



**Victorian Student  
Representative Council**

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# The 2009 VicSARC Congress

July 31st–August 1st  
Oasis Campsite  
Mount Evelyn

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The VicSRC would like to thank the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development for supporting the 2009 VicSRC Congress



# Introduction

## **The VicSRC**

The Victorian Student Representative Council (VicSRC) is a state-wide network of Victorian secondary school students. The VicSRC is auspiced by the Youth Affairs Council of Victoria and funded through the Victorian Department of Education and Early Childhood Development.

## **Our Vision**

We want an education system where learning is enjoyable, practical and meaningful and where SRCs are valued and supported to contribute to making this an ongoing reality. We want a VicSRC that fosters connections between SRCs and is recognised as the peak body for secondary students in Victoria.

## **Our Aims**

- Strengthen SRCs;
- Be a representative body for Victorian secondary school students;
- Facilitate and co-ordinate action by secondary students at all levels;
- Be democratic and participatory.

The full aims of the VicSRC can be found in Appendix 1.

## **Aims of the Congress**

The Congress aims to provide an opportunity for students to raise issues of concern to them and propose ways of addressing these. The resolutions of the Congress become the agenda for the VicSRC. The Congress also provides an opportunity for students to elect a group of their peers to enact this agenda on their behalf.

In addition, Congress offers:

- wide-ranging discussions on how to strengthen Student Councils;
- networking opportunities; and
- opportunity to stand for election to the VicSRC Student Executive.

## **Organising the Congress**

The Congress was planned and run by the VicSRC Student Executive. Information about the Congress was sent to SRCs and support staff in all Victorian secondary schools. SRCs were each invited to nominate two student representatives to attend the Congress, and identify the issues they wished to raise.

The suggestions from SRCs (and other student representative bodies) about topics of interest formed the agenda for the Congress. Topics for discussion fell within three areas:

- SRC Issues
- School-based issues

- Community Issues

### **The Congress Process**

The Congress took place over two days at Oasis Youth Camp in Mt Evelyn and was attended by 60 students from 29 Victorian schools. The schools represented are listed in Appendix 2 of this report.

The first day began with students getting to know each other and completing an exercise in which they envisioned their perfect school. After sharing their ideas with each other, the out-going Student Executive gave a report about the implementation of last year's Congress Resolutions.

In the afternoon, students held workshops about the issues they had raised and created motions to put to the Congress. A list of the workshop topics can be found in Appendix 3.

The Congress members were addressed by the Minister for Education, the Hon. Bronwyn Pike MP, who spoke of the importance of student representation and her own involvement while she was at school. Congress members were then given the opportunity to ask the Minister any questions they wished. The Minister also launched the **VicSRC Environmental Resource Kit**, which was created in response to a resolution from the 2008 Congress.



The Congress was convened in formal parliamentary style and chaired once again by Alex Markham, Education Officer of the Victorian Electoral Commission. Speakers were heard speaking for and against each motion and participants often took the chance to propose amendments to the motions before they were put to a vote.

On Day 2, students repeated the process of running workshops and holding Congress. At the conclusion of Congress, delegates elected fifteen of their peers to the **VicSRC Student Executive 2009-2010** to implement the successful resolutions. A list of these students can be found on page 26.

Motions that couldn't be considered during the Congress due to time constraints have also been referred to the VicSRC Student Executive for consideration and action.

# VicSRC Executive Report

**August 2008 – July 2009**

The past year has seen the VicSRC consolidate its position and move from strength to strength.

The year began with the annual VicSRC Congress on the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> of August 2008. This was the first time the Congress was held over two days, with students sleeping over at the Oasis Camp in Mt Evelyn. This was, in part, made possible by an extra grant of \$16,000 from the Values Education Program of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development. Running the event over two days had several advantages, not least of which was the fun and friendly camp-style atmosphere which made students feel more comfortable and willing to participate. The two-day event also made the travel time from country areas more worthwhile, resulting in more country students attending the event. Of course the extra time also enabled us to run workshops and parliamentary style debates on both days as well as run a range of fun and social activities on the Friday night so that students could really get to know each other. The Congress passed a total of 20 resolutions and elected a new student executive to oversee their implementation.

