



BOARD HAPPENINGS 2017



PARTICIPATE
RESPECT
INIITIATIVE
DETERMINED
EXCELLENCE

The Dunsandel School Board Newsletter ISSUE THREE

The Board of Trustees held its third meeting for 2017 on Tuesday 16th May, with the following being the key points from the discussions:

Section 1: School Charter

Strategic Aim 1: Our children are successfully able to access the New Zealand Curriculum, as evidenced by progress and achievement in relation to National Standards and other assessment processes.

- Nothing to report

Strategic Aim 2: Children engage in a learning environment to experience success in all areas of the curriculum

- The school's music programme continues to go from strength to strength with 27 children taking lessons in Term 2
- All documentation required for the 2016 financial audit is now with the school's auditor.
- A Year 6 Leadership survey was carried out at the end of Term 1. The main findings from the responses to the survey show:
 - there is enjoyment in the responsibility of being a school leader;
 - the group is becoming more confident with speaking in front of an audience; and
 - there is a good understanding their roles at an individual level.

A copy of the survey is in the school foyer

Strategic Aim 3: Our culture defines Dunsandel School through a supportive environment that promotes the school's PRIDE Values

- The Board was presented with a PRIDE values report following a survey involving Year 3-6 children in early May 2017. The main findings of the report included:
 - 94% of the children felt confident they know the PRIDE values if they asked to recount them.
 - 39% of the children felt Respect was the one value they do best.
 - 61% of the children felt Respect was the value they thought mum and dad would think is the most important.

A copy of the survey is in the school foyer

- The meeting was informed that six staff will be attending a first aid course in Southbridge at the end of May.
- The Principal has confirmed the completion of Stage 1A of the playground project. The Playground Committee will be meeting this month to discuss the next stage.

- All staff attended the Ngā Mātāpuna o te Waihora Annual Conference in Leeston on 28th March with staff from the other cluster schools. The focus of the conference was on effective teaching of oral language within the school environment. The facilitators reinforced the importance of building excellent listening and speaking skills with young children and how this has a positive influence on their reading and writing abilities. The Principal wished to acknowledge the support of the parent community in allowing staff to finish the school day early to attend what was a valuable professional development opportunity.
- The Principal informed the meeting that he is working with the Leeston and Southbridge schools to organise a Year 6 one day conference, to be held early in Term 4. Much of the focus will be around the setting and achievement of goals. Its likely the programme will include a guest speaker, the use of the Sport Canterbury Top Team programme and possibly involving Ellesmere College in a Q&A session.
- In furthering the development of the Community of Learning initiative, as promoted by the Ministry of Education, the following recommendation was presented to the Board:

"The Dunsandel School Board of Trustees would like to proceed to seek approval with the Ministry of Education to form a Community of Learning with the Ellesmere Cluster Schools – Ellesmere College, Leeston Consolidated School and Southbridge School."

The Board **passed** a motion to approve the recommendation.

Section 2: School Governance

- Financial statements for March and April 2017 were presented to and approved by the Board
- The Annual Plan Expenditure Report (as at 31 March 2017) was presented to and approved by the Board
- The Year 6 Camp to Aoraki Mount Cook proposal was presented to the Board with the following recommendation:

"The Dunsandel School Board accepts the Year 6 Camp to Aoraki Mount Cook Proposal as presented at this meeting"

The Board **passed** a motion to approve the recommendation.

- The Board took the opportunity to welcome Donna Webb to the school as the new teacher in Room 3. With her arrival the Board wishes to thank Judy Hanson for her work as the relieving teacher for the four weeks at the end of Term 1.
- Policy reviews were carried out on the following: Employer Responsibility Policy

Board of Trustees Meetings 2017

The remaining Board meeting dates for 2017 are:

Term Two: 27th June

Term Three: 22nd July and 26th August

Term Four: 7th November and 5th December

The minutes for the above Board meeting, once approved, can be accessed via the school website on the 'Our People' page under the 'Board of Trustees' tab. Should you wish to discuss any of the above issues please do not hesitate in contacting either myself or another Board member.

Don Lough

Board of Trustees Chairperson

For the Dunsandel Board of Trustees