



# **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

## **2025**

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# ABOUT PLENTY RIVER COLLEGE

**Independent,  
Senior  
Secondary**

**Special  
Assistance  
School (SAS)**

**Safe and  
inclusive  
learning  
environment**

**Victorian  
Pathways  
Certificate  
(VPC)**

**Flexible  
learning**

**VCE &  
VCE VM**

**Young  
people aged  
15-20 years**

**Registered  
Training  
Organisation  
(RTO)**

**A school of  
Opportunities  
and Second  
Chance at  
Education**

**Passion for  
learning  
and  
teaching**

## **Core values:**

**Empowerment**

**Respect**

**Responsibility**

**Kindness**

# Chairman's Report

This report is presented by the Chairman of the Board for the annual general meeting of Plenty River College Incorporated, providing but an overview of items detailed in other reports and the printed version. The Principal and the Treasurer will provide comprehensive details in their respective reports. Overall, this year has seen significant achievements for both students and staff.

As Board Chairman, I receive reports showing we are achieving our mission and I often observe student development.

The finance report indicates that we have performed well financially again. Appreciation is given to Asad for his work as Finance Manager and as Treasurer for the Board.

We are nearing final settlement on our land in Danaher Drive, with advanced plans already in place. The Council has granted planning approval pending a few final items. This achievement is due to the hard work of our staff, Planning Sub Committee, and contracted specialists throughout 2024.

Principal Veronica has consistently navigated challenging situations with excellence. She prioritises students' interests and outcomes, ensures staff safety and well-being, provides valuable input to governance, and places her personal interests last.

It would be remiss of me to not mention appreciation to Infinity Church for our facilities and for the sense of shared community experienced.

This AGM marks the conclusion of my term as Chairman according to the Constitutional requirement. I would like to thank each of the Board Members for their contributions to the governance of the college. It has been my responsibility to chair our meetings and support the Principal in her role. I wish my successor well and believe that the college will continue to see many young individuals complete their education and begin their careers in the coming years.

In conclusion, at the risk of some repetition, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to everyone who has supported the college's mission throughout my tenure. The collective efforts of the Board, staff, and community have been instrumental in ensuring the success and growth of Plenty River College. I am confident that the future holds great promise for our institution, and I look forward to witnessing the continued achievements of our dedicated team and talented students. Thank you once again and best wishes for the future.

David Ling  
Chairman – PRC Board

# Principal's Report

It is with great pride and pleasure that I present my report to the 3rd Annual General Meeting of Plenty River College, reflecting on our achievements and progress throughout 2024.

This year has been marked by continued growth and success across all areas of the College—our student outcomes, staff development, and financial sustainability. At the heart of our efforts has been a strong commitment to providing a nurturing, inclusive, and empowering educational environment that supports our unique cohort of learners.

## **Strategic Planning and Campus Development**

In 2024, the Board took a significant step toward building a fit for purpose school facility and a permanent home for Plenty River College by putting down a deposit on land at 8 Danaher Drive, South Morang. This strategic investment marks the beginning of a new chapter for PRC as we work toward settling the land in 2025 and commencing construction in 2026. A grant application has been submitted to the Victorian Independent Schools Block Grant Authority (VISBGA) to support the initial stages of development. We are grateful for the invaluable assistance of our partners, Clarke Hopkins Clarke Architects and the City of Whittlesea, in bringing this vision closer to reality.

## **Staff Development and Professional Growth**

A key focus this year has been on staff professional development. We invested in targeted training and learning opportunities to build staff capacity, foster a culture of continuous improvement, and ensure that our team is equipped to meet the diverse learning needs of our students. This investment is not only an investment in our staff but also in the success and wellbeing of every student at PRC.

## **Student Learning and Wellbeing**

Throughout 2024, our students participated in a wide range of excursions, programs, and hands-on learning experiences aligned with applied learning principles. These activities allowed students to connect classroom knowledge with real-world application—building critical thinking, creativity, and resilience. Workplace learning and community engagement have further enriched their education and opened doors to new opportunities.

Our wellbeing team has continued to play a vital role in supporting our students' mental health and social-emotional development. Their work remains central to our commitment to holistic education, where each learner is supported not just academically but also emotionally and socially.

## **Celebrating Student Success**

The year concluded with a joyous and well-attended Graduation and Presentation Night in November. Sixteen students graduated, and many more were recognised with awards for their outstanding achievements. Over 200 family members and community partners joined us to celebrate the success and growth of our students—a testament to the strong community we have built at PRC.

