



Kelburn Normal School

Board of Trustees News #3

9 August 2019

Kia ora koutou,

The Board met earlier this week and we were all really pleased to hear from Andrew and Kayleigh that the start of term 3 saw the school in particularly good HEART and the children were in a really productive learning rhythm.

Thanks so much to our teachers for their work in producing the Te Ara newsletters. These documents are brimming with information and really give a sense of the different character of each of the four teams within the school. A wide range of topics and learning opportunities will be covered this term from fairy tales to Shakespeare!

This week the Board met the school accountant Campbell Waugh from Education Finance. Campbell was able to give us an excellent overview of the role of Boards of Trustees in relation to school finances, as well as taking us through the school's latest accounts in detail.

The Board was really heartened to see that the school has already received over 40 percent of the requested donations. Thank you so much to those who have paid so promptly. Whānau donations are used to provide additional teaching staff to help reduce class sizes, to allow additional learning support for our children and additional staff to support the schools arts programme. The whānau donation also tops up spending on discretionary items like art materials, technology and sports equipment as needed. Please email Loraine Best if you would like to talk about payment options on loraineb@kelburnnormal.school.nz. All enquiries will be kept confidential.

A special thank you to Bob Walker and his team for building soccer goals on the Ngaio and middle courts over the weekend. I saw a group of tamariki trying the goals out first thing Monday morning, it was so nice seeing them put to use so quickly.

Nga mihi

Nickie van der Beek on behalf of the Board of Trustees

Board of Trustees News #2

5 July 2019

Kia ora koutou

Thank you to everyone who contributed to making the Matariki celebration such a success. A special thank you to our teachers and the PTA for their time and effort in making the night special for our tamariki. The orchestra and kapa haka performances were such a delight and really added Heart to a fun evening. Even the weather played nice!

I hope those of you with students in whānau have enjoyed their plays. So much is to be learnt when you are involved in creating, writing and performing in the play. It really is a wonderful process for all involved. Thanks so much to Rob, Kayleigh, Jen and Charles.

We wanted to let you know that the school's Annual Report is available on the school's website, along with the Analysis of Variance and PAT student achievement results. The

Annual Report sets out the school's approved and audited accounts for 2018, along with explanations of those accounts.

[KNS Annual Report for year ended 31 December 2018 and Annual Financial Statement](#)

The Analysis of Variance evaluates the progress the school has made in achieving the aims and targets set out in the school's Charter. It is a bit like a report card for the school and it gives you a good sense of how the school is doing in delivering education to our children. Like the Annual Report, the Analysis of Variance is a document the school must produce every year.

[Analysis of Variance 2018](#)

The PAT student achievement results are very good and well worth a look. PATs (or Progressive Achievement Tests) are a series of standardised tests developed specifically for use in NZ schools. They are designed to help teachers determine achievement levels and the progress a student is making from year to year.

[PAT Student Achievement Results 2019](#)

By now you would have received our letter about school donations. We hope this all makes sense and you understand why we are asking for general and activity donations. If you are experiencing hardship, please don't hesitate to email Loraine Best in the office at loraineb@kelburnnormal.school.nz. Your enquiries will be kept confidential. If you have a more general question about why we are seeking donations please email the Board on bot@kelburnnormal.school.nz.

Thanks to the staff for the awesome work they've done for and with our kids this term, your efforts are appreciated. I hope everyone takes some time to relax over the holiday period and we look forward to working with you in term 3.

Nickie van der Beek
Board Chair, on behalf of the KNS Board

Board of Trustees News #1

21 June 2019

Kia ora koutou,

Just a quick note from the newly elected Board to let you know that we had our first meeting on Monday night.

The Board members are Chris Bishop, Justin Gray, Andrea Keenan, Fiona McLean, Kayleigh Peach, John Sneyd, Nickie van der Beek and of course Andrew Bird. At the meeting, we agreed that Nickie van der Beek will be our chairperson.

We were fortunate to have Nigel Kirkpatrick from the NZ School Trustees Association attend the meeting to provide us with guidance about the governance role of school boards and what boards are responsible for.

It was good to meet Prue Kyle, the school's Limited Statutory Manager, who will be working closely with the Board over the coming months. While the Board will be growing their understanding of all aspects of its functions, while Prue is with the school, she has ultimate responsibility for the Board's functions in relation to employment, finance, and establishing policies and procedures.

Andrew presented the School Charter Strategic and Annual Plan to the Board. The plan was reviewed by the previous Board in February 2019. The Board agreed that it would like to share the plan with the school community, so it has been added to the school's website. The plan is a useful document that will guide the Board in its decision-making—for example, it can help the Board to prioritise the school's resources in a way that supports the plan. Over the coming months, we will think about whether the plan needs tweaking or updating.

[Click here to see the plan.](#)

Finally, we would like to thank the previous Board for the many hours spent volunteering their time to the school. We are particularly grateful for the expertise and significant additional hours the previous Board spent supporting the construction of the wonderful new building for our tamariki.

Nga mihi

Nickie, Chris, Justin, Andrea, Fiona, John, Kayleigh, Andrew (and Prue)