Having shared such a successful beginning, the new executive began its term with gusto. The bonding experience of both the Congress and a two-day executive camp held during the September holidays made them a cohesive group and a much a higher percentage of them completed their full term through to Congress 2009. An early highlight was an opportunity to contribute to the formation of the National Educational Goals for Young Australians. These provide the basis for national education directions for the next ten years. A significant theme of the draft document was about building partnerships between schools, families and communities. This was largely articulated as a partnership between teachers



and parents but the VicSRC successfully advocated that students need to be included as active partners too. Our participation really put students on the agenda as an important stakeholder. This was reflected in the inclusion of VicSRC Executive member Georgia Kennelly on the stakeholders' panel at the Education Ministers' Forum held to launch the final document (now known as the 'Melbourne Declaration').

The first part of 2009 has seen the continuation of the VicSRC's local networking projects. Local cluster meetings of SRCs continue to be held in Bayside, Whittlesea, Dandenong and

Western Melbourne. Regional conferences were also held in Bendigo, Leongatha, Wodonga and Eastern Melbourne. This year the VicSRC was able to contract a special Conference Facilitator Kel Mitchell to organise and deliver the regional conferences. These were a great success and the VicSRC would like to thank Kel for diving in and making these happen.

Both the cluster meetings and regional conferences provide an opportunity for students to meet others in the local area, swap ideas and concerns and learn from each other. They also assist the VicSRC in keeping abreast of the issues around Victoria or to run consultations on specific issues. This year the VicSRC was particularly keen to seek feedback on the Education Department's revised policy on student engagement and discipline. Entitled 'Effective Schools are Engaging Schools', this represented a significant update on student engagement policy, including the realisation that effective student engagement aimed at fostering a sense of belonging will reduce the need for discipline. This is a welcome advancement on traditional student-teacher relationships but, through consultation with students, the VicSRC was able to suggest several practical ways in which the policy could be further developed.

So the VicSRC continues to represent the views of students within important education debates. Our advocacy in policy forums is based on a strong and growing network of participating school SRCs and an increasingly capable Student Executive.

The Executive has many people to thank –

- All schools, students or SRCs that have hosted, attended or assisted with one of our events;
- All SRCs that have continued their membership with us, and all new member SRCs;
- The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development and the Youth Affairs Council of Victoria for their ongoing resourcing and support;
- The wonderful Crew members who assisted to run the 2009 VicSRC Congress;
- The VicSRC Supporters Group, particularly Roger Holdsworth and David Mould for their contribution at Executive meetings, camps and in many other capacities.

Finally our thanks go to James Tonson for all his work as VicSRC Coordinator. James has been employed with the VicSRC since it first received funding in 2006 and has seen the VicSRC through remarkable growth. After three years, James has decided to seek new horizons (think India!) and has handed over to Kate Walsh who is now working with the Executive to continue the VicSRC's success.

This Executive believes they have been one of the most productive yet – and challenges the Student Executive 2009-2010 to do its best to build upon this work and advance the VicSRC further than ever before.

# Outgoing Student Executive

The following students were members of the VicSRC Student Executive at the time of the 2009 VicSRC Congress:



*From Left to Right*

**Back Row:** Caitie, Doug, Taylor, Emma, Ryan, Holly

**Front Row:** Stacey, Michael, Jenesse, Georgia

**Not Pictured:** Meg, Ashlee, Jeff and Monique

Meg Atley	Hampton Park Secondary College
Holly Burr	Wodonga Senior Secondary College
Jenesse Cruz	Caroline Chisholm Catholic College
Stacey Dight	Epping Secondary College
Doug Flakemore	Frankston High School
Ashlee Frye	Bendigo Senior Secondary College
Taylor Gundry	Belmont High School
Monique Hemman	Templestowe College
Georgia Kennelly	The University High School
Michael Kurtanjek	The University High School
Emma Lewis	Bendigo Senior Secondary College
Ryan Lim	Taylor's Lakes Secondary College
Jeffery Sun	Wodonga Senior Secondary College
Caitlyn Thorne	Pakenham Secondary College