## **A Unique and Inclusive Learning Environment**

Plenty River College is not a conventional school—we are proudly different. We provide a second chance at education in a welcoming and supportive environment. We ensure that every young person who walks through our doors has the opportunity to succeed, regardless of their background or learning needs.

Our success this year would not have been possible without the tireless dedication of all our staff, the engagement of our families, and the support of our community partners. Together, we continue to create a place of opportunity, growth, and hope.

As we look ahead to 2025 and beyond, we remain committed to building a stronger, more inclusive PRC—one where every student can achieve their personal best and grow into a confident, capable, and contributing member of our globalised world.

Veronica Kioria  
Principal

# Curriculum Report

At the conclusion of 2024, we proudly reflected on the extraordinary achievements of our students and the dedication of our teachers across the Literacy, Numeracy, Personal Development, and Work-Related Skills programs. Our team at Plenty River College worked tirelessly to design innovative, engaging curriculum experiences that met the VCE-VM and VPC certification requirements while empowering students to excel. The unwavering commitment of our teachers and Education Support Staff to developing these core learning areas has provided students with both essential knowledge and valuable skills, resulting in a successful and rewarding year.

## **Literacy and Numeracy: Foundations for Success**

In Literacy, students honed their communication skills, exploring a variety of contexts that challenged their understanding and enhanced critical thinking. Teachers worked closely with each student, tailoring learning experiences to meet individual needs and support personal growth in literacy. Numeracy classes provided students with the practical mathematical skills necessary for everyday life and future employment, focusing on real-world problem-solving and collaborative learning that have broadened students' confidence and capability in managing practical scenarios.

## **Personal Development and Work-Related Skills: Empowering Future Leaders**

Personal Development and Work-Related Skills subjects have seen our students flourish in confidence, self-awareness, and teamwork. With opportunities to work on projects that impact their communities, students have demonstrated maturity, responsibility, and a willingness to step up as leaders. Work-Related Skills focused on employability, group collaboration, and project management skills essential for career success, fostering students' growth as they prepared for life beyond Plenty River College.

## **Community Partnerships: Learning Beyond the Classroom**

This year, our strong partnerships provided students with invaluable hands-on experiences that complimented their academic studies. We extend heartfelt thanks to Whittlesea Tech School for their continuous support in helping students design and create products for Market Day, offering both learning and real-world experience. The Tech School also provided students with essential work experience opportunities that linked directly to their learning outcomes.

The City of Whittlesea has been instrumental in the success of our Community Project, inviting our students to participate in the Annual Festival. This project involved art collaborations with a local artist, allowing students to contribute creatively while strengthening their understanding of community engagement and public presentation.

Through our partnership with Vinnies, students gained firsthand work experience while supporting a meaningful cause, fostering compassion and a sense of service. Our thanks also go to Reclink, which provided an outstanding range of sporting opportunities that allowed students to develop teamwork, leadership, and physical health through structured group activities.

Numerous excursions and workshops extended student learning, taking it beyond the classroom. From a visit to the Old Melbourne Gaol to impactful mental health workshops led by Stride, Reach, and The Les Twentyman Foundation, students gained insight into social and emotional issues in our community and beyond. These experiences played an integral role in students' social and emotional growth, helping them meet learning outcomes through engagement with broader community challenges.

### **Student Achievements**

This year, our students showed entrepreneurial spirit through projects like the Whittlesea Market, where they created products to sell and raised awareness of food insecurity. Additionally, they organised and hosted our first Biggest Morning Tea and multiple Bunnings Sausage Sizzle fundraisers, showcasing their initiative and teamwork. The hard work of our students was also celebrated at the 2024 Hume Whittlesea LLEN Vocational Education Awards, where several students were recognized for their outstanding achievements in VPC, VCE-VM, and VET. The achievements of our students reflect the dedication and creativity of our teachers. Their commitment to developing and delivering an innovative curriculum has been fundamental to student success, and their tireless work behind the scenes, including ongoing support from the ES Staff, ensures that each student receives the support needed to thrive. This collective effort, where the students' best interests remain central to all decisions, made 2024 a year of truly inspiring progress.

### **Looking Forward**

As the Assistant Principal – Curriculum Leader, it has been a privilege to support the learning and development of our young people at Plenty River College. Working alongside our teachers to nurture and guide students has been immensely fulfilling, as we witness daily how education can transform lives. Each student's growth and personal development are a source of joy and motivation, reminding us of the impact we have in fostering a brighter future for them. 2024 was a remarkably successful year, and we look forward to continuing this journey in 2025, with the anticipation of even greater achievements and opportunities for our students.

