

MEDIA RELEASE

Schooling is everybody's business: Principal for a Day

6 September 2017: Schooling will be everybody's business tomorrow when students and staff at more than 150 Victorian schools welcome high-profile personalities, members of government at all levels, business executives, and CEOs as their *Principal for a Day*.

Business and community leaders will shadow school principals to experience many aspects of a common school day, including in-depth management discussions, taking classes with students, talking with parents and teachers, or even doing canteen or yard duty.

Participants in this year's *Principal for a Day* program include:

- Gill Callister, Secretary, Victorian Department of Education and Training
- Uncle Jack Charles, Indigenous elder and actor
- Emma King, CEO, Victorian Council of Social Service
- Peter Hitchener OAM, Nine News Melbourne
- Melodie Potts-Rosevear, CEO, Teach for Australia
- Andrew Wailes, Artistic Director, Royal Melbourne Philharmonic.

Principal for a Day gives business and community leaders a first-hand experience of the strengths and challenges facing Victoria's government schools, and provides school principals with an opportunity to compare management and leadership perspectives.

Chief Executive of the Australian Council for Educational Research, Professor Geoff Masters AO, said the *Principal for a Day* program not only gives business and community leaders a first-hand experience of our schools but also helps to build partnerships and long-lasting professional networks.

"*Principal for a Day* enables business and community leaders to develop insight into schooling and learning, and how they can work with schools. The opportunity provides mutual benefits for school principals and community and business leaders," Professor Masters said.

"*Principal for a Day* gives participants an opportunity to develop networks and ongoing relationships that support leadership development, which is a crucial characteristic of highly effective schools."

Principal for a Day is a partnership between ACER and the Victorian Department of Education and Training and Bastow Institute of Educational Leadership. *Principal for a Day* has been held annually in Victoria since 2001.

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