

Board Update: Headlines from the May 2024 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 having had a meeting break over April (due to school holidays as usual) so 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. We had in attendance Rebecca Legg and Wayne Carter from SLT as well as Toby Burge and Brent Oliedam to present their respective reports.

The summary is:

- HOD Brent Oliedam produced and presented to us the “Mathematics and Statistics Department asTTle*Analysis 2024” Report analysing Number Knowledge of our Year 9 and 10s.
- Toby Burge produced and presented (with extra input from Rebecca) to us the “Board Report Literacy Committee & asTTle* Data 2024” – to advise us on where our students are with their Reading Skills and overall literacy.

Both reports gave us a snapshot of where our Year 9 and 10’s are in these areas as a lead into the start of NCEA in Year 11 (More detail provided in minutes). The usual intent behind the testing is for the teaching staff to have an idea of where the students in Year 9 and 10 are regarding 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. With the changing NCEA 1 co-requisite in literacy this year this report is now able to look at the Year 10 CAA result against the asTTle Year 9 result and provide further assistance in considering when the students would be best placed to sit the new reading and writing tests, a requirement needed to receive NCEA.

Like any testing regime, the asTTle testing system has its limitations. However, it is still the best option available for the Year 9 & 10 students. We again did the asTTle testing on paper rather than through digital and again we had a far better uptake of students completing the test, and therefore enriching the data. However, this creates a potential issue with the move towards more digital completion of assessments, we need to do more work to improve the digital uptake.

Thank you to both Toby, Rebecca and Brent for compiling and presenting this data, thus keeping the Board informed of their continued desire to “create learning success for every student”.

- We continued our meeting reviewing and approving the following policies and procedures. Most of our policies are on a 3-year review cycle, these are the ones that needed looking at:
 - Procedure - Fundraising
 - Policy Statement on Property Management
 - Policy Statement on International Fee-Paying students

- International Students Annual Review and 2025 fee setting report was tabled and approved.
- We received a very informative Health Centre report for its activities in Term 1.
- Wayne Carter presented his Health and Safety, Property and Student Well-being and Community Engagement reports. Based on the reports these areas of the school are going along well at the moment.
- With the Farm Sale being concluded at the end of May, Wade updated us on how the Rogers Charitable Trust is going with finalising everything ready to look at investing the newly realised funds.
- With our new Business Manager being onboard for a relatively short period of time we are still waiting on our usual monthly reports. We did however receive our Purchase reports for each month this year to sign off. The Finance Committee did meet with Beryl and confirm that we have agreed that the school will move away from MYOB and change to Xero to make the finance role more data entry friendly and transparent to the users. We confirmed that MOE and the auditors are understanding of our position and happy with all that we are working through.
- Within the Principal's report we identified that, unusually for this time of the year, we have had a few teacher resignations (all for good reasons). While this has put some pressure into finding replacements, we have had some long term relivers helping until the roles can be filled.

Our next meeting will be held Wednesday 26 June 2024 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 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)