

BOT Update: Headlines from the June 2021 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. So far so good for the way the year is tracking against our new world order. Usually this is a reasonably light meeting, which is always nice following the larger one from last month.

Along with the usual items (Principal's report, Health and Safety, Financial and Property Report), we signed off on a school policy that was held over from last month to adjust some wording and reviewed the Management letter from the audit of the school's financials. The summary is:

- We started with reviewing the adjusted wording (handwritten) on the Procedure for fundraising policy and asked for it to be typed up and confirmed via email (which has since occurred).
- We had more information regarding the proposed Multipurpose turf which is helping us to narrow down the options. Being a school-based project, we are attempting to do it for as low a cost as possible while ensuring we are meeting the requirements from the MOE regarding spending guidelines.
- An update was provided on the House name change proposal. The next step is to form a working group that represents our school community so that the options gathered can be narrowed down to 6. These 6 will then be presented to the BOT and Senior Leadership group whose role will be to pick the 4 that will be voted on.
- Tony presented his Principal's report, some highlights being:
 - We are considering the possibility of contracting out the cleaning services. Recognising that this working group falls into, what is classified as a vulnerable workers group, we want to ensure that the process of review is fair to all concerned. Stressing the importance of this project the BOT has requested that Tony and I work together on this task obtaining assistance from NZSTA (NZ School Trustees Association) where necessary.
 - It has been confirmed that we will not have our planned enrolment scheme in place by the start of 2022. While schools used to be able to control this process, a change at the MOE has now passed that task onto MOE advisors, so it is now out of our hands. Recognising though that we will have space issues we have been offered 3 classrooms, which assuming everything goes to plan, will arrive in time.
 - It is that time of year when we again consider our "opting into" the Donations Scheme for the next school year. While still not having a full "normal" year under our belts to capture the actual effect of it on our school finances, we have again agreed to go for another year, because

we already see that it is allowing some students to participate in classes that prior to the scheme they would not have been able to.

- The Property Report and Health and Safety reports were received and reviewed.
- 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. We have reviewed the report and are working through possible remedies so that next year's report will be able to tick them off.
- We finished the meeting with a birthday cake for Tony, who has reached a milestone birthday in the week of our meeting. I won't say what milestone it is as I am sure having the readers guessing it will encourage them to have a natter with Tony next time they see him.

Our next meeting will be held Wednesday 25th August 2021 at 6.00pm in the Staffroom. 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 Yardley

Chairperson

Te Awamutu College Board of Trustees

