

2024

VicSRC Victorian Student
Representative Council



ANNUAL REPORT

CONTENTS

Acknowledgment of Country	2
About VicSRC	3
Chair Report	4
Board of Trustees	5
Executive Committee Report	6
Student Executive Advisory Committee	8
CEO Report	10
The Staff Team	11
Our Impact	12
Where We Represent You	14
We Advocate for Student-Led Positive Changes in Education	16
We Support Primary and Secondary Students to be Active Decision Makers	20
We Help Adults to Work Better in Partnership with Students	24
We Are Inclusive of the Needs of All Students	28
We Are A Sustainable Organisation	30
Appreciating Our Partners	32
Thank You to Students and Staff	34
Treasurer's Report	36

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF COUNTRY

VicSRC acknowledges that our work takes place on Aboriginal lands never ceded, and that our office sits on the Wurundjeri lands of the Kulin Nation. We recognise and pay respects to all Aboriginal peoples as the custodians of this beautiful country on which we learn, play and grow.

Education is the act of imparting knowledge, and we want to honour First Nations peoples' rich and ancient practices of knowledge-sharing and the inextricable link between storytelling, people, and Country.

**ALWAYS WAS, ALWAYS WILL BE,
ABORIGINAL LANDS.**



2

ABOUT

VicSRC

Victorian Student Representative Council (VicSRC) is the peak body and leading advocate representing school-aged students in Victoria. We were created by students to be a voice for all primary and secondary school students at the highest levels of decision making in Victorian education. Our vision is an education system that is student-led, student driven and student-focused.

We actively promote student voice in all of our work, building the capabilities of government, schools, and community organisations to understand the importance of student voice in policymaking and school leadership, and foster genuine partnerships between education decision makers and students. We advocate for policies that reflect the needs and priorities of students, working together to ensure students are empowered to lead change in their school communities and at the systemic level.

Wurundjeri Country
Our Community House
552 Victoria Street,
North Melbourne VIC 3051
www.vicsrc.org.au
info@vicsrc.org.au

3

CHAIR REPORT

One of the great privileges of being an adult involved with VicSRC is the opportunity to support successive Student Executive Advisory Committees in their leadership of the organisation.

As I write this, my second term as Board Chair is about to end. Each of the five Executive Committees I've worked with has been different and diverse, collectively and as individuals. At the same time, there's much that's consistent every year – including a belief in the difference that student voice can make and a commitment to speaking up for what's right.

Each new 'Exec' brings insights and knowledge that add to what's been built by all those who've come before them over VicSRC's years of elevating student voice. This is the legacy that VicSRC continues creating, always with students at the centre, and always striving to shift power to where it should be – with students.

2024 saw plenty of student-led advocacy, research, collaboration, programs and events delivered by VicSRC as always, and significant growth in the organisation's size and impact. It was also a year for exploring some big questions.

How can VicSRC best represent the full diversity of students' experiences and views across Victoria? How do we create change within schools and across the education system? How should VicSRC model what we want to see in others, through our own student leadership model?

Luckily, we've just finalised an exciting new Strategic Plan for 2025-2029. This plan will help us answer these big questions – and describes how we'll achieve the bold ambitions set by Victorian students. Watch this space!

It's always a pleasure working with a staff team that's completely committed to student voice, expertly led by CEO Julia Baron. And equally so with our wonderful Board – in 2024, Brad Bowden, James Holland, Grace McCoy, Giselle Pinto and Tim Warwick – who volunteer their time and expertise for the same mission.

I've never been more optimistic about the power of student voice and the change that students – and VicSRC – can create. As much as VicSRC has already achieved, there's no doubt the best is yet to come!



Howard Choo, Board Chair

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

CURRENT MEMBERS



Howard Choo (he/him)
Board Chair



Tim Warwick (he/him)
Treasurer



Grace McCoy (she/her)



Brad Bowden (he/him)



James Holland (he/him)



Sarah McNicol (she/her)

OUTGOING MEMBERS



Giselle Pinto (she/her)

EXECUTIVE

COMMITTEE REPORT

The 2024 Student Executive Advisory Committee, also fondly known as “Exec,” is proud of the amazing work our team has accomplished this past year. Stepping into our new roles, we brought together our unique leadership and advocacy experiences, along with diverse lived experiences to contribute to our shared goals.

The Executive Committee consists of fifteen secondary school students who represent Victorian students to the Department of Education and other key education stakeholders. Our 2024 Co-Chairs, Billy, Marley and Ivy, have worked hard to maintain strong collaboration between Exec, VicSRC staff, and the Board of Trustees. Our Secretary, Eric, has done excellent work crafting agendas and ensuring smooth communication within the team. Though we come from different schools and educational backgrounds, we’ve grown

close over this term and built a fun, productive working dynamic. At the start of 2024, we focused on refining our structure and priorities, which allowed us to dedicate more time to engaging with the student community and strengthening our governance role. Developing a new Statement of Purpose finalised this process, clearly defining the mission of the Student Executive Advisory Committee.