The VicSRC Student Executive 08 – 09 would also like to acknowledge the contribution of the following students over the past year:

David Chadzynski	Macleod College
Casey Loraine	Macleod College
Nathan McMinn	Salesian College Rupertswood

# Congress Proceedings

## **The Congress considered the following Motions...**

- 1.** That the VicSRC supports peer mentoring programs between SRCs in order to develop SRC related skills through developing kits and facilitating local partnerships.

**Moved: Judy Chow**  
**Seconded: Chris Julian**

### **Points for:**

- Better education in terms of leadership
- Learning how to communicate with each other
- SRCs would benefit from partnership with other SRCs
- Would form better relationships than clusters as they are smaller, more likely to respond to this than to a generic letter
- Would encourage active participation
- Relaxed and friendly

### **Points against:**

- None

### **Motion Carried**

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- 2.** That the VicSRC provides an online website, to be updated half-yearly, which lists details of grants available and their use for SRCs.

**Moved: Georgia Hunt**  
**Seconded: Samantha Mountford**

### **Points for:**

- Will give SRCs an opportunity to figure out grants and funds other than within their own school
- More funds lead to wider reaching projects

### **Points against:**

- None

### **Motion Carried**

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- 3.** That the VicSRC, in cooperation with VISTA and Second Strike, should lobby the government for one compulsory SRC Coordinator training course to be completed upon the commencement as their role of coordinator any further training should be dependent of the SRC's recommendation to the coordinators or at the coordinator's own will.

**Moved: Jackie Gregory**  
**Seconded: Emily Roberts**

**Points for:**

- Leads to more accessible outcomes and a better school

**Points against:**

- None

**Amendments:**

- Remove "compulsory"

**Proposed: Taylor Gundry**

**Carried**

- "... coordinator. Any..."

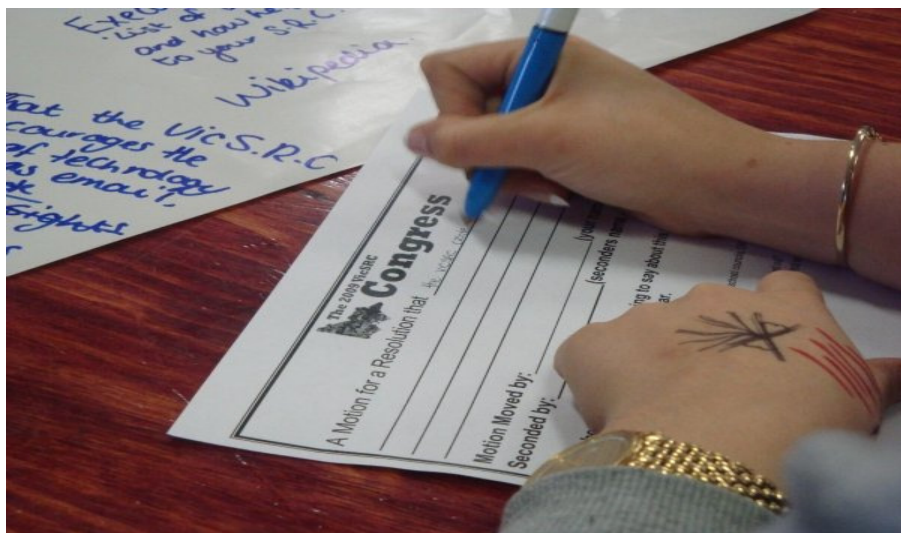
**Proposed: Holly Burr**

**Carried**

**Revised Motion:**

That the VicSRC, in cooperation with VISTA and Second Strike, should lobby the government for one SRC Coordinator training course to be completed upon the commencement as their role of coordinator. Any further training should be dependent of the SRC's recommendation to the coordinators or at the coordinator's own will.

