



BOARD HAPPENINGS 2019



PARTICIPATE
RESPECT
INIITIATIVE
DETERMINED
EXCELLENCE

The Dunsandel School Board Newsletter

ISSUE One 2019

The Board of Trustees held its first meeting for 2019 on Tuesday 26th February.

Chairperson's Comments

Before I get into the detail of the discussions I, on behalf of the Board, would like to welcome everyone back for another exciting year at Dunsandel Primary School. A special welcome goes out to the new entrant families and those families moving from elsewhere into the district.....no doubt a little scary but hopefully the start of a memorable experience.

I would also like to take this opportunity to highlight the parent annual financial contribution and its importance in assisting with the resourcing of the school. The contribution supplements funding from the Government to ensure we are providing the best opportunity for all children to have a positive experience in all areas of the curriculum. The school understands this funding is not a given and, therefore, is highly appreciative of the contributions received each year. At the meeting on the 26th February the Board agreed to keep the 2019 contribution at the same levels as 2016-18, as outlined below. As I stated earlier all contributions are highly appreciated and should you wish to discuss a payment arrangement please contact Dave Robinson (Principal) at the school.

On a sad note, the Board has been informed that Paula Newton, one of its parent representatives, has resigned from her position as a Board member. Paula has regrettably made the decision to allow her to focus on her family commitments. The Board thanks her for the time and effort she put into her Board role, and her insightfulness on anything relating to education will be missed. We wish Paula all the best for the future.

As for the meeting on the 26th February, highlights from the discussions included:

- *Draft Annual Plan 2019 approved*
- *Draft Budget for 2019 approved*
- *Board approval of the 2019 School Contribution – to remain at the 2016-2018 levels*
- *Commencement of the 2019 music programme*
- *Introduction of class visits to the Taumutu Marae*
- *Introduction of a Kapa Haka Group involving Yr 4 – Yr 6 children*
- *Introduction of the Bounce Back Programme – providing practical strategies to help with child wellbeing and resilience*
- *Demolition of the old School Boiler House completed*
- *Investigations into Stage 2 of the playground upgrade to commence in early 2019*

A draft of the Minutes of the previous meeting, dated 4th December 2018, was presented to the Board for approval.

- ***Recommendation approved***

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.

- The Annual Plan for 2019 was presented to the Board for approval. The Plan included the establishment of Student Achievement targets for the year – ***Recommendation approved.***
- The approved Plan was submitted to the Ministry of Education prior to the deadline of 1st March 2019.

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

- Music lessons for 2019 have commenced with 14 pupils enrolled with piano and 9 doing ukulele. The vacant Room 3 will be utilised for the lessons.
- The 2019 School Council has been elected following class elections involving Years 4-6. Georgina Dekker has responsibility for the Council in 2019.
- Bus Monitors and Librarians have been selected and presented with their badges at the recently held Leadership Assembly
- The Board was asked to approve the Parent Contributions for 2019. It was recommended the contributions remain at the same levels as 2018, as follows:
 - One child - \$60
 - Two children - \$75
 - Three or more children - \$85

Recommendation approved

- The draft Annual Budget for 2019 was presented with a recommendation for the Board to approve the draft - ***Recommendation approved***

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

- The school has introduced a new buddy system where new entrants are teamed up with a Year 4 child. The intention is to provide a familiar face around the school for the new kids.
- During the course of 2019 all classes will experience a visit to the Taumutu Marae. Proposed dates have been established for each of the classes.
- The school is looking to establish a Kapa Haka Group this year with the intention it being an opt-in programme for Years 4 – 6. A tutor has been engaged and this person is currently working with the Kapa Hake group at the Leeston Consolidated School. Details will be made available once the school has met with the tutor in March.
- The school is introducing the Bounce Back programme in 2019 following relevant feedback from the recent parent and staff surveys. The programme provides strategies to help with child wellbeing and resilience. It's a two year programme made up of 10 components with the first year covering the following: core values, social values, people bouncing back, courage and looking on the bright side. Communications with parents regarding implementation of the programme will take place via the class newsletter.
- The boiler house was demolished during the Christmas holidays. The Ministry of Education currently has a tender out for the construction of a replacement garage.

- The Board agreed to commence investigations into more adventure playground equipment and Stage 2 of the playground upgrade project. Stage 2 involves looking at the court area, the concrete area outside Rooms 1&2 and the junior sandpit.
- A recommendation was tabled to engage CES to run the upcoming Parent and Staff Board Elections.
Recommendation approved

Section 2: School Governance

- The financial statements for November and December 2018 were presented to the Board.
 - **Recommendation:** *The Board approves the financial statements for November and December 2018 – Recommendation Approved*
- The following dates for 2019 Board Meetings were agreed to by the Board:
 - Term One: 26th February & 2nd April
 - Term Two: 21st May & 25th June
 - Term Three: 3th August & 17th September
 - Term Four: 5th November & 3rd December
- The Board discussed compliance issues with the school house and changing government regulations/standards for rental properties. The Board was informed the house is currently compliant with the Residential Tenancies Regulations 2016 relating to ceiling and under-floor insulation. It's expected there will be further compliance requirements around ventilation and heating under the Healthy Homes Guarantee Act 2017 in the not too distant future. The Board will address these as and when they are made public.

Health and Safety

- Nothing to report.

Section 3: Board of Trustee Meeting Dates 2019

The remaining Board meeting dates for 2019:

- Term One: 2nd April
- Term Two: 21st May & 25th June
- Term Three: 3th August & 17th September
- Term Four: 5th November & 3rd 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