With the Hon. Ben Carroll appointed as the new Minister for Education in late 2023, we worked throughout the year to build a strong relationship with him while advancing VicSRC’s 2024 advocacy priorities. Through our flagship event, Congress, we welcomed 84 students from 33 secondary schools across Victoria to lead discussions on key education issues – including mental health and wellbeing, inclusion and access, definitions of success, and equitable access to quality



6



education resources and experiences. These conversations helped us understand students’ biggest concerns and their proposed solutions.

The insights shared at Congress went on to shape key recommendations in VicSRC’s Policy Platform, which outlines a four-year vision for education reform. The Platform includes 22 recommendations, all informed by VicSRC’s wide-ranging student engagements across programs, research, and policymaking.

In 2024, VicSRC also launched exciting new initiatives, such as the Student-focused Mental Health Communications Advisory Group, the Student Editorial and Media Crew, and the Senior Secondary Reform Student Advisory Panel. These programs aim to engage more students, amplify their voices, and advocate for meaningful change in Victorian education.

A major milestone came in early January 2025, when the federal and state governments announced that Victorian government schools will finally receive full funding as outlined in the Gonski Review

7



(2011). After years of advocacy – including in our 2024 Congress Report – this historic agreement ensures an additional 5% funding from the Commonwealth government, while ensuring Victorian government funding goes toward supporting students’ education by closing accounting loopholes. This is a huge win for Victorian students, who have long called for fully funded schools.

Thanks to the hard work of our staff, Board, and Executive Committee, we’ve achieved so much already – and there’s even more to come. We’re excited to keep developing new and existing projects, improving how we work with and reach students across the state.

As Co-Chairs of the 2024 Executive Advisory Committee, we’re thrilled by the progress we’ve made. From productive meetings and stakeholder engagement to involving the student community, we’ve laid the groundwork for another exciting year ahead. We can’t wait to see what 2025 brings for VicSRC!



**Billy, Marley & Ivy, Co-Chairs
2024 Student Executive Advisory Committee**

STUDENT EXECUTIVE

2025 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



Annie
(she/her)



Ayson
(he/him)



Elisha
(she/her)



Elsie
(she/her)



Fatima
(she/her)



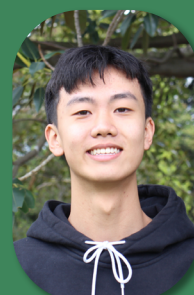
Greta
(she/her)



Imogen
(she/they)



Ivy
(she/her)



Kevin
(he/him)



Lumina
(she/her)



Olivia
(she/her)



Oskar
(he/him)



Radha
(she/her)



Risith
(he/him)



Tilly
(she/her)

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

2024 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



Anay
(he/him)



Annie
(she/her)



Billy
(he/him)



Darcy
(they/them)



Eric
(he/him)



Garv
(he/they)



Grace
(she/her)



Ivy
(she/her)



Jem
(he/him)



Katherine
(she/her)



Kevin
(he/him)



Marley
(he/him)



Noah
(he/him)



Radha
(she/her)



Risith
(he/him)

CEO REPORT

As we reflect on 2024, I am filled with pride at the remarkable growth and impact VicSRC has achieved over the past year. It has been a year defined by collaboration, empowerment, and bold steps toward a more student-centred education system.

One of the most exciting developments has been the growth of our staff team. With the addition of new team members, we have expanded our capacity to amplify student voices and work alongside schools, government, and community organisations to create meaningful change. Each staff member has brought unique skills and passion, strengthening our ability to support student-led initiatives across Victoria.

In 2024, we also saw the forging of new partnerships with organisations eager to co-design with students. These collaborations have created powerful opportunities for students to shape projects that directly impact their educational experience. Whether it was through our work with the Transport Accident Commission on road safety, the Royal Children's Hospital on health

education, or the Department of Education on mental health communications, students have been at the heart of these initiatives, driving change and shaping the future.

Another milestone has been the development of a new Strategic Plan, crafted by the 2024 Student Executive Advisory Committee. This plan reflects the bold vision of Victorian students for the next five years and outlines our collective priorities to ensure student voice remains at the centre of education reform. The Committee's dedication and insight have set a clear course for our continued growth and impact.

As we look ahead, I am inspired by the unwavering commitment of our students, staff, partners, and supporters. Together, we have built a stronger foundation for student voice and paved the way for a future where students are true partners in shaping their education. Thank you to everyone who contributed to this remarkable year. The journey continues, and the best is yet to come.



