



KERIKERI HIGH SCHOOL BOARD OF TRUSTEES NEWSLETTER

Greetings All

The end of the second term is rushing upon us with a full head of steam. We are halfway through the school, as well as the calendar, year.

There have been some great successes at Kerikeri High School over the course of the term. From very successful starts to the season for our top teams in all the major winter sporting codes, nearly all of which are either topping their tables or sharing that position, to a world championship title for our S.U.S.S.E.D Community Problem Solving team in America the School has enjoyed success. Our cross-country team appeared to be dominant in the various inter-school competitions in which they were entered. We saw another fabulous show in "The Tempest" produced by Nick Brown. The High School hosted an extremely successful Nga Manu Korero competition in The Centre and amongst all of this our students and teachers found time for academic work and exams!

At the final Board meeting for the term the Board spent more time on the pending survey of all staff, students and parents. That survey, which will give everyone a chance to express their views on the High School, including hopefully on areas in which things are going well along with areas for improvement, will be sent out in the early part of next term. Surveys provide us with valuable feedback to help the Board frame policies going forward. It also gives as wide a circle of people associated with the School as possible a chance to have input into its direction and promote ideas. While it is never possible to act on everything put forward all comments and suggestions will be read and considered.

Funding continues to be the biggest thorn in the side of your Board as it constantly struggles to balance the opportunities that the School is able to make available to its students with the financial constraints under which we operate. The Board is looking at establishing a sub-group comprising Board members and others with the single purpose of formulating ways that we can raise funds for the School, both on a one-off, and on a continuing, basis. If you have an interest in being a part of such group or wish to have input into it please contact Barbara Klinac, Secretary to the Board.

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While there is little physical sign of it at present the preparatory work for the construction of the new classroom block continues apace and we remain hopeful that this much needed facility will be in operation by midway through 2009. The School is also pressing ahead as quickly as possible with the reconstruction work required in the wake of this term's bad arson attack.

Many of you have now paid the School Contribution, together with the additional donation, and class fees. The Board does appreciate these payments being made as quickly as possible during the year to assist with cashflow. It is appreciated that the times are difficult economically, but once again we emphasise the point that every contribution that is paid helps.

The 2009 contribution, which is required to be determined for the School's prospectus which will go out shortly, has been set at \$150 per student. A reduced family contribution will be available to those with 3 or more children at the school.

The Board wish to thank the senior leadership team, teachers and all the staff at the High School for their ongoing efforts and enthusiasm in continuing to seek to raise the bar of student achievement. The High School has had a great first half to the year and it is simply a matter of making the most of the two week break coming up and then returning refreshed to attack the second half.

Happy holidays!

Naku noa
The Board