances, with some receiving more abundantly than others. Yet, as a community, our contribution must be considered within the context of our own gifts and circumstances, with the focus on the joy of giving and not the actual amount. Yes, some will be able to give a donation of \$100,000 – yet it is no more pleasing to God, that another giving \$100.00. The focus of this Capital Works campaign is to urge all members to prayerfully participate and give according the measure of the blessings that God has given them.

### Can I make a donation in the form of trade services or volunteer labour?

This would be wonderful – indeed truly a community effort! However as it relates the new school at Capel, the current government requirements will not allow this to be considered at this time.

With the sizeable grant provided by the government for the new school, comes certain legal requirements that the FRSA must uphold as it relates to the actual tendering process.



Should the opportunity arise after the contacts have been awarded, the local school development committees will seek ways to encourage further community support and participation.

### **What if we don't raise enough funds?**

Avoiding debt, as much as possible is the primary mandate and goal of the fundraising committee. As members prayerfully consider their contribution to this campaign, they will also be asking whether they can contact you again, should there be a shortfall. If this 'second round' of campaigning still does not meet the objective, it will be the responsibility of the board to address how the shortfall will be financed, through capital loans which will put pressure on increasing the school fees in future years.

### **What if we raise more than enough funds?**

What a beautiful problem that would be! It is the desire of the fundraising committee that we would be able to avoid all the current debt of this capital works campaign – some \$2.7 million. However, if we raise more funds, the board would present a proposal of how best to utilise the excess amount received via this campaign.

### **Is giving to this capital campaign tax deductible?**

Yes, as an individual your donation to the capital campaign does qualify to be tax deductible. As for donations made by via distributions by family trusts, we would recommend you seek clarity on the favourable tax treatment of your donation with your accountant, or ask the committee for general guidance.

### **What happens if my circumstances change?**

The fundraising committee understands that you provide your pledge in good faith on the basis of your current commitments. Should your circumstances adversely change, do not hesitate to contact the committee so that your commitments can be reviewed and revised to suit your situation.

### **When are the pledges due? And where do I send my completed pledge forms?**

The intent of the campaign is to encourage broad participation within our School and Church community. The desire is to have all pledges committed prior to the end of May 2016.

Completed pledge forms should be placed into an envelope and put into the SCHOOL boxes that will be available at the rear of your local church. Alternatively they can be emailed to [capital2016@frsa.asn.au](mailto:capital2016@frsa.asn.au).

### **Who are in the Capital Campaign Committee?**

The board has appointed the following brothers:

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