Julia Baron, CEO



Julia Baron (she/her)
CEO



Georgia Cutajar (she/her)
Executive Officer



Ian Johnson (he/him)
Finance Manager



Jake Fehily (he/him)
Programs Manager

THE STAFF TEAM



William Naughton-Gravette (he/him)
Policy and Advocacy Manager



Riya Rajesh (she/her)
Policy and Research Officer



Chelsea Daniel (she/they)
Communications and
Memberships Officer

OUR IMPACT

1657

students in the
VicSRC community



16

appearances
in the media



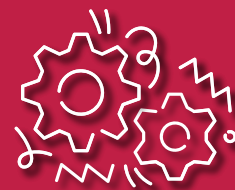
116

Victorian schools
engaged with



2600

kilometres travelled
across Victoria



28

meetings between
government and
Executive Committee



435

posts on
social media



WHERE WE REPRESENT YOU

As the peak body representing Victorian students, VicSRC is committed to prioritising the issues that matter most to you. In the past 12 months, we have taken part in many initiatives with key stakeholders to embed student perspectives in education policy and decision-making at every level.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

VicSRC collaborates with the Department of Education across various networks and governance groups to ensure student voices shape decision-making.

Complaints Management Reference Group – Ensuring students understand how to raise concerns within the education system.

LGBTIQA+ Education Reference Group – Guiding initiatives to improve safety, wellbeing, and learning for LGBTIQA+ students.

Mental Health in Schools Reform Advisory Group – Overseeing reforms to enhance student mental health and wellbeing support.

Marrung Central Governance Committee – Supporting the 2016 – 2026 Marrung strategy to improve outcomes for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander students.

Respectful Relationships Advisory Group – Strengthening engagement and outcomes in the Respectful Relationships program for students and families.

Senior Secondary Reform Advisory Group – Shaping ongoing reforms to senior secondary education.

EVENTS

- VCOS Treasurer's Luncheon
- VCOS Community Sector Education Forum 2024
- Melbourne Archdiocese of Catholic Schools Student Wellbeing Conference
- Multicultural Insights Conference: Shaping the Future with Today's Youth
- CEP Small Schools Forum
- EduMind Conference

14

RESOURCES AND POLICY UPDATES

Over the past year, VicSRC has worked closely with the Victorian Government to ensure student voices shape key education policies and reforms. Through direct engagement, students have influenced the following:

- **The Education State renewal:** VicSRC convened students to discuss proposed changes with the Department of Education, resulting in our priorities being reflected in the final agenda.
- **Victorian Teaching and Learning Model 2.0:** Students provided input on updates to this model, ensuring it reflects their perspectives on effective teaching and learning.
- **Mental Health Fund and Menu evaluation:** VicSRC facilitated student engagement in the evaluation process to strengthen mental health and wellbeing initiatives.
- **Safe Schools professional development materials:** Students contributed to updates to staff training, ensuring their experiences inform program delivery.
- **School Sport Victoria staff planning:** VicSRC trained staff to better engage students in programs, leading to ongoing collaboration with School Sport Victoria.



RESEARCH & INQUIRIES

VicSRC conducted student-led research across multiple areas, and made submissions to the following Inquiries:

- Parliamentary Inquiry into Victoria's State Education System
- 2024 Congress Report 2024 VicSRC Policy Platform
- LGBTIQA+ Student Empowerment Project
- Department of Premier and Cabinet (Victoria) Social Media Ban Student Consultations

15

WE ADVOCATE FOR STUDENT-LED POSITIVE CHANGES IN EDUCATION

VicSRC empowers students to shape education policies and decisions that affect them. Through initiatives like the Senior Secondary Pathways Reform Student Advisory Panel, and the annual Congress, students influence government reforms and advocacy priorities.

By working closely with the Department of Education, VicSRC ensures students provide direct feedback on policies while supporting the department in making student voice central to its work.

3

research reports released



175

students directly engaged in our research and policy work



4

key government policies shaped by student voice



22

recommendations for education reform developed in our Policy Platform



33

schools represented at 2024 Congress



16

SENIOR SECONDARY PATHWAYS REFORM STUDENT ADVISORY PANEL

The Senior Secondary Pathways Reform Student Advisory Panel gives students a direct role in shaping reforms to senior secondary education. In partnership with the Department of Education, we ensure students' voices influence changes to all secondary pathways, including the VCE Vocational Major (VCE VM) and Victorian Pathways Certificate (VPC).

In 2024, we brought together students from across Victoria to share their experiences and ideas. The panel met during each school holiday to discuss key priorities as they emerged, including:

- Reforming the VCE VM subject offerings,
- Improving VET Delivered to School Students (VDSS)

- Enhancing Senior Secondary celebrations
- Strengthening government communications with students.