Kim Gray  
Assistant Principal – Curriculum Leader

# Wellbeing Report

At Plenty River College, student wellbeing is central to our mission of supporting young people to grow, learn, and thrive. Over the past year, our college has delivered a wide range of wellbeing initiatives designed to build resilience, strengthen social and emotional skills, and ensure every student feels safe, supported, and ready to engage in their learning.

This year, students participated in a self-defence program delivered by Winged Dragon Self Defence, where they developed practical safety strategies, confidence, and awareness. In response to the growing importance of online safety, students also took part in Stride's Cyber Savvy program, which focused on digital wellbeing, cyberbullying, and responsible online behaviour.

Our harm minimisation workshop created a safe space for open conversations around substance use and peer pressure, giving students the knowledge to make informed and safer choices. The REACH Foundation delivered a peer dynamics workshop, encouraging students to explore identity, build empathy, and improve their relationships with others through honest dialogue and interactive activities.

To support mental health and emotional resilience, students engaged in Thinking Traps, an emotional regulation program run by Toolbox Education. This program helped students identify negative thinking patterns and apply practical strategies to manage emotions and stress. Physical wellbeing was also a focus, with our partnership with RECLINK offering regular physical activity sessions that encouraged teamwork, participation, and healthy routines in a fun and inclusive way.

Sexual Health Victoria facilitated age-appropriate workshops covering topics such as consent, respectful relationships, and sexual health, all delivered in a safe and supportive environment that promoted understanding and confidence.

Alongside these structured programs, our dedicated wellbeing staff worked closely with students every day, providing support with emotional regulation and helping them return to a calm, ready-to-learn mindset when needed. They also played a vital role in connecting students and families to external services such as Headspace, the BounceBack program, and the Navigator program, ensuring a strong network of care beyond the school. Where necessary, wellbeing staff followed up safety concerns in collaboration with the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing (DFFH), ensuring that every student's safety and welfare remained our highest priority.

Through this holistic approach to wellbeing, Plenty River College continues to provide a safe, inclusive and supportive learning environment where every student can grow with confidence.

Michael Jakubowski  
Assistant Team Leader - Student Wellbeing

# Future Campus - 8 Danaher Drive, South Morang

Plenty River College is constructing a purpose-built facility designed to address the unique educational needs of our diverse learners as an independent Special Assistance School. The new building will support a holistic, inclusive, and flexible learning environment, tailored to foster both academic achievement and essential life skills for our students.



The facility will include adaptable general classrooms to suit various teaching methods, alongside specialised areas like an inquiry-based learning support space and small group zones for focused learning. A fully equipped commercial kitchen to support our applied learning and vocational training in cooking and hospitality, with a shared dining area promoting teamwork and social skills. Flexible collaborative learning zones to encourage group discussions and peer collaboration, while staff offices and a shared conference room will facilitate effective planning and foster community engagement, enhancing both educational and ties with the local community.

# Student Data

## ENROLMENTS

This report provides a summary of student enrolments across different programs.

Program	No of students
VPC	34
VCE	3
VCE VM	21
VET	29

VET students are also enrolled in either VPC or VCE VM.

Over half of students enrolled are participating in VET programs, demonstrating a significant integration of practical and work-ready training pathways.

# Student Data

**2 Students who speak a language other than English at home**

**2 Students from Aboriginal / Torres Strait Islander background**

Even with a small number of culturally and linguistically diverse and Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander students, PRC ensures that our school environment is culturally safe, equitable, and empowering.

	Age Group							
Age	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Numbers of Students	1	8	13	19	11	4	1	1

The Board may approve the enrolment of students aged below 15 where it is satisfied that PRC will provide the most suitable and beneficial educational outcome for the student. Students who turn 21 during their enrolment period are allowed to continue their studies until graduation.

# ATTENDANCE RATE

The report below outlines student attendance rates across our educational levels— VPC (Victorian Pathways Certificate), VCE (Victorian Certificate of Education), and VCE VM (VCE Vocational Major) — for Semester 1, Semester 2, and the overall average for 2024.

