

## BOT Update: Headlines from the March 2023 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. While COVID is still around the community, it is nice to see more normality happening than what the last few years have been like. While it was a shorter Agenda than the first meeting we had, on top of the usual items, some meaty reports to get through. Not only were the usual reports received but we also had tabled, the following:

- 2022 NCEA Analysis (Rebecca Legg)

Section 127 clause 1(a) of the Education and Training Act 2020 says that the Board's *primary objective* in governing the school is that every student at the school is able to attain their highest possible standard in educational achievement.

This makes this the meaty part of this meeting because we spent a fair amount of our time discussing primarily the NCEA analysis. While appreciating that 4 out of 6 of the numbers for 2022 were above the New Zealand schools' averages, 4 out of 6 results exceeded our school targets (with one of them missing by just 0.2%) AND it was another year messed around with 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 Rebecca for all her hard work analysing the data and then presenting it in a format we could understand.

- 2022 Junior Achievement Report (excluding asTTle Maths and Reading – to be presented next meeting) (Rebecca Legg)

The Junior Achievement Report was back with more detail as we would normally expect. 2021 was a year that a change to this reporting was implemented so that we could have a better gauge of how the junior school was tracking towards the start of their NCEA years. Sadly, COVID affected the first iteration of this new reporting, so 2022 was the first year that it was completed. While it was able to show that students are moving forward in their learning over Years 9 and 10, more work is required to ensure the year end testing is taken more seriously by the students. Some further work will be done on this for 2023.

- Our Health and Safety Report discussed a cardiac event that occurred at a sporting event. As part of our review, we have installed an Outside AED (Automated External Defibrillator) for serious cardiac events that might occur on the school fields outside of school hours. We are also planning for more staff to have an opportunity to receive some training on first response (focusing on Cardia – CPR & how to operate an AED) situations.
- Multi-Purpose Turf. It's frustrating that the year that we finally get started on this project, we have the wettest Summer in most of our memories. This, along with a known water spring, has played havoc with the contractor's ability to place the footings for the canopy. As I write this further work is being done to find a solution.

- Back to just the one financial report this month. We received and reviewed our February Financial Accounts and were advised by our external accountant that we would be approximately 2 weeks late in getting our year end (2022) accounts through to the auditor (based on MOE timelines). While our preference is to meet the MOE targets, both the external accountant and auditors have had resource pressure. While it is early in the school year and difficult to see exactly how the year will pan out, the report did show that YTD we are tracking as we anticipated.
- We signed off on our grant requests (over \$46k) to Grassroots Trust, for our sporting codes.
- 2023 1st March Roll Return was tabled and has been sent to MOE.
- Having received the guidelines (at our last meeting) of what we need to do if we give consideration to bringing on a co-opted board member, we asked ourselves if we felt we had a knowledge gap on our board. Having had David Peehikuru stand down at the election at the end of 2022, we felt it would be good to have a person with more knowledge of Māori culture on our board. We have determined to seek someone who could fill this role and provide insights to our board discussions. With our next meeting 2 months away, we will bring names to that meeting of persons who could contribute to that role.

Our next meeting will be held Wednesday 24th May 2023 at 5.30pm 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 Yarndley

Chairperson