VicSRC created a supportive and collaborative space where students built confidence and felt empowered to drive change. Both the Department of Education and the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority highly value this panel's contributions and remain committed to improve senior secondary education.

The panel's work will continue into 2025, building on the success and positive feedback from last year.

"My experience on the Senior Secondary panel with VicSRC was my highlight of 2024. I enjoyed connecting with other students from across Victoria with a range of different senior secondary experiences, and really feeling like my voice made a difference. I had the opportunity to expand my advocacy knowledge into the student voice space, and speaking directly to our leaders in the education sector. As a whole, the panel was incredibly valuable in bringing together likeminded students to create real change, and prioritised student voices in every way."

– Imogen (she/they), 2024 Panellist



17

VicSRC congress

Since 2006, VicSRC's Student Executives have hosted Congress every year. It's a chance for students across Victoria to come together and shape the future of education.

Congress is one of the biggest and most long-standing events where students can make real change in the education system. In 2024, almost 90 students from 33 schools joined us.

They worked on student-led solutions to big challenges in education. These include:

- Mental health and wellbeing
- Inclusive education
- Redefining success at school
- Better funding and support for students

All ideas from Congress are collected and presented in the Congress Report. We released the 2024 Congress Report on 27 January 2025, and [you can read the full report on our website.](#)

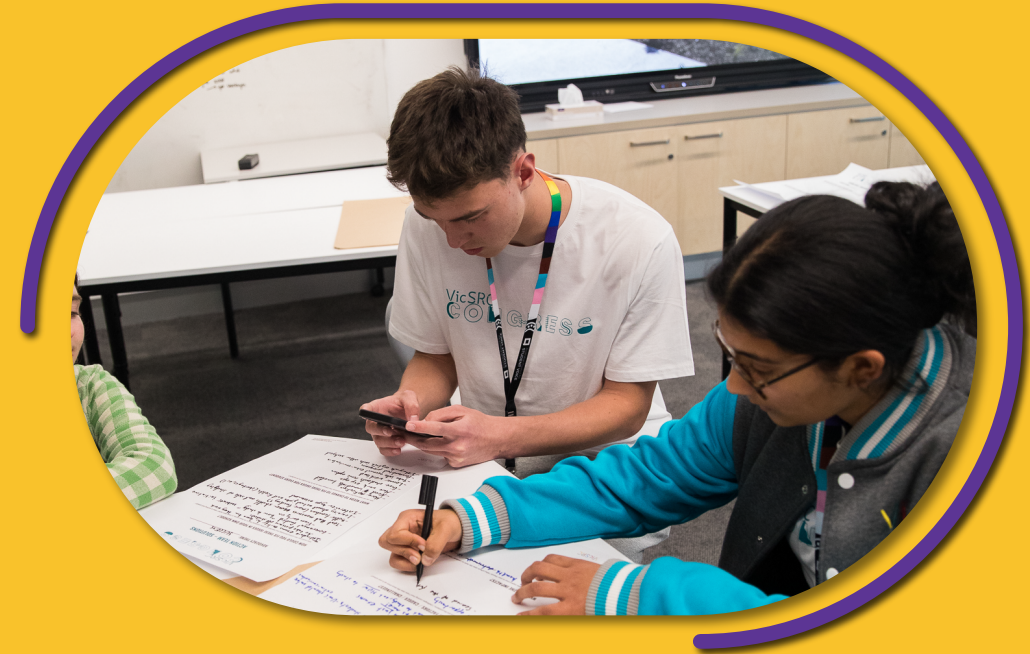
Congress would not be possible without the generous support of it's sponsors. Thank you to the following organisations who supported 2024 Congress:



Department
of Education



Youth Affairs
Council Victoria



WE SUPPORT PRIMARY AND SECONDARY STUDENTS TO BE ACTIVE DECISION MAKERS

6

schools completed teach the teacher



7

student interns were supported by VicSRC to implement their initiatives in their school communities.



2

Local Government Areas partnered to run the Ambassadors program



100

students took part in VicSRC programs



TEACH THE TEACHER

Teach the Teacher is a student-led program that helps students create real change in their schools. Designed by students, this program gives them a voice and a chance to work with teachers to improve their learning experience.

In 2024, VicSRC focused on strengthening relationships with schools to improve how the program runs. We worked with six schools across Victoria, supporting students as they identified key issues and teamed up with teachers to find solutions.

This year, we introduced a new professional development session

for teachers. This session helps teachers better support student-led initiatives and ensures real change happens in schools.

The excitement around Teach the Teacher is growing, with more schools keen to join in 2025. Next year, we plan to expand the program to more schools, bring schools together to collaborate, and reach more rural and regional students so they can get involved.

