

KERIKERI HIGH SCHOOL BOARD OF TRUSTEES NEWSLETTER, FEBRUARY 2019

The Board of Trustees would like to extend a very warm welcome to all our families and whānau. We have been working together since June 2016 when our three year term began. For those of you new to our school this year, alphabetically we are:

- Wendy Butler (Parent Trustee)
- Leah Dawson (Student Representative)
- Elizabeth Forgie (School Principal)
- Chris Galbraith (Parent Trustee)
- Mariaio Hohaia (Parent Trustee)
- Roger Ludbrook (Parent Trustee)
- Chris McLellan (Parent Trustee; Deputy Board Chair)
- Sue Richards (Parent Trustee; Board Chair)
- Emma Wise (Staff Trustee)

We have recently had our first Board meeting where we were able to officially welcome our new Student Representative for 2019, Leah Dawson. The student's voice and presence at the Board table is a welcome and constant reminder of why we are all there – for our children, as we work alongside the Senior Leadership Team and staff to ensure educational success for all.

After a big year in 2018 completing Te Puna Waiora – our hub for the pastoral care of all our students, our Property Committee will be going into maintenance mode. Although we have no major building projects on the horizon, it is important to ensure all our buildings are well looked after, so that we don't need to replace them any more often than is necessary. Just like any household running a budget on the smell of an oily rag.

Which leads nicely on to the subject of the Finance Committee who are always working to ensure that the school operates within budget. Even with the additional income from our very successful International Department, we are still heavily constrained by the operational funding from the government that is always stretched to the limit.

The voluntary parent contribution is something we rely on heavily to bridge the gap between costs and income. It has helped us to provide (amongst other items) 11 COWS or Computers On Wheels – giving us a total of 200 Chromebooks which can be wheeled from one class to another. This year we are looking to our community for support, and we are asking every family to do what they can to support the school.

And looking ahead outside of operational matters, this year will be no different to most others; a busy one for students and staff. For the Board and Senior Leadership Team however, there are changes ahead, firstly with the government appointed Taskforce who are reviewing how schools operate and that could mean huge changes to how schools are governed. Public discussion is now open until April.

Another change that is certain; this is an Election year for Boards of Trustees. Election day is in early June and Nomination Forms will be posted to you at the end of May so please ensure your address details are up to date. If you are interested in standing and want to know more about what's involved, you can have a look online <http://www.trustee-election.co.nz/becoming-a-trustee>

Hei konā mai and goodbye for now.