**Motion Failed**



**4. That the VicSRC writes to all schools in the state to have an elected SRC representative have a position in the School Council and share in their decisions.**Moved: Chris Wilson

**Seconded: Tim Eric**

**Points for:**

- Presence in schools is not as great as it used to be
- Allows the School Council to hear student opinions
- Their voice is heard and accepted within the school

**Points against:**

- This is similar to a motion from last year's Congress and has already been worked on
- Unnecessary motion

**Response:**

- The actions which occurred as a result of the 2008 Resolution did not go far enough

**Amendments:**

- Replace "and share in" with "give input on" **Proposed: Stacey Dight**  
**Denied**
- Remove "and share in their decisions". A position on the council would automatically give the student representative a vote  
**Proposed: Michael Kurtanjek**  
**Carried**
- Insert the words "and request" after "state" **Proposed: Emily Martin**  
**Carried**

**Revised Motion:**

That the VicSRC writes to all schools in the state and requests to have an elected SRC representative to have a position in the School Council.

**Motion Carried**

**5. That the VicSRC encourage every SRC to run a consultation with the whole student body such as a 2020 Summit (student regulated).**

**Moved: Laura McGillivrey**

**Seconded: Laura Dick**

**Points for:**

- Look at what students want and work with the ideas
- Everyone gets to voice their opinions in a structured way
- Starts conversations

**Points against:**

- The word 'encourage' is too ambiguous – what is it that you want to be done?

**Proposal:**

- That the motion be sent back to the workshop group to be reworked and presented at the second sitting of Congress

**Proposed: Michael Kurtanjek**

**Carried**

**Motion sent back to workshop for reworking**





**6. That the VicSRC create a guide book on SRCs using technology effectively and distribute the book throughout Victorian schools.**

**Moved: Laura Brereton**

**Seconded: Kimberley Pellosis**

**Points for:**

- Allows SRCs to meaningfully embrace technology and move into the future
- Investing in the educational experience
- Social networks (such as *MySpace* or *Facebook*) would be a good way to share information and notify people of upcoming events
- All schools have computers and so there is opportunity for all students to access them

**Points against:**

- Not all students have computers at home
- Social networks are blocked on some school computers
- Is it really necessary for the VicSRC to be telling young people how to use technology? Most are already apt and if not they would be able to learn from other sources.
- VicSRC's resources should be better used

**Amendments:**

- Replace mentions of the word 'book' to 'booklet' **Proposed: Caitie Thorne**  
**Accepted by Mover**

**Revised Motion:**

That the VicSRC **create a guide booklet on SRCs using technology effectively and distribute the booklet throughout Victorian schools.**

**Motion Carried**

**7. That the VicSRC organise social events for networking and connection purposes in local regions.**

**Moved: Liz Kalas  
Seconded: Emily Martin**

**Points for:**

- Lead up to clusters – increase from four
- Build up from a more social aspect
- Rural and metro areas
- Builds connections
- Social events to promote friendly relationships

**Points against:**

- Where will the money come from to fund these events?
- Organising social events is time consuming; the VicSRC's time could be better spent
- The VicSRC already runs regional conferences to workshop ideas and build relationships and networks – will this only confuse things?

**Motion Carried**

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**8. That the VicSRC help create awards or certificates of recognition to be given to SRCs for outstanding initiatives or achievements.**

**Moved: Anagi Perera  
Seconded: Lekhna Kheerodhur**

**Points for:**

- Provides a way for schools to see that the VicSRC is aware of what they're doing
- Share ideas that work well
- Display to school to show that the respective SRC is active
- Encourages participation in the broader community

**Points against:**

- Isn't getting heard a good enough reward?
- There are a lot of SRCs: how is the VicSRC supposed to find out which ones are doing the best job?
- Creates a lot of work for the VicSRC
- SRCs already get recognition

**Motion Carried**

**9. That the VicSRC lobby for the creation of resources and publications that encourage greater participation in SRCs and SRC activities.**