We're excited to keep building this program and helping students make their voices heard in education.





A NEW LOOK AMBASSADORS

The Ambassadors Program gives students the skills and confidence to create real change in their schools and communities. In 2024, we expanded the program to reach more students across Victoria. By running sessions in different locations throughout the year – including an online session – 40 students took part in the program.

This year, we focused on building partnerships with local councils to connect with more students. We ran region-specific programs with the City of Monash and Banyule City Council. We also increased participation from regional and rural students, with students from Geelong and Gippsland joining online sessions.

At the heart of the program, students develop and pitch projects to tackle student voice issues in their communities.

Some of the ideas included:

- A culturally safe mental health leadership committee
- A student-led oversight committee for SRC elections,
- An interschool SRC connecting students within their local areas.

Seven students were selected for the Ambassador Internship, where they received mentorship from VicSRC staff to develop their projects further. This experience helped turn student ideas into action while also building valuable skills for their future.

Many Ambassadors have continued their leadership journey, joining the Student Executive Advisory Committee and attending Congress. This shows how the program helps students grow into long-term leaders and advocates.

By expanding Ambassadors, VicSRC is ensuring more students have the tools and support to make a lasting impact in their school communities.



WE HELP ADULTS TO WORK BETTER IN PARTNERSHIP WITH STUDENTS

When students help make decisions, education gets better. VicSRC works with teachers, policymakers and community groups to make sure student voices don't just get heard – but lead to real change. Through co-design, we help adults and schools build strong partnerships with students to create better learning experiences.

15

students engaged as
Student Co-designers



20

co-design workshops
run by VicSRC



68

students engaged in
co-design programs



1

student engaged as
a Co-researcher



4

formal partnerships to
co-design new initiatives
with students



STUDENT VOICE IN HEALTH PROMOTION AND EDUCATION

VicSRC worked with the Royal Children's Hospital (RCH) to bring student voices into health education. We helped RCH make health information more engaging, accessible, and relevant for students.

Through a student focus group, we:

- Reviewed key health topics and how they're presented
- Suggested improvements for the Child Health Poll
- Identified gaps in how health info is shared with students

This work will lead to a new youth committee in 2025, where students will help shape health education at RCH. We're also working with RCH to plan youth engagement activities and ensure student voices stay at the center of their work.

This partnership highlights how student perspectives can improve resources made for young people – ensuring they meet students' real needs.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP IN ROAD SAFETY

VicSRC teamed up with the Transport Accident Commission (TAC) to create the Student Leadership in Road Safety program. This ensures students play an active role in shaping road safety education in Victoria.

We worked with 113 students, including eight co-designers leading the project. Students from regional and rural areas, diverse backgrounds, and those with lived experience of road trauma were part of this work.

Through a series of workshops students:

- Shared their thoughts on road safety education.
- Identified gaps in the current system.
- Suggested improvements to make learning more student friendly.

Their ideas have helped shape a new leadership program for Years 8 and 9. This program will give students the tools to assess road safety in their own communities and take action. Next, VicSRC will test and refine this model with TAC, expanding it to more schools and supporting student-led road safety projects.



STEM EDUCATION AND TECH SCHOOLS

VicSRC is working with the Department of Education to bring student voice into Victoria’s new Tech Schools. When students help design their learning spaces, the results are more engaging, practical, and useful.

We’re working closely with Tech Schools and STEM centres across Victoria to:

- Review current student voice practices,
- Identify what’s working well and what can improve,

- Help create Student Advisory Groups in Tech Schools.

We’re also setting up a Community of Practice – a space for Tech School leaders to share ideas and strengthen student voice and leadership.

STEM educators are excited about including student perspectives in Tech Schools. Moving forward, VicSRC will continue to support student-led decision making in STEM education.



MENTAL HEALTH COMMS PROJECT

In 2023, students told us that one of the biggest barriers to getting mental health support at school was that they didn’t know what was available.

In response, VicSRC and the Department of Education created the Mental Health Communications Advisory Group – a team of eight high school students working to make mental health resources easier to access.

The group helped develop a communications campaign to promote the Department of Education’s Mental Health Toolkit and Menu. Students shared their experiences and directly influenced how mental health resources are presented to other students.

This work continues in 2025, ensuring students have a real say in how mental health resources are communicated in schools.

This opportunity “provided an earnest ear to which we could voice our concerns and experiences ... [The advisory group] were able to relay what the impact of department initiatives were, which eventually helped us develop a media campaign that could be more effective in impacting students.”

– **Saksham (he/him), a year 11 student participant**



WE ARE INCLUSIVE OF THE NEEDS OF ALL STUDENTS

VicSRC works hard to make sure our work includes all students. We actively reach out to students across Victoria, especially those from marginalised backgrounds, and we work closely with the groups that support them.

