



September 2016

Kohimarama School Board of Trustees Newsletter



Welcome to our first newsletter from our newly elected Board. We are very excited with this opportunity to communicate what's happening at a Board letter and some of our upcoming activities.

Introducing the Board of Trustees

Board of Trustees' meetings are usually held on the last Monday of each month at 6:30pm, and with the exception of some confidential matters, are open to the public to attend.

We will aim to update you on board activities with one newsletter per school term. We welcome your feedback.



Back row from left: Amanda Lunken (Teachers' Representative), Jen Duder, Diane Manners (Principal), Brad Dunstan, Penny Boland (Treasurer)

Front row from left: Stuart Lewis, Susan Cotton (Chair), Simon Tucker.

Parent Survey

On the subject of your feedback, we are currently identifying priorities for our learners and are looking for the views of the parents and wider community to help set our strategic goals. By now you should have received a link to this year's parent survey and it would be great if you could take the time to let us know your thoughts.

This survey is one we do every three years to coincide with the scheduled strategic plan review, and 2013's survey was used in guiding the school's direction for the last three years.

The last survey had a phenomenal response rate and we look forward to the same this year.

The link is <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ZV5MFK3>.

Thank You

Thank you to all our parents and caregivers who do such a great job getting our kids to school on time and ready to learn.

Thank you to the many who volunteer – sports coaches and managers, road patrol, playground duty, helping at school events, school trips, reading intervention, walking school bus, parent help, ice block selling, filing books, library help, transporting kids to music and sports etc.

Thank you to the wonderful PTA who work so hard to raise much needed funds and foster school community. A special thankyou to the wonderful Nancy Irvine and her team for the 2016 Wild Ball. The Board are extremely grateful for your efforts this year.

BOT email address is BOT@Kohi.School.nz.

We appreciate your feedback, so please feel free to contact us at this email address.

Annual School Donations

It is an unfortunate reality that the high standard of education that Kohimarama School provides our children is not fully funded by the Government.

Typical of decile 10 schools, we rely heavily on the shortfall being covered by the school donations and fundraising.

Thank you to those families who have paid the donation.

Te Roopu Pourewa Community of Learning

Over the last year Kohimarama School has been meeting with neighbouring schools to explore establishing a Community of Learning, which is a major initiative of the Ministry of Education.

Preliminary approval for our Community of Learning to proceed was given by the Minister of Education late last year. The five schools in the Community are St Thomas's, Orakei, Kohimarama, Stonefields and Selwyn College.

We see this as an opportunity for the schools in the community to share teacher expertise and work collaboratively to develop teacher practice. This initiative is fully funded by the Ministry of Education and will bring additional opportunities for staff development and support.

Projects

The Board has commissioned an architectural concept plan with the objective of extending the existing school hall to meet the needs of the growing roll and wider range of activities which we are running at the school.

Look forward to hearing more about this project in the coming months.

Overview of Board Activities

We work to a structured plan for the year, with scheduled times in which to review various topics:

- Monitor and review overall academic performance of the school.
- Student Achievement matters including Parent/Teacher Reports, Writing, Literacy and Numeracy
- Assessing Principal performance.
- Assessing and mitigating risk in the school environment including Health and Safety.
- Ensuring sound financial and asset management practices are in place and reported against budget and strategic plan.
- Develop and manage performance against the strategic plan.

Educational Achievements

The school reports on and analyses achievement against national standards for sex, age and ethnicity as per Ministry of Education requirements. We are pleased to report that overall the national standard results from Kohimarama School rate very highly.

2017 Term Dates

Term 1: 31 Jan to Thursday 13 April

Term 2: 1 May to 7 July

Term 3: 24 July to 29 September

Term 4: 16 October to 15 December

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