

# Aboriginal Advisory Body

## Communiqué 7

Meeting 7, 21 August 2025

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The Aboriginal Advisory Body (AAB) held its second meeting of 2025 on 21 August. This meeting was held in the Midwest where the Department's Midwest Education Regional Office were able to provide key insights into the region. The AAB also continues to prioritise the empowerment of Aboriginal people, the success of Aboriginal students in culturally responsive school environments and shared decision-making with Aboriginal staff, families and communities.

The meeting highlighted insights and discussions into key areas including:

### Midwest Education Regional Office

The Midwest Regional Office presentation highlighted key insights regarding Aboriginal student engagement and educational outcomes. Attendance remains a challenge, with severe attendance defined as less than 60%, influenced by behavioural issues, family responsibilities, or barriers to school entry. Targeted Teaching and initiatives like Uni Ready support learning and pathways to further education, while Two Way Science fosters community engagement, improved attendance, and cultural connection. Partnerships with Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations and proactive support from staff strengthens outcomes for students and families.

### Strategic Plan

The Strategic Priorities Workshop highlighted the importance of cultural safety, the critical role of Aboriginal staff, and the need for principals to embed cultural responsiveness. Key discussions focused on strengthening the Aboriginal workforce, supporting AIEO roles, building school-community partnerships, and sharing data and success. Challenges around community engagement, sustainable workloads, and multi-agency collaboration were noted. The workshop emphasised accountability, proactive student support, professional learning for staff and ongoing AAB feedback to guide improvements.

### Midwest School Visits

AAB members had the opportunity to visit two schools in the Midwest which provided insight into Aboriginal student engagement and educational outcomes in the region.

### For the next meeting

Members will next meet on 13 November 2025.