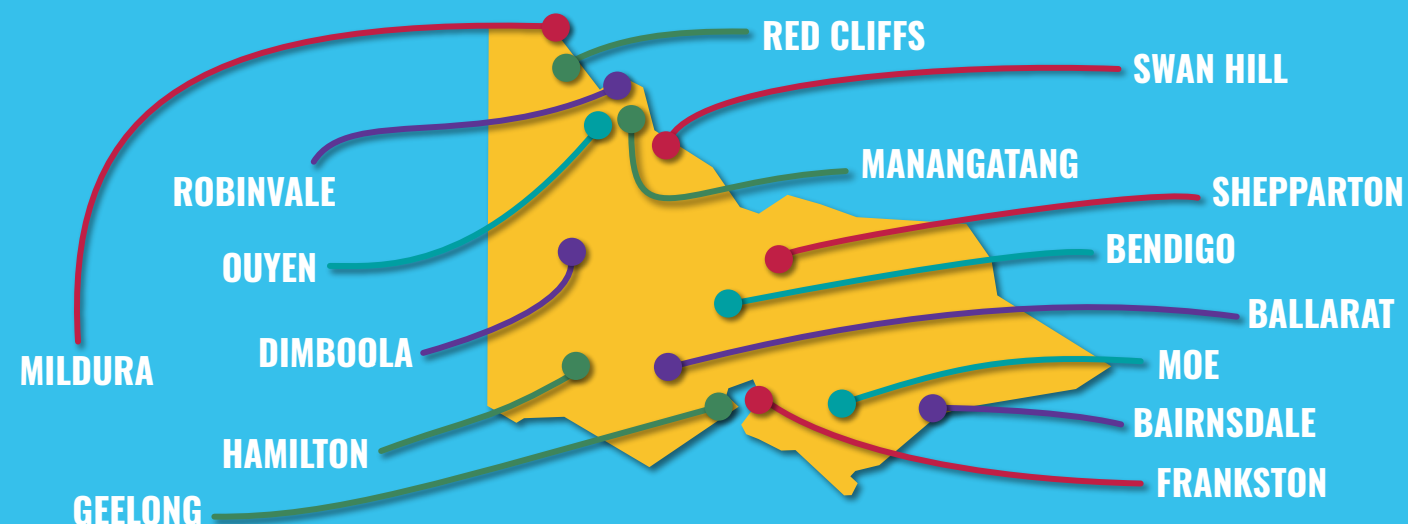
We've learned a lot through:

- Our LGBTQIA+ Student Empowerment Project, which highlighted the need for safer schools

- Our partnership with Country Education Partnership, where we heard directly from rural students
- Our Diversity and Representation in Education Stakeholder Group, which brings together expert organisations to improve school experiences for all students

We're pushing for a school system that works for everyone by tackling the barriers that stop students from feeling included or involved.

HEARING DIRECTLY FROM RURAL STUDENT LEADERS



RURAL AND REGIONAL OUTREACH

In 2024, our Student Executive team worked with the Country Education Partnership Rural Youth Ambassadors. They shared what it's like to be a student in rural areas and the changes they want to see.

This helped shape our Policy Platform, ensuring the voices of rural and regional students were included in our advocacy goals.

WORKING WITH OTHER ORGANISATIONS

We know we can't do this work alone. In 2024, we started the Diversity and Representation in Victorian Education Stakeholder Group.

This group includes organisations that work with students who:

HAVE A DISABILITY

ARE LGBTQIA+

ARE FROM DIFFERENT CULTURES
OR SPEAK DIFFERENT LANGUAGES

LIVE IN OUT-OF-HOME CARE

LIVE IN RURAL OR REGIONAL AREAS

ARE ABORIGINAL AND/OR
TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER

MAKING SCHOOLS SAFER FOR QUEER STUDENTS

LGBTQIA+ STUDENT EMPOWERMENT PROJECT

Many LGBTQIA+ students have told us about discrimination and not feeling safe at school. So, VicSRC launched this project to listen and respond.

Working alongside a Student Co-Researcher, we ran this project to understand what queer students experience in Victorian schools. The project was funded through the Healthy Equal Youth grants, delivered by the Youth Affairs Council Victoria and the Victorian Government.

We talked to 18 additional students about their personal experiences. Their stories helped us come up with 10 key

recommendations to make schools safer and more inclusive for queer students. **We shared what we learned in a final report.** It's available publicly and is already helping to guide real change. It's also helped show that issues students have spoken about for years are real and need to be addressed.

A big part of this project was the leadership of our Student Co-Researcher, Disha. She gained skills in research, facilitation and project management, and led a project that will continue to shape how we advocate for queer students in schools.

