Gone Fishing: Rethinking your extra-curricular programme

A workshop at the 2009 IBSC Conference by Joy Dunsheath and Hamish Bell.
1. Welcome and introductions

2. Are your students hooked in?
3. Questionnaire results.
4. How resilient is your programme?
5. What is the purpose of sporting, arts, & cultural extra-curricular activities in your school?

6. The Fish Hook – Sustainability – Have we reached the end of the line?

7. Fishing for ideas!
Are your students hooked in?

We asked our students what they thought about life at Wellington College.
Are your staff and students hooked in to your school’s extra-curricular programme?

• On the floor there is a continuum from 1. to 10.

• Line up by the marker which best describes your school and its extra-curricular activities.

• Descriptors go from “brilliant”/ “thriving” down the degrees to “collapsing”/ “being abandoned”.
The Wellington College extra-curricular survey.

Here are the results from a Google doc. Questionnaire emailed to all Wellington College Staff…
Do sporting activities and arts/cultural activities have equal value at Wellington College?

Yes 35 staff 76%
No 11 staff 24%

If no to the above question, which has higher value?

Arts/cultural (1) 10% sporting activities (9) 90%
What makes the extra-curricular programme at Wellington College so special?

What of the above is the main reason?
What are the main benefits from the boys getting involved in extra-curricular activities?

- Fewer behavioural issues: 33%
- Greater focus and motivation in class: 20%
- Establishes student identity: 63%
- More confident and independent: 50%
- More willing to participate: 39%
- Connects students with teachers: 78%
- Other: 15%

What are the benefits of your personal involvement in extra-curricular activities?

- Enjoyment and rewarding: 61%
- Great for building connections with students: 85%
- Helps with career prospects: 9%
- Collegiality: 26%
- Other: 11%
What are some of the drawbacks of getting involved in extra-curricular activities?

- Time constraints
- Workload issues
- Risk management/administration
- Lack of support
- Other

Do you have any solutions to the above drawbacks?
How likely would you be to recommend involvement in your extra-curricular activity to another teacher/s?

Overall, how satisfied are you with the extra-curricular programme at Wellington College?
How resilient is your programme?

• Extra-curricular Options: Sports, Arts and Cultural Booklet.

• Sports and Cultural Dinner programme.
What is the purpose of sporting, arts & cultural extra-curricular activities in your school? Windows into Manhood?

• Why does your school have an extra-curricular programme?

• What makes the extra-curricular programme in schools so important?

• What are the benefits students gain from given activities in your school?
The Fish Hook – Sustainability

- Are your extra-curricular activities personality driven by an enthusiastic staff member?
- Is there a culture of participation and involvement?
- If a staff member leaves does the activity collapse?
Have we reached the end of the Line?

• Is there a link between the new curriculum and the many arts, cultural and sporting activities?

• Why is it still extra-curricular?
Fishing for ideas.

Where do we go from here?