**Moved: Tiffany Chapman  
Seconded: Madelaine Vear**

**Points for:**

- To explain and show what SRCs really do
- Explain how to get involved
- If SRCs don't know what they're doing, opinion of them goes down and they carry less influence

**Points against:**

- Rather than producing publications, wouldn't students rather see SRCs being active and doing something cool?
- Who is this being aimed at?
- Money could be better spent elsewhere

**Amendments:**

- Replace 'lobby for the creation of' with 'create' **Proposed: Tiffany Chapman  
Accepted by Mover**

**Proposal:**

- That the motion be referred back to committee to be reworked and presented at the second sitting of Congress

**Proposed: Georgia Kennelly**

**Carried**

**Motion Referred Back to Committee**



**10.** That the VicSRC should send an open letter to all schools/SRCs highlighting the consequences of cyber-bullying.

**Moved: Kimberley Pelossis**

**Seconded: Taylor Gundry**

**Points for:**

- Technology has helped education but has also created a trend of 'cyber-bullying'
- We want to eradicate it and create a tech-friendly school
- Schools are good places to target this message
- Cyber-bullying can have lasting impacts

**Points against:**

- SRCs already receive a lot of information on cyber-bullying; what will one more letter do?
- Will it make a difference?

**Amendments:**

- Replace 'an open letter' with 'a kit'

**Proposed: Tiffany Chapman**

**Accepted by Mover**

**Revised Motion:**

That the VicSRC should send a kit to all schools/SRCs highlighting the consequences of cyber-bullying.

**Motion Carried**

This motion was further elaborated on at the second sitting of Congress:

**In support of Resolution 7 (Yesterday) that the kit include a presentation from local authorities, interviews and experiences from bullying victims.**

**Moved: Stacey Freeling**

**Seconded: Piotr Debowski**

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**11.** That the VicSRC provide a 'Welcome Pack' at the start of every semester to the SRC leaders and coordinators. The pack will support SRC movements to promote, motivate and assist SRCs in making change in their schools.

Moved: Sarah Hamilton

Seconded: Ashlea Columbine

**Points for:**

- Provides info on how to set up and run the SRC
- Helps to support the school in their SRC movements
- Will instruct students, teachers and principals of how the SRC should run and what position it should hold within the school
- Good way to promote the VicSRC and make people aware that they are out there

**Points against:**

- Not necessary – there are already resources available
- Waste of paper
- SRCs shouldn't be told what to do by the VicSRC – it gives the impression of superiority rather than representation

**Motion Failed**

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**12.** That the VicSRC facilitate a state-wide research project regarding Youth Allowance then lobby for the changes within the system.

Moved: Ryan Gunn

Seconded: Emily Dowling

**Points for:**

- Youth Allowance is not working as it should
- Need to find out the problems and work towards solutions
- Unfair that university students get the same amount as secondary school students

**Points against:**

- None

**Motion Carried**

**13.** That the VicSRC liaise with Centrelink to develop an in-school program providing information on the Youth Allowance and other relevant youth services.

**Moved:** Cian McShane

**Seconded:** Jennifer Semetas

**Points for:**

- Informs students of what Youth Allowance is and whether or not they are eligible
- How to apply

**Points against:**

- Such a program already exists

**Amendments:**

- Include the word 'compulsory'

**Proposed:** Emma Lewis

**Accepted by Mover**

**Revised Motion:**

That the VicSRC liaise with Centrelink to develop a compulsory in-school program providing information on the Youth Allowance and other relevant youth services.

**Motion Carried**



**14.** That the VicSRC advocate for the voting age to be lowered to a voluntary 16 with 18 remaining compulsory.

**Moved: Georgia Hunt  
Seconded: Chris Julian**

**Points for:**

- Allows those who believe they are ready to vote to do so
- 16 year olds can drive and have sex – why shouldn't they be able to vote?
- Young people are maturing at a very fast rate
- Students should be able to have their say in the community
- You can join a political party at age 14
- 16 year olds are impacted by decisions made by government
- If we want change, we need to be able to vote

**Points against:**

- Young and easily influenced
- Possibly not achievable and too much hassle
- Should voting age correlate with drinking age?