**While Semester 1 reflected moderate attendance levels across all programs, Semester 2 saw a marked improvement, especially in VCE and VCE VM. The 2024 average attendance rates indicate progress across the board, with a school-wide focus now needed to sustain and further improve student engagement—particularly in programs with historically lower attendance such as VCE VM and VPC.**

Year Level	Semester 1	Semester 2	Average in 2024
VPC	44%	43%	44%
VCE	43%	49%	46%
VCE VM	38%	49%	44%
Average	42%	47%	45%

## MANAGEMENT OF ABSENCES

At Plenty River College, student absences are proactively managed through a combination of digital communication and personal outreach. Daily text notifications are sent to parents via our online portal, SIMON/PAM, when a student is marked absent. In addition, classroom teachers and Education Support (ES) staff reach out directly to students to check in and gather information regarding their absence. Teachers are also required to follow up with parents every Friday afternoon if a student has been absent throughout the week. For students showing signs of disengagement, our Outreach program connects with them a minimum of twice per term. When absences become a concern, classroom teachers arrange face-to-face meetings with both the student and their parents. Attendance expectations, including VCAA requirements and Plenty River College's own standards, are consistently reinforced. Students are also regularly shown their individual attendance data to promote awareness and responsibility.

# Graduates & Pathways

The report below outlines the number of students who successfully completed their respective programs in 2024.

Total Graduates	Victorian Pathways Certificate (VPC)	VCE (Victorian Certificate of Education)	VCE – Vocational Major (VM)
16 students	6 students	3 students	7 students

38%

Employment (PT or FT)

44%

Further Studies (FT & PT)

6%

Not Working / Not Studying

12%

No Response

The data indicates positive post-graduation outcomes for the majority of our graduates, with strong representation in both employment and further education. These results reflect the effectiveness of our programs in preparing students for meaningful post-school pathways.

# Treasurer's Report

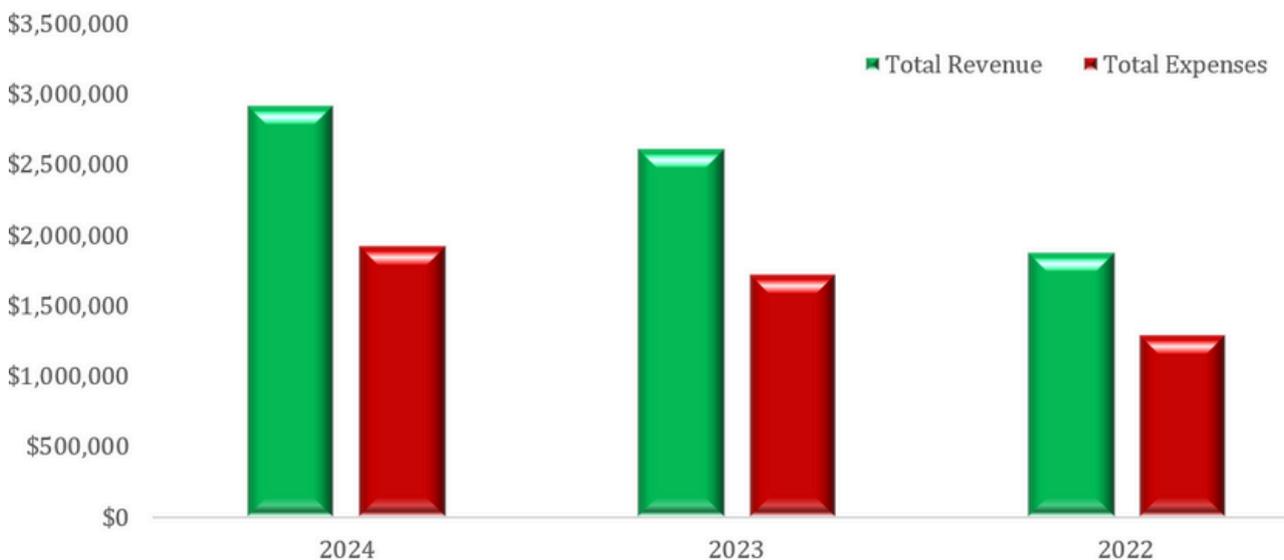
## Introduction

It is my privilege to present the Treasurer's Report for Plenty River College Inc. for the financial year ending 31 December 2024. This report highlights our ongoing financial stability, strategic growth, and continued commitment to delivering quality.

## Financial Performance

In 2024, the College achieved a total revenue of \$2.91 million, representing a steady increase from the previous year. The majority of this income came from Commonwealth and State Government grants, which remain the backbone of our funding. Minor sources of revenue included student fees, finance income, and other operational income.

