

BOT Update: Headlines from the June 2020 Meeting

A full copy of the minutes of this meeting are available from the Main Office.

This was our 4th meeting for the new school year. Things seem to be as normal this month as the new world order will allow it to be. Usually this is a reasonably light meeting, but with the usual reports from the May meeting being added to this month, we had a longer meeting than we had been used to.

Having missed receiving the asTTle* reports, which give us a snapshot of where our Year 9 and 10's are in these subject areas (English and Maths) as a lead into the start of NCEA in Year 11, we had them to review this month along with the usual items (Principal's Report, Health and Safety Report, Financial and Property Report), we signed off on some school policies and reviewed the Management letter from the audit of the school's financials. The summary is:

- We started the evening with a staff member present to give us a report:
 - Gayle Clements (HOD) talked to us on her report, again using asTTle* to advise us on where our students are with their Reading (interpreting meaning and knowledge and understanding of language features)
 - With Brent Oliedam (HOD) unavailable. Louise Pryor (our BOT Staff Rep and Asst HOD Maths) talked us through his report using asTTle* (analysing students' number knowledge)
Both reports gave us a snapshot of where our Year 9 and 10's are in these subject areas as a lead into the start of NCEA in Year 11 (More detail provided in minutes). Again, it is pleasing to see the wisdom of the staff in using all the resources available to them to give all our students the best opportunity towards success. We suggested some tweaks to the reported information to give as a better overview of trends.

- Not only was the Principal's Report, Financial Report (2 months), Property Report and Health and Safety Report received but we also reviewed and approved:
 - Policy Statement on Digital Technology
 - Policy Statement on Library
 - Policy Statement on Māori Language
 - Policy Statement on Sport & Recreation

Thanks to Brent and Gayle for the efforts in producing their reports and then Gayle and Louise for answering any queries we had. Also, thanks to the Policies subcommittee for doing a fair amount of the reviewing and adjusting prior to us getting the policy versions to review and approve.

- Alongside our usual review of the monthly Financial accounts we took time to review the points raised in the Management Letter that comes alongside the Audit Report. It seems that the auditor comes in with a plan of checks that will differ from year to year. This year there were some procedural issues raised that while being completed in the same manner for a period of time, have now been raised as something to review. We have therefore reviewed the report and have now put a remedy in place for the issues raised.

- The usual Principal's Report, Health and Safety Report, Property Report, correspondence and last meeting's minutes were tabled and discussed where necessary.
 - Under the Property report it was confirmed that the subcommittee appointed is being more active in reviewing whether a multisport turf would be built at the school. A further review of where one could be sited, and the contacting of a multi-turf provider has been completed. More news next meeting I believe.
- We confirmed that the BOT will work with the MOE to instigate an enrolment scheme for Te Awamutu College.
- The board approved that from 2021, the BOT would pick up the cost of ID cards for the students, so that all students can be issued with them.
- We asked Tony to follow up with Michelle Boyde (HOD Learning Support) regarding the SuccessMaker program and it's continued availability and effectiveness for the learners it caters for.

Our next meeting will be held Wednesday 26th August 2020 at 6.00pm in the Staff Room. As is usual the meetings are open to all so if you are interested in what we get up to, do come along and see and hear what we do; you are most welcome.

Craig Yarnley

Chairperson

*(This is an assessment tool, developed to assess students' achievement and progress in reading, mathematics, writing, and in pānui, pāngarau, and tuhituhi. The reading and mathematics assessments have been developed primarily for students in years 5–10)