**Motion Carried**

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**15.** That the VicSRC should organise a state-wide Environment Congress.

**Moved: Caitlyn Thorne  
Seconded: Caroline Coop**

**Points for:**

- Students can share ideas relevant to SRCs
- Networking opportunities

**Points against:**

- Schools already attend lots of environment conferences
- There are already many environmental advocacy groups – why should we create another one?

**Amendments:**

- Replace the word 'congress' with 'conference' **Proposed: Michael Kurtanjek  
Accepted by Mover**

**Revised Motion:**

That the VicSRC should organise a state-wide Environment Conference.

**Motion Failed**

**16.** That the VicSRC Executive establish a constitution for the VicSRC and further investigate the VicSRC becoming incorporated.

**Moved: Georgia Kennelly**

**Seconded: Caitlyn Thorne**

**Points for:**

- The VicSRC does not have legal status – it runs under the auspice of the Youth Affairs Council of Victoria
- Had hoped to become incorporated
- Writing a constitution has proved difficult as the Executive are under 18
- Most of the work has already been done, and this motion will ensure that the Executive continue working towards incorporation

**Points against:**

- Is this realistic?

**Motion Carried**

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**17.** That the VicSRC encourage every SRC to run a consultation with their whole student body – such as a 2020 style Summit (Student Regulated)

**Moved: Laura McGillivrey**

**Seconded: Laura Dick**

**Points for:**

- Students can have input that the SRC can work on directly with schools
- Will extend the VicSRC's reach into schools
- Work on local issues

**Points against:**

- None

**Motion Carried**

**18.** That the VicSRC provide a list on the VicSRC website of suitable spokespeople with first-hand experience of alcohol and drug use for health education in schools.

**Moved: Alana Ravenhorst**

**Seconded: Claire Brown**

**Points for:**

- Teachers are not interesting when telling students not to take drugs or alcohol
- Need something that will 'hit home'
- Students need to understand the real world consequences
- More effective drug education

**Points against:**

- There is already a lot of information available regarding speakers
- While the intentions are good, schools could easily search for these speakers online
- Time could be better spent doing something else

**Motion Carried**

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**19.** That the VicSRC utilise the Disaster Management resource produced by Maffra High and send it to target schools.

**Moved: Ben Simon**

**Seconded: Ashlea Columbine**

**Points for:**

- This type of publication would be helpful in situations of natural disaster
- Target schools in country for bushfire risk
- Such a publication already exists; it would only need to be distributed

**Points against:**

- None

**Amendments:**

- Include 'upon review'
- Accepted by Mover**

**Proposer: Ryan Lim**

**Revised Motion:**

That the VicSRC utilise the Disaster Management resource produced by Maffra High and, upon review, send it to target schools.

**Motion Carried**

**20.** That the VicSRC investigate students' opinions on the dress code in Victorian schools for teachers.

**Moved: Liz Kalas**  
**Seconded: Teagan Lambie**

**Points for:**

- Teachers should be setting an example to students and follow a certain standard in terms of their dress.
- Tracksuits are not acceptable

**Points against:**

- What about sports teachers?
- Most teachers dress appropriately, rendering this unnecessary

**Response:**

- Considerations will be made for specialist teachers

**Motion Carried**



**21.** That the VicSRC should lobby the government to create a fund in order to provide support for student-led [environment] initiatives.

**Moved: Tim Eric**  
**Seconded: Laura Dick**

**Points for:**

- Allows students to buy things making the school more sustainable

**Points against:**

- Use existing grants
- Refer to the VicSRC Environmental Resource Kit – details of government and other grants can be found in there.

**Motion Failed**

**22.** That the VicSRC promote for rural clusters to have guest speakers to talk about disaster management ie. CFA, SES etc.