## Income and expenditure summary



# Sources of Funds

**\$2,809,609**

**Government**

**Grants**

**\$40,788**

**Student**

**Fees**

**\$50,613**

**Finance**

**Income**

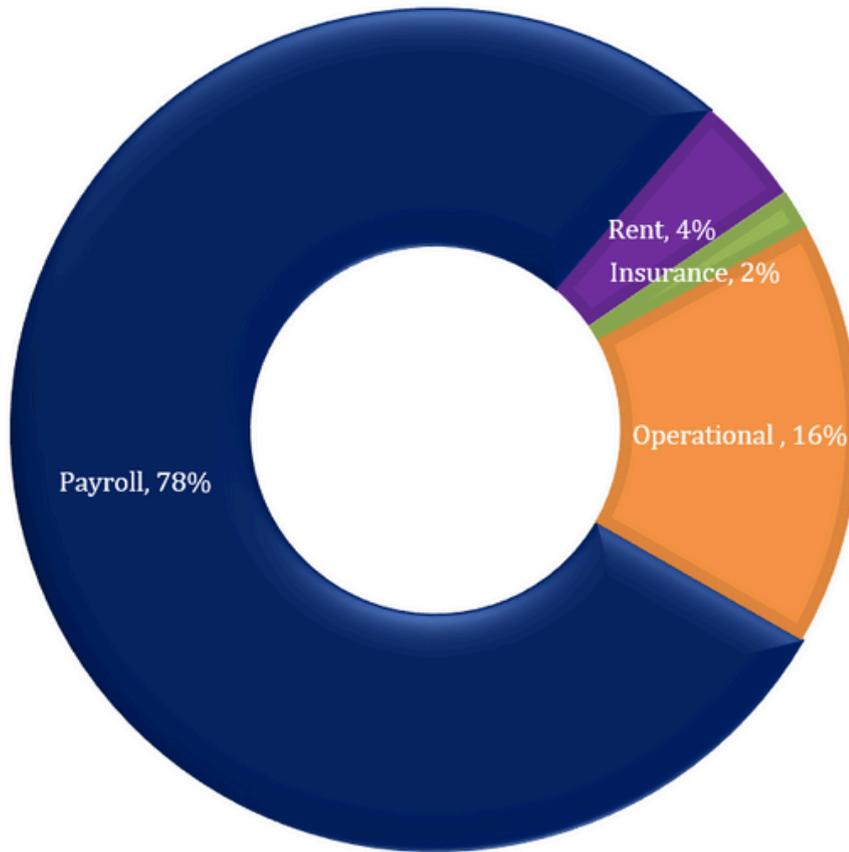
**\$8,692**

**Other**

**Income**

## Operating Expenses

Operating expenses for the year totalled approximately \$1.92 million. These covered major cost areas such as staff salaries, administrative operations, depreciation, student-related costs, and occupancy expenses. Careful cost management throughout the year ensured we maintained service quality while exercising financial prudence. As a result, the College recorded a strong net surplus of \$994k.



## Financial Position and Strategic Milestone

By the end of the financial year, Plenty River College's net assets rose to \$2.47 million. This growth was supported by a healthy cash balance, reflecting our disciplined financial practices and prudent planning.

A significant portion of our investment this year was allocated to a deposit for land and development, underscoring our commitment to establishing a permanent home for the College.

# Net Assets

**2024**

**\$2,468,179**

**2023**

**\$1,474,120**

**2022**

**\$583,577**

# Staff Qualifications

**3 Master's  
Degree**

**11 Bachelor's  
Degree**

**6 Post-  
graduate  
Diploma**

**4 Post-  
graduate  
Certificate**

**1 Diploma**

**12 Certificate  
IV & Below**

# PRC Staff



**Veronica  
Kioria -  
Principal**



**Kim Gray -  
Asst.  
Principal**



**Asad Abbasi  
- Finance  
Manager**



**Michael  
Jakubowski  
- Team  
Leader -  
Wellbeing**



**Pournami  
Balachandran  
- Compliance  
& Operations  
Manager**



**Donna  
Thomas -  
Teacher**



**Karyn  
Humble -  
Teacher**



**Joshua  
Kayll -  
Teacher**

# PRC Staff



**Tangata  
Tupou (TA) -  
Teacher/Well  
-being/ES**



**Edie  
Morehu -  
ES/Career  
& Pathways**



**Almira  
Anderson -  
Teacher/ES**



**Wilson  
Gakuru -  
ES**



**Robert  
Velickovski -  
Wellbeing/ES**



**Meghan  
Power - ES**



**Sarah Di  
Campli - ES**



**Lynda  
Wanjofu -  
Admin &  
Records  
Officer**



**Sharon Eliopoulos -  
School Support**



## **Plenty River College School Board**

**From left to right:**

**Front row: Meri Ivanovski, Ian Fisher, Veronica Kioria (Principal) and David Ling**

**Back row: Francis Acquah, Craig Anderson and Asad Abbasi**



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