

Board Update: Headlines from the May 2022 meeting

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

This was our 3rd meeting for the new school year and having a wonderful team of relievers helping us weather the COVID absences, we are back looking at our usual reports for this meeting. Having had a meeting break over April (due to school holidays) we had a full agenda. A bit like our first meeting of the year we had on top of the usual items, some meaty reports from a few departments to get through as well as some Policies and Procedures that needed reviewing. The summary is:

- We started the evening with some reports, firstly on student achievements for Year 9 and 10 and then a couple of usual ones:
 - Laurel Mason produced, and Tony presented to us the Reading report, again using asTTle* to advise us on where our students are with their reading skills.
 - HOD Brent Olieham produced, and Tony presented to us the Maths Department report using asTTle* analysing maths 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). The intent behind the testing is for the teaching staff to have an idea of where the students in Year 9 and 10 are with regard to their literacy and numeracy skills so that the teaching can target any weaknesses so that the student can have the best opportunity to pass NCEA 1 and/or 2 as a minimum. It was again brought up that while the asTTle testing system has its limitations, it is still a useful option available for the Year 9 & 10 students. We also recognise that the effects of the COVID disruption to schooling over the last couple of years, has influenced the results and the actual testing programme.

- After the presentation of the Reading report, two staff members (Toby Burge – Lead Teacher: Literacy and Rebecca Legg – Deputy Principal) presented the school wide literacy strategy. With the move to new literacy standards (currently scheduled for 2023 but may move to 2024 (COVID!)), the school is working to ensure we are well prepared. The report was very informative and showed us that our staff are well positioned for these changes. Well done Toby and Rebecca for the roles you are playing in this initiative.
- We started the evening reviewing and approving the following policies and procedures. The majority of our policies are on a 3-year review cycle these are the ones that needed looking at:

- International Fee-Paying students
 - International Students Annual Review and 2023 fee setting report was tabled and approved.
 - Code of Practice for the Pastoral Care of International Students
 - Student Attendance
 - Protected disclosures
 - Note: We have agreed to hold off the update to the Protected Disclosures policy because there is a new Act (the 2021 Act, awaiting royal assent, with an implementation date of 1 July 2022) replacing the current one, that will require an update in a couple of months' time. We have agreed to continue with the current policy and update it once the new Act gets its royal assent.
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- We received another update regarding the multipurpose turf. The procurement paperwork required by the MOE is all but finished (waiting on one final bit of information). Once this is filed and approved, we can place the project onto the Government procurement system (**GETS** - Government Electronic Tender Service). If all goes to plan, we are hopeful to start the project in August.
 - It was confirmed that Grassroots Trust approved all the sport projects that were applied for, and the internal sports funding round did the same.
 - We received a very informative Health Centre report for its activities in Term 1.
 - Not only were the Principal's Report, Financial report, Property Report and Health and Safety received and talked through, it was noted that we may miss the due date for the 2021 audited accounts filing. This is another deadline that has been affected by COVID, primarily by the absences across the audit team because of isolation requirements.
 - Since our last meeting, Deputy Principal Wayne Carter and I had a meeting with the MOE about our proposed enrolment scheme. While ideally it should be in place for the start of 2023, we have asked that its implementation date is mindful of our enrolment process that starts in August and the effect that a short timetable for the change will have on our community. As enrolment scheme management is now fully in the hands of the MOE, we just need to wait and see.
 - We had a discussion around the effects on our community of price increases and the effects that any school fees charged might make to a household's budget. We have looked at what options we have and have asked for our

Business Manager to review for us the effect of selling our uniforms at cost and having us absorb any other costs involved in managing the uniform shop.

Our next meeting will be held Tuesday 15 June 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

*(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)