

## Board Update: Headlines from the August 2022 Meeting

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

This was our 5th meeting for the school year.

Most Board meetings are consistent with what is covered year to year. In the same way that the Annual Plan is adopted in February of each year, August brings about our half-year review of it. Unlike last year where our August meeting was cancelled due to COVID, we were able to connect this year. So, this, along with Rogers Trust update, Multi Sports turf update, Health Centre Report for Term 2, Alternative Education Report, and our usual items, made up part of this meeting along with a couple of administrative items. Even though we have been able to meet, we are still seeing effects that COVID 19 and now a “flu” has had on our school community. As with most “effects” we have the positive and the negative. The summary is:

- We started the evening reviewing some Policies:
  - Non-violent school
  - Learning Support
  - Privacy Act and the Use of Information (held over until 2022 Privacy Act Bill had passed)
- Tony went through the highlights of the Annual Plan review and confidently answered any questions that we had of him. Considering it being another “topsy/turvy” year the Board is very happy with where the school is at.
- An update was provided of the Rogers Trust. Having just had the Trust AGM and normal meeting earlier this week, the report was “fresh off the block”. It was confirmed that the subdivision of the section has been filed and within weeks should be able to be marketed. It was a big effort to meet the deadlines but was achieved by stellar work by the Trusts’ trustees. The Trust also confirmed that it would provide \$70,000 as our “annual” grant for this year, having had a favourable season. It has also committed \$150,000 to the Te Awamutu College Foundation Fund towards the new Multi-Sports Turf. This was thankfully acknowledged by the Board. With the section pretty much sorted, the trustees are revisiting the strategic review regarding the future of the farm. With two new independent trustees since the review was completed, it is timely to re- look at within the current economic climate.
- We received fantastic information from the subcommittee regarding the Multi-Sports turf. My report of our last meeting said *“We completed the paperwork necessary for the MOE to make a decision around the Multi Turf. While there will questions to work through with the Ministry, this is a big step in the process of getting this project implemented here at school.”* Just prior to the end of Term 2 we received confirmation from the MOE that they were happy with us to proceed with this project. I therefore signed on behalf of the Board, the contracts with the providers of the turf and roof. We discussed launching a fundraising appeal for the project and agreed on a “press release” as well as the timeline that has been provided. It looks as if the roof will be in place by the end of this year, and the turf before school opens for 2023. A great step forward for the school.

- Nick, Chair of the Principal's Performance Management Committee, confirmed that the Principal had had his 2021 performance management meeting and that the report will be completed prior to 14<sup>th</sup> September. We recognised that this has occurred later than usual and agreed that the 2022 meeting will be completed in December with the report completed in time to be reported on within the February 2023 meeting.
- Our Alternative Education report showed that it is going well, providing a way for students who struggle with mainstream education to get a start in life. Thanks to our providers "Te Wānanga o Aotearoa" for running this service for the school.
- Our Health Report for Term 2 again gave a good overview of the health services provided to our school community.
- Liz provided an update on the elections occurring at the moment and the outline for the upcoming student election. The Parents' Rep had received 4 nominations for 3 spaces, so an election is being held. Louise Pryor (Staff Rep) had been re-elected unopposed – Well done and good to see you back.
- The usual Principal's Report, Health and Safety Report, Property report, correspondence and last meeting's minutes were tabled and discussed where necessary. While Tony confirmed that we had been provided with our new Equity Index number (which is replacing the decile system), the fact that information providing background information as to what this means to the school is being provided in September meant that there wasn't much discussion on a fact that **will have an effect** on the school.
- Our Finance Report, for halfway through this year, shows the school still in a healthy position. We recognise that the new Multi-Purpose turf will utilise reserves and are hopeful that the local community will assist us through our fundraising "portal" <https://momentumwaikato.nz/donate> choosing TACFF. We also advised that the audit of the school accounts for 2021 are still a work in progress, as the auditor is still having COVID related staffing issues.
- Finally, we farewelled David Peehikuru from the Board, as having been with us for just on 5 years, having been co-opted in his initial term, he has decided not to stand in the current election cycle. While we will miss him from our Board meetings, we may see him assisting us with the closing out of the Multi Turf project, having been on that sub committee for most of his tenure.

Our next meeting date will differ from usual due to some unavailability at our usual time so will be held Monday 19 September 2022 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