WE ARE A SUSTAINABLE ORGANISATION

BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE OF STUDENT VOICE



At VicSRC, we're focused on being sustainable — not just now, but for the long term. That means making sure we're financially secure, well-organised, and able to keep adapting to what students need.

We've been planning carefully, building strong partnerships, and using our funding wisely. In 2025, we're launching our Strategic Plan for 2025–2029, which will help us grow and improve over the next five years.

Our goal is to stay student-led and community-focused, while continuing to support students to lead change in their schools and communities.



DEVELOPING A NEW STRATEGIC PLAN

The development of VicSRC's 2025-2029 Strategic Plan was a deeply collaborative and student-led process, spearheaded by the 2024 Student Executive Advisory Committee. This group played a pivotal role in shaping the vision, goals, and priorities that will guide VicSRC's work over the next five years.

Central to this process was the commitment to ensuring the plan reflected the diverse voices of students across Victoria. The Committee sought input from student members through consultations and a comprehensive survey, creating meaningful opportunities for students to share their perspectives. Partner Schools and key stakeholders — including critical friends and community partners — were also engaged, ensuring a broad range of insights informed the plan.

Students expressed the importance of expanding access to student voice and increasing VicSRC's visibility across the state.

"One of the key long-term goals should be making the organisation more accessible to students, particularly in outer-Melbourne and rural areas," shared student member Zuhra (she/her).

The need for stronger advocacy and accountability also emerged.

"VicSRC does a great job of responding to students' needs, but we need to be stronger at holding organisations to account when things go awry," noted Oskar (he/him), Ambassadors participant and student member.

The importance of building partnerships to amplify student voices was another key theme, as was the need to connect with a broader range of students, especially those disengaged from traditional education settings, to gain a more comprehensive understanding of what's happening in schools.

The result is a bold roadmap that places student empowerment, systemic change, and harnessing community expertise at the heart of VicSRC's mission.

"I want to see students embedded in decision-making at every school," shared long-term volunteer and student member Nina (she/her). "That's how we create lasting change."

APPRECIATING OUR PARTNERS

We achieve more when we work together. That's why we're so grateful for the support of our partners, volunteers, community groups, and organisations. Their contributions help us amplify student voices and push for better decisions in education.

We especially want to thank Deputy Premier and Minister for Education, the Hon. Ben Carroll MP, and the Department of Education for their ongoing support. Their funding has helped drive key projects in:

- Senior secondary reform
- Mental health and wellbeing
- Tech schools
- Inclusive education

We also deeply appreciate the organisations that have collaborated with us, shared their expertise, and strengthened our advocacy efforts. These include:

Student Support & Inclusion

- Advocating for Children with Disabilities (ACD)
- Centre for Multicultural Youth (CMY)
- Koorie Youth Council (KYC)
- Minus18
- Youth Disability Advocacy Service (YDAS)

Education & Advocacy Partners

- Australian Education Union
- Commission for Children and Young People (CCYP)
- Country Education Partnership (CEP)
- Education Equity Alliance
- Parents Victoria
- Victorian Aboriginal Education Association Inc. (VAEAI)
- Victorian Council of Social Services (VCOSS)
- Youth Affairs Council Victoria (YACVic)

Health & Wellbeing Leaders

- Orygen Youth Mental Health
- Royal Children's Hospital
- Transport Accident Commission (TAC)

Education & Research Institutions

- Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA)
- Monash Centre for Youth Policy and Education Practice
- RMIT University
- Wurun Senior Campus

Every one of these partnerships makes a difference. Thank you for working with us to create a better future for all students!



PARTNER SCHOOLS

Our Partner Schools Network is a powerful force driving positive change in education across Victoria. These schools play a key role in amplifying student voice, leadership and advocacy – and we're so grateful for their support!

Primary Schools

- Black Rock Primary School
- Briar Hill Primary School
- Bunyip Primary School
- Caulfield Primary School
- Clifton Springs Primary School
- Clyde Creek Primary School
- Gaayip-Yagila Primary School
- Hartwell Primary School
- Lalor East Primary School
- Melton West Primary School
- Newlands Primary School
- Rosanna Primary School
- St Brigid's Primary School
- St Michael's School
- Thornbury Primary School

Secondary & P-12 Schools

- Academy of Mary Immaculate
- Albert Park College
- Beechworth Secondary College
- Bellarine Secondary College
- Bendigo South East College
- Box Hill High School
- Brighton Secondary College
- Canterbury Girls' Secondary College
- Castlemaine Secondary College
- Chaffey Secondary College
- Coburg High School
- East Doncaster Secondary College
- Edgars Creek Secondary College
- Elwood College
- Featherbrook P-9 College
- Flinders Christian Community College
- Frankston High School

