

A brief summary of Koonung's history over the past 50 years

KOONUNG HIGH SCHOOL

1964 – 1989

KOONUNG SECONDARY COLLEGE 1990 →

The fore runners:

- Mont Albert Central School 1918/19
- Box Hill North Primary 1954
- Koonung Heights Primary 1954 – closed 1993
- Burwood High School 1956 – now closed
- Burwood Technical School 1957 – now closed
- Box High School All boys – now co-educational
- Box Hill Boys Technical School now Box Hill Senior Sec College
- Box Hill Girls Technical School now closed
- Our Lady of Sion Girls School
- Kingswood College
- St Leos Boys School now closed

1964

Box Hill North High School (now Koonung) commenced on the Mont Albert Central School site with 5 classrooms and 2 portable rooms housing 168 students.

Tom Wise was the Principal

Building of the current school was on a site which had a small creek running through it. Much earthwork was required to sculpture the site including placing the creek in a barrel drain beneath what is now the Hockey & Soccer pitches. This did not take place until 1967.

December 7th 1965 the Students and Staff moved into the current school site and the current school buildings.

There were 276 Students in Years 7, 8 and 9. Interestingly the boys and girls were segregated at recess and lunch – Boys to the South, Girls to the North.

1967

2 new wings were added to the School. Tom Wise left to become Principal of Oak Park High School.

1968

Jack Stove Principal 1968 – 1982

By now the school had grown to 703 students. Koonung was elevated to a class A school, meaning it could conduct senior examinations on site in 1968.

1972

Koonung remains a fairly conservative school. Female teachers allowed to wear slacks for the first time.

1977

June 16th Koonung “JD Stove Centre” opened – cost approx. \$500,000.00.

A partnership between Department of Education

Box Hill Council

Koonung School Council

1982

Fire in the administration wing, which started in a faulty refrigerator.

Jack Stove retires after 14 years as Principal.

1985

The damaged wing was reconstructed

1990

Koonung becomes a ‘Secondary College’. Pressure to amalgamate with Box Hill Technical School but this did not happen.

Enrolments over the years

1964	168	1991	454
1966	460	1993	504
1968	703	1998	555
1973	871	2000	672
1977	839	2002	778
1979	711	2006	815
1983	683	2008	906
1986	535	2010	1117
1988	443	2012	1149
1989	415	2014	1086

Other Interesting Facts

Koonung Comets first play out of Koonung in 1969 Boys only
1971 Girls

Fossicker (school magazine) was first published 1967

First School Production – “Half a sixpence” 1968

Principals

Tom Wise	64-67
Jack Stove	68-82
R. Buller	83
Alison Gliddon	84-85
M. Pattison	86-88
Mac Harkness	89-94
Rob Brookes	95-2006
Jeremy Beard	2007-08
Peter Wright	2009-present

1990

Koonung Silver Jubilee – 6th May 1990

1993

Box Hill Tech becomes Box Hill Senior Secondary College – Year 11/12 only
Many Year 7-10 students from the Technical School move to Koonung.

1994

40 Years celebration

2009

Hockey Pitch opens in partnership with Camberwell Grammar and
Camberwell Hockey club

2014

50 Years celebration

Community and Global Partnerships Current day

Sister Schools	Matsudo Japan	28 years
	Arras France	10 years
	Dalian China	3 years

International Links

International Delegations visit Koonung from
Chile, Singapore, China, Scotland, Canada

Locally

University of Melbourne
Box Hill TAFE
Camberwell Grammar
Camberwell Hockey Club
Box Hill Hockey Club
Nunawading Junior Soccer Club
XJS Chinese School
CHIME Choristers
Heide Art Gallery
Koonung Comets Junior Basketball Club
Playball Basketball
Local Church groups

and many other user groups on a more casual basis