

## BOT Update: Headlines from the March 2021 Meeting

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

This was our 2nd meeting for the new school year. What a different space we are in than 12 months ago. We had just gone into lockdown, so our comparable meeting was postponed while we all got to understand what the lockdown was all about. It was nice to be together as a group working our way through the agenda, and we had Michelle Teddy from the Student Centre with us to practise the art of minute taking. While it was a shorter Agenda than the first meeting we had, on top of the usual items, some meaty reports to get through. The summary is:

- Our Principal tabled a report this month highlighting the activities that have occurred during the opening weeks of Term 1. As usual plenty happening to keep an eye on. With the Academic Excellence Dinner next week, to celebrate those students who had achieved the required excellence credits in 2020, it was good to note that numbers this year are the most we have had for a while. Having COVID force last year's to be cancelled at the very last minute, it will be good to have the opportunity to again celebrate student success in person.
- Not only were the usual reports received but we also had tabled:
  - 2020 NCEA Provisional Results analysis (Rebecca Legg)
  - 2020 Junior Achievement Report (full asTTle Maths and English – to be presented next meeting) (Rebecca Legg)

Under Schedule 6, clause 5 of the Education Act 1989 says that the board's *primary objective* in governing the school is to ensure that every student at the school can attain his or her highest possible standard in educational achievement.

This is the meaty part of this meeting because we spent a fair amount of our time discussing the reports. While appreciating that some of the numbers for 2020 were the best the school has ever achieved AND it was the year of COVID, we know we cannot afford to rest on our laurels so we continue to identify areas we can focus on for improvement. Thanks to Rebeca for all her hard work analysing the data and then presenting it in a format we could understand.

- Our Health and Safety report, among other things, discussed the lockdown event that occurred between meetings. Up until now the usual test of a lockdown event is via a trial so having the opportunity to learn from an actual event can be valuable. We were fortunate that our event was of a minor nature, as lockdown events go. A good discussion was had over our procedures and again questions were asked around what our learnings were so that if we are ever faced with anything more serious, we are better positioned than we would have been.

- Our Property Report advised us of a “high level inspection” that our MOE Property Advisor undertook, and their very positive response bodes well for our up-and-coming capital works and is a fantastic reflection of the work our Property sub committee does, ably lead by Wayne Carter our DP in charge of the property portfolio.
- Multi-Sport Turf. We received a design of the roof for our review. Now it is just a case of having a meeting with our MOE Property Advisor to confirm process for dotting the i’s and crossing the t’s so that we can get the construction process organised.
- Back to just the one Financial report this month, we received and reviewed our February Financial Accounts and were advised that we had progressed our year end (2020) accounts through to the auditor, within the MOE timelines. While it is early in the school year and difficult to see exactly how the year will pan out, the report did show that Year to Date (YTD) we are tracking as we anticipated.
- We received advice that most of our grant requests (more than \$20k) to Grassroots Trust, for our sporting codes had been approved. Thank you to Grassroots for your investment in our youth.
- A proposal was put to the BOT that, for a variety of factors, it was a good time to replace the current house names. The BOT agreed to work through a consultative process so that from the start of the 2022 school year our house names will be something different to what they are now.
- 2021 1st March Roll Return was tabled as sent to MOE.

Our next meeting will be held Wednesday 26th May 2021 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