



# KIRWAN STATE HIGH SCHOOL

## A WORLD CLASS SCHOOL

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### TESTIMONIAL FOR EILEEN HEYWOOD

Kirwan State High School has enjoyed a ten year professional relationship with Eileen Heywood from Heywood Consulting Group. Eileen is described by our staff as an outstanding critical friend and mentor.

Kirwan High is a very large, complex organisation with 2060 students and 254 staff from diverse backgrounds including 435 Indigenous students. We originally engaged Eileen as a consultant in November 2007 as we had become aware of her growing reputation as an excellent facilitator for Appreciative Inquiry, a strength based process that engaged stakeholders in self determined change using a positive lens.

This was a turning point for future planning in our school. Under Eileen's stewardship we began a journey of organisational development in which all stakeholders embrace the opportunity to work through the Appreciative Inquiry process which inevitably energises us as we dream and design a positive future. The planning and review cycle is an exciting process at Kirwan High School, something in which staff, students, parents and community members are very keen to be involved.

Through this work with Eileen we regularly review and develop our Statement of Intent including Our Vision, Values and Purpose, our Whole School and Subject Department Four Year Strategic Plans and Yearly Plans. She has also facilitated our work on an Indigenous Mentoring Program and she is currently working with our School Council.

Eileen has demonstrated the capacity to make real connections with individuals and our organisation as a whole. She has excellent interpersonal skills which enable her to positively engage a range of stakeholders. She has collaborated with us to achieve real organisational change and development. Our school has been recognised as a system leader in this arena and we attribute this to our long term partnership with Eileen Heywood. I would most highly recommend Heywood Consulting Group to any organisation that is looking to begin and sustain a journey of continuous improvement.

Meredith Wenta  
Executive Principal



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