What is the Student Leaders Congress?

Who
All schools (28) in the Warrnambool City and Moyne Shires send a team to the Congress. This FREE localised congress is unique in Victoria and Australian involving a cross sector partnership between schools, local council, Deakin University, business and industry.

Why
The Student Leaders Congress:

- Is about knowing what leaders do
- Is about creating a community of leaders, change makers, young people who care and want to make a difference to people lives
- Is about inspiring our students (young leaders) to go out and make a difference in their communities, solve problems and develop connections in their communities
- Is creating an environment for young people to think, create and do leadership and learn skills to become leaders
- Is learning knowing that community leadership is about connecting, asking questions and finding ways to solve problems
- Is knowing that leaderships is about making a difference - it's not about shinny badges and titles
- Is about giving young people ownership of their community and feel listened to
- Is about giving students voice, enacting stronger smarter communities - 'building better futures for everyone must include young people, their ideas, thoughts and problems’

How
Through key community partnerships with:
- Deakin University Warrnambool- Education Faculty
- School Focused Youth Services - Brophy Warrnambool
- Warrnambool City Council
- Moyne Shire Council
- Warrnambool Network of Government Schools
- South West LLEN
- Department of Education - Innovations & Digital Practice Unit
- The Standard and 3YB/Coast FM Radio (marketing)

Simon Perry and Daniel Watson initiated the event in 2014 with key partner Peters Project, raising awareness and funding of almost $30,000 for this community organisation.


Support Articles

In 2015 the congress supported the Leila Rose Foundation and changed communities, with local based student led projects in the Moyne and Warrnambool City Council areas.

In its third year running, the Congress this year will have a Health and Wellbeing flavour along with a focus on Entrepreneurial and Creative leadership.
“Sarah Wall, creator of Jeanieboy, will be our Keynote speaker this year and share her story, passion for health and wellbeing, leadership and community engagement”

“We are proud to be leading this project as we strive to provide a high-quality, relevant and challenging educational experiences for all our students in the Warrnambool Network and Great South Coast area”

#studentleaderscongress

BIG IDEA

What does it mean to be a leader in my community?

WHAT
Through project based learning, we aim to build the capacity of student leaders within our local schools to become leaders in their communities. Foster and build localised partnerships between schools, business and other educational services.

HOW
Students will:
- Host their own local student leaders workshops and events
- Implement real life projects back at their schools
- Work with local communities and schools to build their leadership capacity

THE PROJECTS
Students will work in teams and have choice about projects they implement in their community. The work is driven by students and schools based on local, grassroots needs.

CELEBRATION OF PROJECTS
Lighthouse Theatre Warrnambool
July 2015

where students will present their 2min film (documentary) about their project outcomes, the difference they made in their community and the learning process along the way.
Student leader congress to support local causes

Students from all 28 schools in the Warrnambool and Moyne regions will come together on 27 February for a student leaders’ congress that will build leadership skills and drive community projects.

The student leaders from year 5-8 will be supported by their teachers and Deakin University School of Education student teachers as they develop projects to implement in their communities.

The Warrnambool Network of Government Schools is leading the project in partnership with Deakin University, local schools, South West LLEN, Moyne and Warrnambool City Councils.

Organiser and Woolsthorpe Primary School principal Simon Perry said he believed the localised event was unique in Victoria and possibly Australia in bringing together a cross sector partnership between schools, councils, university, business and industry.

“Through project based learning, we aim to build the capacity of student leaders within our local schools to become leaders in their communities,” Ms Perry said.

“It will also foster and build localised partnerships between schools, business and other educational services,” he added.

The students will host their own student leaders’ workshops and events and implement real-life projects at their schools. They will work in teams and be able to choose projects to implement in their communities.

“The work is driven by students and schools based on their needs and projects are linked to curriculum,” Mr Perry said.

The inaugural congress in 2014 adopted Peter’s Project as the primary cause for support.

A sessions with International leadership speaker Simon Breakspear, a learning innovator, researcher and strategist and founders of LearnLabs, will coincide with the congress.

The 2015 projects will be celebrated with an event at the Lighthouse Theatre in July.

Deakin University Warrnambool Campus lecturer in education, Terri Redpath, said the congress not only gave school students leadership skills but also gave Deakin graduates an exciting opportunity to collaborate professionally in the community. “Our course values partnership opportunities as they are rewarding and enhance skills that make our students job ready,” Ms Redpath said.