



TITAHI BAY SCHOOL - KURA KIDS are Believers and Achievers

Kura Street, Titahi Bay, Porirua 5022

P O Box 50441, Porirua 5240

Phone: 04 236 8399

website: www.titahibay.school.nz

email: office@titahibay.school.nz

Titahi Bay School Board of Trustees Newsletter Term 4, 2019

Tēnā koutou from the Titahi Bay School Board of Trustees. Our current board took office in June. Sitting around our table we have:

Sarah Campbell (Chair)
Kerry Delaney (Principal)
Sharon Thompson (Staff trustee)
Gaby Wesley-Smith
Ria Tomoana
Anna McGavin
Abby Keplar
Duncan Emo
Vanepale Sopoaga

We have a really good mix of skills and attributes. The board is focussed on building on the work of the previous board and continuing to make decisions to support the achievement of our Kura kids. Trustees have received governance training and will continue to undertake relevant professional development.

Property

The board has had several property projects underway this year. All student toilets now have hot water available. The decking outside our south block is complete and is being well-utilised as a learning space, as well as providing shelter for children from rain, wind and sun during break times. Rooms 1 and 2 have been remodelled to create an additional collaborative learning environment. The drainage and asphalted area outside this classroom block have also been repaired, with new playground markings coming to finish this off. All classes now have large, flat-screen monitors for teachers to use in a range of ways to complement learning.



The board recently approved the establishment of a "Bird Forest" in the space between the hall and Bee Healthy Dental Hub. Work will begin shortly to build planter boxes and a range of native seedlings will be planted around May next year. We look forward to seeing this native bird habitat flourish. Work is almost complete on our driveway following the asbestos work that took place after the fire in the neighbouring church. New carparks are being created and the garden along the fence has been replanted. Recent additions to the bike track are also proving popular with children and we gratefully acknowledge Leanne Parsons' contribution in this area.



Donations Scheme

The board agreed at its November meeting to opt in to the government's School Donations Scheme. This means the school will receive a \$150 per student, per year payment and, by opting in, we agree to no longer seek donations from parents. The school will receive the first allocation of this funding in January 2020. Under the scheme, the board will receive significantly more funds than we have historically received from donations and this money will support a range of teaching and learning needs in our school.

Principal's Sabbatical

Kerry Delaney has returned from her sabbatical. We welcome her back and look forward to our school benefitting from the research she has undertaken and the refreshed perspective that has come from some time away from school. The board acknowledge the amazing job our acting principals, Jamie Merrick and Miranda McMahon, have done while Kerry has been away. It's a credit to them both that there has been no disruption to the running of the school over this period.

Local Curriculum

The board thank our community for your input in the consultation that took place around our Matariki celebration, which was looking at what is important to children and their families in our local area. This information has informed the development of our local curriculum and work is well underway on this document, with some really exciting learning opportunities planned for 2020.

Religious Instruction

A sub-committee of the board have been working on a Religious Instruction policy for our school. We are seeking feedback on the draft policy, which is attached to this email. If you wish to provide comment on this, you can email us at bot@titahibay.school.nz or drop off written feedback at the school office by **Wednesday 4th December**. We are also happy to receive oral submissions - please contact us to arrange a time if you would like this option.

We wish you all the best for the remaining weeks of Term 4

Titahi Bay School Board of Trustees

Sarah Campbell, Ria Tomoana, Sharon Thompson, Gaby Wesley-Smith, Vanepale Sopoaga, Abby Keplar, Anna McGavin, Duncan Emo, Kerry Delaney.