

## **BOT Update March Meeting**

- 1) Our meeting started with a report from DP Cath Parr covering the recent 2015 NCEA Results Analysis and the 2015 Junior Achievement Analysis Reports. We were extremely pleased with the 2015 NCEA results which show a continual improvement across the 3 levels in results and participation. This was heartening for the Board and a true reflection of the hard work, ability and commitment of our staff to enable our students to be so successful. The Junior Achievement Report [which is in response to an ERO recommendation from 3 years ago] showed there have been definite gains made in this area of early assessment, enabling staff to find out where the students are at before the all important NCEA years. It has been a difficult task in some subjects due to the lack of well-defined assessment tools but the staff have risen to the challenge and have been able to measure student progress and achievement as requested.
- 2) We signed off a number of policies from NAG 5 & 6 (Health and Safety) (Legislative Requirements) that were due for review – this is an ongoing 3 year task that rests with the Board but prior to our input feedback and input from the relevant staff is obtained beforehand.
- 3) Karina Belfield [BOT member on the Rogers Trust] presented a report from a special meeting held by the Rogers Trust recently. This was in regards to the current financial situation in the Dairy sector and the effect on the dairy farm, which has been understandably drastic, even with savings of \$30k on the farm. The farm business has an obligation to pay \$5000 monthly towards the salary of the Agricultural Academy teacher. A decision had to be made as to what was best to protect our farm business now and in the forecasted poor seasons ahead. There seems to be a change in expectation of skill level for farm staff in the dairy industry and numbers entering the Academy have been decreasing over the past few years. Due to the imminent retirement of the current teacher, and the dwindling student numbers, the Board decided to allow suspension of that monthly obligation on the condition an annual review will be done at the end of each dairy season. Discussion was had regarding the students currently attending the Academy and their future, and also how else the Trust obligation could be met with possible input in other areas of the curriculum. Tony was meeting with relevant staff regarding both.
- 4) Reports were received from both the Principal and Property DP Wayne Carter in regards to staffing, current activities and proposed projects – especially the upgrade of the Caretaker's house.
- 5) Flu vaccines have been offered to all staff through the two Medical Practices in town.
- 6) The budget for 2016 was given final approval showing a deficit. This is due to the extra money being spent on the up-grade of the Caretaker's house, lighting for the lower College fields and the finishing off of the Tech Block refurbishment, both of which will be paid for out of Board reserves.
- 7) Funding of \$30,000 has been received from two successful applications to external providers Grassroots Trust and Four Winds Foundation [thanks to Liz Parson's hard work] this is for sport related equipment/clothing.

- 8) The final aspect of the Principal's Appraisal was going to take place the following week carried out by John Cubitt with interviews and questionnaires.

Our next meeting will be held Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2016 at 6.30pm in the Staff Room.

If you may be considering becoming a Trustee at the Triennial elections being held in June, please go to the NZSTA website, call in at the school office or call and speak to one of the current Trustees for more information about this important role. (Nominations close Friday 20 May.)

Sue Bethell  
Chairperson