**Moved: Rob Greenway**

**Seconded: Ben Simon**

**Points for:**

- Make students more aware and prepared

**Points against:**

- Already well publicised and running in the community

**Amendments:**

- Unknown amendment

**Proposer: Chris Julian**

**Denied**

- Change 'clusters' to 'schools'

**Proposer: Ryan Lim**

**Accepted by Mover**

**Revised Motion:**

That the VicSRC promote for rural schools to have guest speakers to talk about disaster management ie. CFA, SES etc.

**Motion Carried**



**23. That the VicSRC write a letter to the government to show student concern about unfair child labour**

**Moved: Chris Wilson  
Seconded: Tiffany Chapman**

**Proposal:**

- That the above motion be merged with the following upcoming motion:  
**That the VicSRC advocate schools into supporting organisations such as UNICEF**

**Proposer: Speaker**

**Carried**

**Revised Motion:**

That the VicSRC write a letter to the government to show student concern about unfair child labour and advocate schools into supporting organisations such as UNICEF.

**Points for:**

- We need to do something
- The VicSRC is the voice of secondary school students in Victoria and needs to show that they care

**Points against:**

- Should go through large organisations such as World Vision or Amnesty
- This is a big topic to deal with
- Why not promote the 40 Hour Famine etc?
- A letter will just end up with a secretary
- Not effective
- The VicSRC are not an advocacy organisation
- This has become a messy motion

**Amendments:**

- Replace 'write a letter to the government' with 'run a campaign'

**Proposer: Alejandro Vasquez Betancourt**

**Denied**

**Proposal:**

- That the motion be referred back to the Student Executive to be discussed and actioned

**Proposer: Michael Kurtanjek**

**Carried**

**Motion Referred to Executive**

# Motions not Considered

The following resolutions were not considered by the Congress due to time constraints but have been referred to the VicSRC Student Executive for consideration.

**That the VicSRC lobby the Education Department to include resources that outline the effects and ways to combat bullying in to the curriculum.**

**Moved: Judy Chow  
Seconded: Madelaine Vear**

**That the VicSRC should investigate how to set up a secondary-student-run workshop for primary students to educate them about environmental sustainability.**

**Moved: Angus Goodman  
Seconded: Caroline Coop**

**That the VicSRC get some contact with the government and give them more ideas to stop child labour in the world.**

**Moved: Billy Sheffield  
Seconded: Lauraine Nguyen**



# VicSRC Student Executive

**The following students were elected onto the  
VicSRC Student Executive 2009 – 2010**



*From Left to Right*

**Back Row:** Ryan G, Angus, Emma M, Georgia K, Sam, Michael, Cian, Ryan L

**Front Row:** Liz, Judy, Georgia H, Laura, Tiffany, Jenesse

**Not Pictured:** Emma L

Tiffany Chapman  
Judy Chow  
Jenesse Cruz  
Laura Dick  
Angus Goodman  
Ryan Gunn  
Georgia Hunt  
Elizabeth Kalas  
Georgia Kennelly  
Michael Kurtanjek  
Emma Lewis  
Ryan Lim  
Cian McShane  
Emma Morrison  
Sam Mountford

Toorak College  
Mentone Girls' Grammar  
Caroline Chisholm Catholic College  
Goulburn Valley Grammar  
Myrtleford P-12 College  
Lowanna College  
Melbourne Girls' College  
Taylors Lakes Secondary College  
The University High School  
The University High School  
Bendigo Senior Secondary College  
Taylors Lakes Secondary College  
Bellarine Secondary College  
Templestowe College  
Melbourne Girls' College

# Appendix

## **Appendix 1: VicSRC Mission Statement**

### **Vision**

We want an education system where learning is enjoyable, practical and meaningful and where SRCs are valued and supported to contribute to making this an ongoing reality. We want a VicSRC that fosters connections between SRCs and is recognised as the peak body for secondary students in Victoria.

### **Principles**

- Student run, organised and initiated
- For the benefit of students
- Inclusive
- Not party political
- Not for profit
- Undertaking investigative representation

### **Aims**

#### *To strengthen SRCs*

- By improving the operation of student representative bodies within secondary schools in Victoria.
- By supporting networks between schools at a local level.
- By increasing the profile of student representative bodies in the community.

