

# MARINE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION OF NSW



## STRATEGIC PLAN 2025-2027

## ASSOCIATION VISION & CONTEXT

The Marine Teachers Association of New South Wales (MTANSW) is an incorporated, professional body of qualified marine teachers practicing in NSW secondary schools. The Association was formed on the 22<sup>nd</sup> August 1996 to:

- Guide, support and represent marine teachers in NSW secondary schools.
- Mentor new teachers into the profession.
- Promote and publicise all aspects of marine teaching.
- Promote and teach sustainable use of the marine environment.
- Take an active role in the development and review of syllabuses and policy documents.
- Disseminate and exchange information and ideas amongst members, using a website, e mails, newsletters, regional branch activities and annual conferences.
- Form alliances, agreements and partnerships with statutory bodies charged with managing the marine environment, to assist teachers in program delivery.

The Association actively supports its members, and always seeks and values their input. It is administered by practicing members who volunteer their time.

The rules of the Association restrict membership to practicing marine teachers employed by registered teaching authorities in NSW and the ACT and redirects non teachers to more appropriate bodies such as the Australian Association of Environmental Educators (AAEE)

**OUR VISION:** To enable dynamic educators to inspire people to connect with the marine environment.

**OUR PURPOSE:** To promote, develop and publicise all aspects of marine teaching in NSW

**OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES:** To ensure the future custodians of the marine environment have the skills and knowledge to use it sustainably and safely; to create real-world, relevant experiences for all marine studies students.

## **OUR VALUES:**

- **Collegiality:** all members work together to provide quality learning experiences for all students.
- **Learning:** commitment to being a learning organisation, promoting knowledge management and a continuous learning culture to improve what we do.
- **Opportunities:** determination to provide students with practical learning activities.

**ROLE OF THE MARINE TEACHER** is to give their students a good understanding and love of the marine environment so they will conserve it for future generations.

**ROLE OF THE ASSOCIATION** is to support teachers so that all aspects of their teaching are effective in conserving the marine environment.

**GOVERNANCE:** Best practice governance is embedded within all aspects of the organisation.

**CAPACITY:** Sustainable finances achieved through clearly defined goals.

**CAPABILITY:** A well developed, effective and passionate team of volunteers.

*“In the end, we will only conserve that which we love, We will only love that which we understand, We will only understand that which we are taught.” Buba Dioum 1968*

# STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

**STRATEGIC DIRECTION 1:** To support teachers.

**STRATEGIC DIRECTION 2:** To actively engage in the NSW Curriculum Reform to ensure our future syllabus enable best practice in marine education.

**STRATEGIC DIRECTION 3:** Community links that benefit students.

## STRATEGIC DIRECTION 1: TO SUPPORT TEACHERS

PURPOSE	PEOPLE	PROCESSES	PRODUCT & PRACTICES
<b>Why we are doing it</b>	<b>What we are aiming for with students, members, community</b>	<b>How we are going to do it</b>	<b>What it will look like, what we will achieve</b>
<p>Our vision is to enable dynamic educators to inspire people to connect with the marine environment.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Members have access to networking and professional development opportunities to improve their knowledge and skills.</li> <li>• Increased resource development for Stage 6 Marine Studies in particular.</li> <li>• More professional learning opportunities in remote regions of the state.</li> <li>• Succession plan for transition of MTANSW members into Executive roles</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MTANSW Executive organise the annual conference, AGM and other professional development opportunities to meet member needs.</li> <li>• CREST newsletter published once a term.</li> <li>• Website continues to expand and develop and includes:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- teaching resources</li> <li>- programs and assessments</li> <li>- excursion ideas</li> <li>- scope and sequences</li> <li>- MTANSW directory</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Facebook page continues to advertise the MTANSW.</li> <li>• Facebook group continues to provide a place for discussion between members.</li> <li>• Syllabus implementation meetings &amp; workshops (across entire membership and/or local area networks).</li> <li>• Drive resource collection from members to expand the resources on the website for all members.</li> <li>• Encourage branches to get together on a more regular basis (Branch Representative involvement)</li> <li>• Involvement of Branch Representatives in Executive Meetings to increase exposure in MTANSW processes.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual conference continues to run each year including PL hours (self-registered) for all who attend.</li> <li>• Website maintained and updated including:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- more Stage 6 resources</li> <li>- Suggested textbooks/resources section.</li> <li>- MTANSW directory to direct new members to specifically skilled mentors.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Increased followers on Facebook Page.</li> <li>• Increased member posts on Facebook group.</li> <li>• MTANSW President or their designated representative meet with NESAs on a regular basis and maintain involvement in all syllabus consultation processes</li> <li>• More professional learning activities occurring throughout the year.</li> </ul>

