



KERIKERI HIGH SCHOOL BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Greetings All

The fourth term is upon us and the year continues to flash before our eyes. Seniors have now finished their mock exams and the real McCoy is around the corner. Good luck to all in this crucial part of the year.

Speaking of exams, and rather frustratingly given that the 2008 academic year is heading to a close we have just received the government benchmarking for the NCEA results for 2007. Attached to this newsletter are three graphs. They represent the percentage of boys and girls achieving at NCEA in Levels 1, 2 and 3 over the last three years. The graphs compare the success rate of students at Kerikeri High School to the national success rates.

The top graph is 2005 with the 2006 and then 2007 graphs below it. The first block relates to achievement levels at NCEA Level 1, the second block Level 2 the third block Level 3. There are four columns in each block. The first represents the performance of boys at Kerikeri High School, the second boys nationally, the third girls at Kerikeri High School, and the fourth girls nationally.

You will notice, outstandingly, girls have been above average on every occasion, and sometimes well above average. Of particular note amongst a whole raft of good results was our Level 2 success rate last year where 91% of girls in Year 12 achieved at NCEA at Level 2 compared to 70% nationally.

Equally encouraging is the upward trend in the performance of our boys. In 2005 we were above national averages in one year level and below in two. In 2006 we were above in two and below in one. In 2007 we were above in all three year levels in every case by in excess of 10%. The issue of boys' achievement is not one that is being forgotten by your Board, nor the continuing success at the School of our girls. The results are, however, something that the High School should be justifiably proud of and well done to all the teachers and students involved.

In what are incredibly difficult times financially for schools our Finance Committee, chaired by Lane Ayr and also including Elizabeth Forgie, Susan Manning and Guy Ellingham have managed to turn over a deficit last year and bring the School towards a breakeven position this year. Teachers have been asked to tighten their belts in terms of budgets this year and their efforts are appreciated. It is hard having to reduce the funding we are able to put into curriculum but that is the reality of the position. The School Contribution is crucial in this area and if you haven't paid that in 2008, if you are able to pay it now or make some payment towards it it really does help and is much appreciated.

Surveys are almost upon us. You will be able to complete the survey electronically or on paper. The surveys are anonymous and we are hoping that in respect of the parents' survey as many of you as possible will take the time to complete the survey and have your input into shaping our school.

Good luck to all students for the upcoming exams. Go for it!

Naku Noa