



Trustee News

October 2015

It is great to see Spring well and truly here, with the leaves back on the trees and the gardens full and flowering. The level of activity seem to be ramping up at school too – in the classroom, as Parentlink swings into Market Night planning, and with us, your Board of Trustees.

When reviewing the items that we covered at our last meeting and the agenda for the coming meeting on Monday 2 November, there are three main items that need sharing.

SCHOOL SURVEY

Each year the Board of Trustees seeks your input and feedback so that, as your elected representatives, we can make decisions based on the feedback and views of our wider community. The areas that we focus on varies each year, and this year we have sections on:

- School donations and payments
- Inclusive education
- How we meet our Treaty of Waitangi and biculturalism obligations
- An open section asking you what you think the school does well in, and what it needs to work on.

The school survey is open now – please take the time to fill it in (it should take about 10 minutes) via the link below

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/kilbirnieschoolsurvey2015>

The survey closes next Wednesday 4 November. The results will help to inform our planning for next year, and will be shared in our upcoming issues of Trustee News.

TOILET UPGRADE OVER SUMMER

We continue to work through the paperwork required to get the toilets upgraded. The scope of the project has expanded and contracted several times over the past few months as the estimates for the work have changed while the finishes and specifications have been finalized.

We are keen to get as much work done as possible in one go, and would ideally like our money to stretch beyond just the toilets, to creating more shared learning spaces for the senior syndicate. The August issue of Trustee News provides a good overview of the project, and when the plans are finalised, they will be put up on school noticeboards.

BICULTURALISM

It is the role of the Board of Trustees to review all policies and ensure that they are current with any legislation and relevant to the way that the school operates. Last year we evaluated all policies and the way that we review them to better reflect the split between governance and management functions.

Biculturalism was the area that we did the most work on in terms of re-writing to ensure that the policy and procedures was consistent with the Board's goals, relevant legislation, and how the school does (or should do) things. We formed a working group of school whanau, and produced a policy and three accompanying procedures (for Treaty of Waitangi; Identity, language and culture; and Ako, two-way teaching and learning). This was approved at the November meeting last year, and it was decided then, that we should review it in one year to ensure that its scope and wording was appropriate.

This will be a focus area for our upcoming meeting on 2 November, and all interested whanau/family are welcome to come along to the discussion at 7.00pm. We will have copies of the policy and procedures, and will be able to discuss what has been done in this area in the past 12 months.

We represent you

The Board of Trustees is there to represent you, so if you have any questions or queries that you would like to raise, please get in touch with a member of the Board of Trustees – our details are below.

| Name | Position | Email |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|--|
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Ngā mihi

Chris Montgomerie