



# BOARD HAPPENINGS 2017



**P**ARTICIPATE  
**R**ESPECT  
**I**NIITIATIVE  
**D**ETERMINED  
**E**XCELLENCE

## *The Dunsandel School Board Newsletter*

### ISSUE SEVEN

The Board of Trustees held its seventh meeting for 2017 on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November, 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 sees continued interest in music with 31 children participating in lessons this term. The numbers that have engaged in the music programme this year has been fantastic however does create a number of challenges, the key one being the availability of space. The Board is looking to address this in the new year.
- Once again the Year 5/6 choir performed at the Christchurch Schools Choir Festival at the Horncastle arena in October. Well done to the participants and to those involved in the preparation for and presentation of our choir at the event.
- The Principal informed the meeting he's currently working on class sizes and teacher roles for 2018. It's expected the final numbers will be presented to the Board at its final meeting in December.
- The School held its first Year 6 Leadership Conference involving Leeston, Southbridge and Dunsandel schools at the new Community Centre on 1<sup>st</sup> November. Feedback from the Principal was very positive with the children engaging with Head Students from Ellesmere College, Sports Canterbury Top Team activities and Claire Burgess, the Guest Speaker.

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

- The School's 10 year Property Plan (10YPP) has been approved by the Ministry of Education.
- The school continues to engage in the Communities of Learning (Kahui Ako) process with the current focus on the establishment of Kahui Ako structures and an Action Plan for the next 12 months. Key actions over the coming months include the establishment of the Stewardship Group (to include the four schools Principals, ECE representatives and one Board member from each of the schools) and the appointment of the Lead Principal – the person responsible for driving the initiatives of the Kahui Ako.

## **Section 2: School Governance**

- The financial statement for September 2017 was presented to the Board.
  - **Recommendation:** *The Board approves the financial statements for September 2017 - **Approved***
- The Principal presented a supplementary finance report: Actuals vs Budget Report – Annual Plan 2017 for discussion. The report showed the school funds were supporting Annual Plan initiatives and remained within Budget as at the end of September.
- The Principal briefed the Board on the new government and possible policy changes within Education. At the time of the meeting much of what's in the public domain was the promises the Coalition parties had been campaigning on. The detail around new or change to existing policy will start to roll out in the coming months. Some of the promises included:
  - Abolishing National Standards
  - Review of the system of learning support to ensure resources are allocated based on individual needs
  - Repealing the legislation allowing for Charter schools
  - Developing a comprehensive plan for re-building out-dated and worn-out schools
  - Develop a centrally funded system for staff salaries
  - Develop a comprehensive programme ensuring every student in every school has access to a mobile device.
- Health and Safety - the Board reviewed the following:
  - Injury and Incident Report

## **Board of Trustees Meetings 2017**

The remaining Board meeting dates for 2017 are:

Term Four: 5<sup>th</sup> 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