**STRATEGIC DIRECTION 2: TO ACTIVELY ENGAGE IN THE NSW CURRICULUM REFORM TO ENSURE OUR FUTURE SYLLABUS ENABLE BEST PRACTICE IN MARINE EDUCATION.**

PURPOSE	PEOPLE	PROCESSES	PRODUCT & PRACTICES
Why we are doing it	What we are aiming for with students, members, community	How we are going to do it	What it will look like, what we will achieve
<p>We need to ensure every marine student leaves school prepared for a lifetime of ongoing learning and informed and active citizenship, and with the knowledge, skills and attributes that will help equip them for meaningful work and satisfying careers.</p>	<p>A meaningful and challenging curriculum that meets the needs of our students.</p>	<p>Engage in all community and stakeholder forums and consultations to ensure the importance of our Stage 5 and 6 courses are made clear to those leading the curriculum review.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regular engagement with PTC and NESAs.</li> <li>• Regular updates to members regarding the various stages of the curriculum reform.</li> </ul>
<p>The possibility of an ATAR course could lead to increased numbers of students pursuing marine as an academic pathway.</p>	<p>Many members have expressed a desire for an ATAR based marine course while others feel the need for a non-ATAR pathway and currently enjoy the flexibility provided by the Board Endorsed course. We are aiming for a middle ground that benefits all types of marine students.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Take an active role in the development and review of syllabuses and policy documents.</li> <li>• MTANSW continue to work with NESAs and build professional networks.</li> </ul>	<p>A meaningful and relevant curriculum for all students in NSW.</p>

**STRATEGIC DIRECTION 3: COMMUNITY LINKS THAT BENEFIT STUDENTS.**

PURPOSE	PEOPLE	PROCESSES	PRODUCT & PRACTICES
Why we are doing it	What we are aiming for with students, members, community	How we are going to do it	What it will look like, what we will achieve
<p>Community links established and maintained to benefit students.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To provide students with opportunities to gain experience, skills and knowledge in any area of interest to do with the marine environment.</li> <li>Link students with careers and future study pathways.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MTANSW continues to foster and support community links including:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Transport for NSW</li> <li>- DPI</li> <li>- BIA</li> <li>- Australian Maritime Museum</li> <li>- Marine Rescue</li> <li>- Saltwater Schools</li> <li>- AMC/UTAS</li> <li>- MSC</li> <li>- SIMS</li> <li>- AFTA</li> <li>- and other relevant community organisations.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Publish Sydney International Boat Show information on the MTANSW website, Facebook page and email to all members.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Opportunities for students published and shared through CREST, email, Facebook, website and conferences.</li> <li>Students and teachers accessing the opportunities offered e.g. schools attending the Boat Show.</li> <li>Community networks cemented and expanded.</li> </ul>
<p>We must teach students to engage with the marine environment safely and sustainably.</p>	<p>We are aiming to teach students to be safe and responsible boaters and contribute the Centre for Maritime Safety's goal of continuing towards zero.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We will engage in stakeholder forums and updates with Transport for NSW and BIA to ensure we are kept up to date with best practice in marine safety and in the execution of the BLISS (Boat Licensing in Secondary Schools) program.</li> <li>Our Quality Assurance program and regular audit will see us continue to update our processes and practice.</li> </ul>	<p>We will meet all reporting requirements and continue to work closely with Transport for NSW to help our students become safer boaters through the BLISS program.</p>