

## KERIKERI HIGH SCHOOL BOARD OF TRUSTEES NEWSLETTER

Greetings All

A warm welcome from your Board of Trustees to the 2015 school year. A particular welcome to new staff members, students and parents. We hope that 2015 will be another great year for Kerikeri High School.

It was wonderful to start the year with the 2015 NCEA provisional results and congratulations to all those who achieved so well. The results really were exceptional and it is worth looking at how they have dramatically improved over the last nine years. Below is a brief comparison of the 2005 results with those just received for 2014:

	2005	2014
Level 1	67.4%	82.7%
Level 2	59.4%	86.5%
Level 3	59.8%	75.8%

In 2013 the Government set an aspirational target for schools for Level 2 pass rates of 85% by 2017. Our 2014 figure was 86.5%! The High School has also been focusing on improving boys' achievements. In a surprise visit by the Minister for Education last week she advised that the High School was bucking a national trend in continuing to get strong results with our boys.

These figures are something of which the High School can justifiably be proud, and congratulations from the Board to all the students and teachers who made those results possible. One of the difficult things about great results is that it raises the bar even higher for every year. It presents a real challenge for this year's students!!

The School is in full swing for 2015. There are a large number of applications for prefects. The peer support programme between year 13 and year 7 is normally a great success and following on from the Year 13 Leadership Camp the Year 7 camps at Urupukapuka Island are on the horizon and looked forward to by all. Summer sports are kicking into action and parents please encourage your children to take part in the various opportunities that arise at the High School in the first term. Please remember to sign up for the Keri News. You can do this by visiting our website, click on the 'What's Happening' link and select General News, enter your email address in the email subscription box and click sign me up.

One of the challenges for any State School is that students who have moved into or who live in zone can simply turn up at the start of the school year. This year we had over 90 new students between Years 8 and 13 as well as the large traditional Year 7 influx. It certainly makes for challenges for those responsible for timetables!

For the Board and the Senior Leadership Team at the School it is a busy time leading up to a visit this month by the Education Review Office.

The last ERO review was in 2011 and the Board is looking forward to ERO completing a thorough review of progress made at the High School and the identification of any areas which require additional focus. It is a great check for us by a fully independent and very knowledgeable organisation.

Funding for the operational side of the School remains tight, as ever, and the High School is heavily reliant on parents paying the school fees. These fees are voluntary. The Board understands that payment of them is not feasible for all families. The fees can, however, be paid by a regular small automatic payment and even if a full fee cannot be paid, any contribution received assists us with the amenities that we are able to offer the students at school and the funding which we are able to put into both curriculum and extra-curricular activities.

Wishing you all the best for the 2015 school year and for your enjoyment of this wonderful summer.

Naku noa

Rick Palmer  
Board Chair