- Genazzano FCJ College
- Gladstone Park Secondary College
- Hampton Park Secondary College
- Iona College
- Kardinia International College
- Kew High School
- Lakeview Senior College
- Lynall Hall Community School
- Lyndhurst Secondary College
- Maffra Secondary College
- Mernda Central College P-12
- Mickleham Secondary College
- Mount Ridley P-12 College
- Mount Waverley Secondary College
- Northcote High School
- Northern College of the Arts and Technology
- Northside Christian College
- Oberon High School
- Officer Secondary College
- Padua College
- Portland Secondary College
- Roxburgh College
- Springside West Secondary College
- St Helena Secondary College
- Sunbury College
- Sunshine College
- Tallangatta Secondary College
- Tarneit Senior College
- Terang College
- The Lakes South Morang College
- Victoria University Secondary College
- Virtual School Victoria
- Warrnambool College
- Westall Secondary College
- Wyndham Central Secondary College

WANT YOUR SCHOOL TO JOIN?

Becoming a VicSRC Partner School means supporting student-led change and helping to shape the future of education.

Sign up today: vicsrc.org.au/schools/partnerships

STUDENT MEMBERS – YOUR VOICE MATTERS!

At VicSRC, students lead the way! If you're a student in Prep to Year 12 at a Victorian school, you can become a VicSRC Member and help shape the future of education.

As a member, you get to:

- Have a say in who joins the Student Executive Advisory Committee and Board of Trustees
- Vote at our Annual General Meeting (AGM)
- Attend and speak at the AGM, where big decisions about VicSRC's future are made

We encourage all Victorian students to get involved and make their voices heard.

Want to join?

Find out more at vicsrc.org.au/students/student-membership

THANK YOU TO OUR STAFF TEAM

VicSRC wouldn't be able to do what we do without our amazing team. Their hard work and dedication over the past year have made a real difference for students across Victoria.

A huge thank you to:

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| • Abby Wiverton | • Julia Baron |
| • Chelsea Daniel | • Kane Ord |
| • Georgia Cutajar | • Keisha Healy |
| • Ian Johnson | • Riya Rajesh |
| • Jake Fehily | • William Naughton-Gravette |



TREASURER'S REPORT

2024 was a year of strong financial growth for VicSRC, with ongoing strong financial management. For the year ended 31 December 2024, VicSRC reported a small deficit of \$1,365. This was smaller than the deficit that had been budgeted by the Board to enable further growth of the organisation's offering of programs and opportunities for students, schools and community stakeholders.

This small deficit is offset by the organisation's strong equity position. This position was sitting at \$295,766 as at 31/12/24, a small decline from \$297,131 at the end of 2023.

VicSRC's revenue increased from \$708,285 to \$958,543 due to exciting additional fee-for-service work with both the Department of Education, other government Departments and community

organisations. Congratulations to the VicSRC team for securing this additional income, which ultimately meant wonderful opportunities for students to contribute to the design of important initiatives across the education sector and beyond.

The increased income meant a correlating increase in expenditure from \$713,868 in 2023 to \$959,908 in 2024. The vast majority of this expenditure was staffing costs as VicSRC grew its team to undertake this additional fee-for-service work.

As previously noted, VicSRC has a retained surplus of \$295,766 at the end of this financial year, maintaining its strong position while continuing to invest in growth areas without undertaking unnecessary financial risk.



Tim Warwick, Board Treasurer

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income for the year ended 31 December 2024

	2024	2023
INCOME		
Revenue	953,265	708,285
Interest received	5,278	4,707
Total income	958,543	712,992
EXPENDITURE		
Employee benefit expenses	802,941	591,013
Accommodation expenses	45,633	45,368
Administrative expenses	53,506	24,253
Communication expenses	9,110	5,574
Depreciation	4,824	4,196
Project costs	43,894	42,114
Other expenses	—	1,350
Total expenditure	959,908	713,868
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	(1,365)	(876)
Total comprehensive income / (loss) for the year	(1,365)	(876)

Statement of financial position
as at 31 December 2024

	2024	2023
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	47,590	151,223
Accounts and other receivables	290,026	182,150
Other assets	18,845	8,886
Total current assets	356,461	342,259
NON-CURRENT ASSETS		
Investments in term deposits	40,874	39,203
Property, plant and equipment	6,061	8,790
Total non-current assets	46,935	47,993
Total assets	403,396	390,252
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts and other payables	62,440	56,961
Employee benefits	42,653	34,072
Total current liabilities	105,093	91,033
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Employee benefits	2,537	2,088
Total non-current liabilities	2,537	2,088
Total liabilities	107,630	93,121
Net assets	295,766	297,131
EQUITY		
Accumulated funds	295,766	297,131
Total equity	295,766	297,131

