



Otorohanga College

Ko te mana mō mua i te whakamana
Honour before Honours

Principal: Ms Traci Liddall Dip Tchg, Dip TEFL, BA, PGDip Ed, M Ed (hons)

23rd July 2021

Kia ora e te whānau

Re: Community Update

We hope you are all well and managing to avoid the winter ills and chills! The BOT held its June meeting on the 24th and we offer the following update.

Staffing

We farewell Kristen Rennie (Flay) who taught in the Junior Learning Programme this year. Kristen has been a dedicated and caring member of staff for 14 years and we thank her for her contribution to the College and students. All the very best Kristen!

We also farewell Linda Campbell who has resigned to pursue other opportunities. We thank Linda for her service and wish her every success moving forward. Linda has made a valuable contribution to the delivery of pathways at the College and, through her dedication, has given students many enriching experiences. She has put her students on successful career pathways, and we all thank her for that. We will miss Linda and her aroha for her students.

We welcome Monica Clark who has accepted the position of BOT Secretary. Monica brings essential skills, qualifications, and experience to the BOT in her administrative support role, and we are rapt to have her join the staffing team.

Casual vacancies

An exciting time is almost upon us as we prepare for three new trustees to take up positions on the BOT. It is excellent that there are so many interested, skilled, and dedicated people willing to step forward in this time of transition and change at the College. This is most reassuring to us, for succession planning and ensuring future success at the College.

The annual Student Trustee elections will also be held at school on the 22nd of September. At that time, a new student will take Emily O'Reilly's position as Student Trustee. Throughout her time on the BOT Emily has given mature, researched, and thoughtful advice and feedback to the BOT on matters that relate to students. It has been a privilege for our BOT to work alongside Emily.

Student Trusteeship is an integral part of the secondary school BOT governance structure. We encourage you to talk to your son or daughter about becoming a Student Trustee, to assist the BOT in its decision making. More information can be found here: https://www.trustee-election.co.nz/assets/b9bfe78614/Student-Representative-Handbook_Final21.pdf

Principal's Performance Management

Our Principal, Traci Liddall, is entering an 18-month evaluation period and a contract has been agreed with an external appraiser, which will include feedback from staff, students, and parents. We offer

our appreciation and thanks to Traci for being committed to this process and her constant focus on development and accountability, through correct appraisal systems.

Policies

At our meeting we reviewed the Visitors' Policy. The Visitors Policy states that all visitors must record their visit by scanning the NZ COVID QR code poster, or manually on the contact tracing register. Visitors to the school may include parents, tradespeople, staff from support agencies, and other people on school-related business. Emergencies do happen, and when they do, we are required to account for every person on site.

Very rarely the College receives complaints or letters from anonymous authors. Please note that anonymous letters will not be responded to or given any consideration unless there are compelling, legitimate, and legal reasons to do so. Our Complaints Policy will be updated to reflect this statement.

Education Review Office (ERO) Report

The BOT considered the Unconfirmed ERO Report that was received by the BOT early June. The report is positive and reflects the College's progress in relation to key areas identified in 2018 and identifies key areas and next steps that we are already embarking on. We now await the report going public and online.

Finance and Property

The result for the five months ended 31 May is a surplus of \$143,400 which is well ahead of the budgeted surplus expected at this stage of the year. This is due to higher income received to date this year.

The BOT owns four properties that are currently tenanted. Consistent with the expectations of landlords under the Healthy Homes requirements, we have completed all healthy homes assessments and the work to be done on the properties will be budgeted for and undertaken over the next few years until compliance is required (up to mid-2024). The budget for these upgrades will come from rent received.

The hall upgrade is still going through early procurement stages and consultation with the project manager. The project designs are currently with the BOT, so we are almost ready to lift off!

There will be no meeting in July, as we will hold two meetings in August (5th and 30th). From Term 3 we will be shifting our monthly meetings to the last Monday of the month.

The next update will be made when we have three new trustees on board, and we look forward to welcoming them to our BOT. Thank you all once again for your commitment and support.

Go well, stay warm and for those who are farming - take care over this very busy time.

Ngā mihi



Lorraine Fox
On behalf of the BOT