#### *To be a representative body for Victorian secondary school students*

- By providing a network linking students and student representative bodies across Victoria.
- By providing a recognised and student based structure to speak on behalf of secondary students.

#### *To facilitate and co-ordinate action by secondary students at all levels*

- By supporting projects, initiatives, and any related activities that secondary students could participate in, and which would be more effective on a larger scale.
- By co-ordinating appropriate activities at a state wide level.

#### *To be democratic and participatory*

- By encouraging students to understand, practise and experience democracy, by being included in decision making at all levels.

## **Appendix 2: Schools Represented**

Antonine College  
Bellarine Secondary College - Drysdale Campus  
Belmont High School  
Bendigo Senior Secondary College  
Bright P-12 College  
Caroline Chisholm Catholic College - Christ the King Campus  
Castlemaine Secondary College - Junior Campus  
Debney Park Secondary College  
Drouin Secondary College  
Epping Secondary College  
Frankston High School  
Genazzano FCJ College  
Goulburn Valley Grammar School  
Lakeside Secondary College  
Lowanna College  
Maffra Secondary College  
Melbourne Girls' College  
Mentone Girls' Grammar School  
Mooroolbark College  
Myrtleford Secondary College  
Pakenham Secondary College  
Pembroke Secondary College – Mt Evelyn  
Taylor's College  
Taylors Lakes Secondary College  
Templestowe College  
Tintern Grammar School  
Toorak College  
University High School  
Wodonga Senior Secondary College

## **Appendix 3: Workshop Topics**

### **Day One – SRC Issues**

- Using Technology for SRCs
- Recognition of SRCs
- Networking/Clusters
- Working with SRC Teachers
- Getting Students Involved
- Achieving Financial Independence

### **Day Two – School and Community Issues**

- Child Labour
- Environment
- Bullying
- Disaster Relief
- Lowering the Voting Age
- Drug and Alcohol Awareness
- Youth Allowance Change
- Uniform

## **Appendix 4: Congress Resolutions: Themed & Prioritised**

### **Constitution**

That the VicSRC Executive establish a constitution for the VicSRC and further investigate the VicSRC becoming incorporated.

### **Recognition for the role of SRCs**

That the VicSRC write to all schools in the state and request to have an elected SRC representative to have a position in the School Council.

That the VicSRC help create awards or certificates of recognition to be given to SRCs for outstanding initiatives or achievements.

### **Bullying**

That the VicSRC should send an open letter to all schools/SRCs highlighting the consequences of cyber-bullying.

### **Youth Allowance**

That the VicSRC facilitate a state-wide research project regarding Youth Allowance then lobby for the changes within the system.

That the VicSRC liaise with Centrelink to develop a compulsory in-school program providing information on the Youth Allowance and other relevant youth services.

### **Voting**

That the VicSRC advocate for the voting age to be lowered to a voluntary 16 with 18 remaining compulsory.

### **Drug & Alcohol**

That the VicSRC provide a list on the VicSRC website of suitable spokespeople with first-

hand experience of alcohol and drug use for health education in schools.

### **SRC Support**

That the VicSRC organise social events for networking and connection purposes in local regions.

That the VicSRC support peer mentoring programs between SRCs in order to develop SRC related skills through developing kits and facilitating local partnerships.

That the VicSRC provide an online website, to be updated half-yearly, which lists details of grants available and their use for SRCs.

That the VicSRC create a guide booklet on SRCs using technology effectively and distribute the booklet throughout Victorian schools.

### **Disaster Management**

That the VicSRC promote for rural schools to have guest speakers to talk about disaster management ie. CFA, SES etc.

That the VicSRC utilise the Disaster Management resource produced by Maffra High and, upon review, send it to target schools.

### **Consultation**

That the VicSRC encourage every SRC to run a consultation with their whole student body – such as a 2020 style Summit (Student Regulated)

### **Teacher Dress Code**

That the VicSRC investigate student's opinions on the dress code in Victorian schools for teachers.

