

KERIKERI HIGH SCHOOL BOARD OF TRUSTEES NEWSLETTER

Greetings All

Term 2 has started with a hiss and a roar and exams are looming for senior students. Some of these will count towards students NCEA results. Good luck to all those taking part. The academic achievement level at Kerikeri High School seems to keep improving year on year and if the School matches last year's pass rate there will be a lot of smiling faces out there.

Speaking of smiling faces, there were plenty to be seen around the Board and Senior Leadership Team after the recent ERO inspection. In addition to having meetings with both groups during its inspection the ERO team held meetings with both the Senior Leadership Team and the Board at the end of their week at the School to provide preliminary findings. They were positively glowing in their appraisal of how Kerikeri High School is performing. Having heard the feedback it was suggested that from the sounds of what they were saying, in NCEA speak, the School had scored an "Achieved endorsed with Excellence". The response from one of the inspection team was "More like Scholarship!"

For various reasons it had been almost five years since the previous ERO inspection and the Board was very keen to have the inspection and audit undertaken to get that external feedback on progress. We are now looking forward to receiving the formal written report which will be placed on the High School website so that anyone interested in the report can read it.

Many of you may have seen or heard press commentary about a Government directive that Boards of Trustees review school policies related to bullying. The Board is establishing a subcommittee to review this and report back to the full Board. The detailed surveys undertaken a couple of years ago by the Board did not indicate that there was cause for concern in this area, but a review will no doubt seek to establish whether there are concerns in this important area that the School and Board need to address.

The new Maths and Science Block is looking fabulous and we are on track to have an opening date and the classes operational during the third term. The Board has nearly finished its project to instal heat pumps into permanent teaching spaces. The feedback received from staff has been very positive in dealing with the heat of the summer. Hopefully they will be equally efficient in sorting any chilly winter days! The Board is also continuing with a project to install datashows into as many classrooms, where they are relevant, as possible.

After an initial flurry at the start of the year payment of the School voluntary contribution has slowed to a trickle. Please remember that the contributions can be paid by way of automatic payment to spread the burden and indeed even if part of a contribution can be paid that helps the School to provide additional amenities and teaching facilities for the benefit of all our students.

Naku noa
The Board