



# Ferry Grove State High School

*An Independent Public School*

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CRICOS Code 00608A | Executive Principal: Mr John Schuh

26 June 2019

Mr Frank Mechler  
AMAYDA  
SOUTH BRISBANE QLD 4101

Dear Frank,

I have wanted to write for some time, to highlight our appreciation of the AMAYDA program for the students here at Ferry Grove State High School. The influence of people such as Geoff Horn, as a schoolteacher with firsthand experience of the needs of school based students, Glen Rushton, and yourself in the development, implementation and organisational support for such an undertaking is a key part in its success for our students.

We have had 21 students engaged in the 40 Week program, and we have just recently taken up your kind offer of a sponsored program for our disengaged students, with a further 20 taking up offers for places in a 10-week intensive program for Term 3. Even though our numbers may seem small in comparison to the rest of our school, the effect that it has had on the confidence, resilience and engagement of those students has been immense.

Students participating in the program have said that they are "feeling better about just being at school because of the confidence they now have" and "that the friendships they have made in the program have been a big reason for their attendance improving". Our parents are reporting that "there are less fights in the morning about coming to school, especially on a Wednesday when Rochelle (the mentor/coach we have at Ferry Grove) is going to be there" and that the students are "talking at home to their siblings about the program and the lessons of the day".

I believe that the measure of success for a program such as this is the feedback we get from those parents and students that are participating. It is evident that the words above speak volumes for the quality of the program and the difference it makes.

We look forward to continuing to build a strong partnership with our AMAYDA team, providing support for our students into the future.

Yours sincerely

**John Schuh**  
Executive Principal  
Ferry Grove State High School