Learning Together, Inspiring Growth: A Singapore-Australia Education Exchange

On 20 May 2025, AST hosted a delegation of 12 principals and teachers who were the recipients of the 2024 Australian Commonwealth Bank Teaching Award. The delegation engaged with 12 recipients of Singapore's President's Award for Teachers (PAT) and Outstanding Youth in Education Award (OYEA) to exchange best practices and perspectives.

These educators champion educational equity through evidence-based literacy and numeracy programmes to transform children's lives. Their innovative approaches and strong community engagement stem from their conviction that every student can succeed and create lasting impact beyond their classrooms. They are dedicated to fostering collaborative learning environments, whilst sharing expertise and empowering colleagues to enhance their teaching practice.

Teaching Fellow Julie Peel from Milpera State High School, Queensland, shared her school's approach to foster teachers' growth through their professional development structures and programmes. She also shared strategies for supporting disadvantaged students, showcasing how thoughtfully designed transition programmes and a nurturing environment can unlock students' potential. 2024 OYEA recipient Edwin Ong from St. Anthony's Primary School shared his approach to personalised learning through the integration of AI and differentiated learning strategies to enhance student engagement and literacy.

The participants further engaged in discussions about pedagogical practices in their areas of focus such as literacy, numeracy, support for diverse learners and technology integration in teaching. The session was filled with wonderful exchange of ideas, demonstrating how educators from different countries can inspire and learn from each other.

The Australian delegation was led by Australian Schools Plus. The session was facilitated by Ms Fiona Tay, Senior Assistant Director, Professional Development Branch 2 and Professional Development Planning Office.