Stories of Good Practice
St Francis de Sales College, South Australia (B)

Segment 4: Real decision making

Reflect/Collaborate
Brainstorm a list of outcomes achieved by your school’s Student Representative Council. Classify the outcomes achieved as either ‘community outreach, service learning projects and fundraising’ or ‘management of the learning environment’.

The core business of SRCs is the provision of student voice in the management of the learning environment rather than their involvement in other civics related matters. Examples of this are recalled by the students and teacher in the video clip. If you are undertaking a collegial learning activity, use a think-pair-share activity to brainstorm your list.

Use a reflective journal to record your responses to the following questions:

- What is the current core business of your school’s SRC?
- What opportunities currently exist for students at your school to make decisions about the management of the school’s learning environment?
- How could opportunities be expanded for students to make decisions about the management of the learning environment at your school?

Share your response with your school’s management and leadership teams. Work with the teams to maximise opportunities for student participation in ‘real decision making’.

A think-pair-share strategy enables learners to ‘think’ first, then to ‘pair’ with another learner to exchange ideas. The pair then presents to the group, allowing for diverse ideas to be collated.