

the future of our young people



Papakura High School Board of Trustees Newsletter - December 2009

This is the last newsletter from your Board of Trustees for the 2009 year, a very busy year for the Board, with the foundations in place for a strong start to the 2010 year.

We thank everyone that has participated in our 'Building Partnership' project and look forward to working together in

2010 to develop some of the ideas and initiatives that have been put forward.

There are many changes happening within the school as we put in place the pathways towards building an extraordinary, vibrant and progressive student centred learning environment.

ERO (Education Review Office) Report

Following on from the Education Review Office visit (in July) and their supplementary report the Board is working closely with the Ministry of Education to address their serious concerns. These primarily focus on leadership, ensuring a safe physical and emotional environment for both staff and students, community engagement with a specific priority on effective consultation with Maori, effective student engagement and the development of learning and pastoral programmes that cater for diverse student needs. Marge Scott, a Specialist Advisor, has been appointed to work with the Board to assist in putting strategies in place to address these issues. We are looking forward to working with her.

School Charter

Thank you for the submissions and comments received regarding the School Charter, the directional document for the school. We are confident that the document reflects the core views of the school community reinforcing the observations and outcomes of the 'Building Partnership' workshops. Once we have revised the document a finalised 'one page' School Charter will be available on the school website www.papakurahigh.school.nz

Leadership

Acting Principal for Term 1



Working with the Ministry of Education the Board is pleased to announce that Mr Trevor McKinlay has been appointed as Acting Principal for Term 1 of the 2010 year. Formerly Principal of Wanganui Collegiate for seven years, then Bethlehem College

for four years, he has just returned from a further eight years experience as Principal of Markham College in Lima, Peru. We are confident that he will provide the interim leadership required, prior to the appointment of a new Principal.

Recruitment process for Appointment of New Principal

The Board, in consultation with an experienced advisor, is working through the process of recruiting a new Principal for Papakura High School, ideally for the start of Term 2, 2010. The advertisement below has appeared in November and December editions of the Education Gazette. Applications for the position close on January 21st with interviews on 13 February.

We will keep you updated.

an exciting challenge



Summa Pete
Kimihia te toumoto o te Motouranga
Seek the Highest

Principal - Papakura High

The Board of Trustees has an open mind in our search for a principal who has the passion, attributes and experience to lead our school through significant change, building an extraordinary, vibrant and progressive student centred learning environment.

He or she must value, nurture and enhance our unique school culture, motivating students, staff and community to 'live the culture' and confidently represent the school. Building partnerships throughout our diverse community.

Papakura High School is a Year 9-15 co-educational, decile 2 school (roll-1198).

This is an exciting, challenging opportunity and will suit someone who:

- Is energetic, motivated and progressive
- Will transform the school environment to meet our strategic objectives
- Is passionate about students and interacts with them
- Demonstrates being a learner to students and staff
- Has a vision for raising student achievement through empowering staff
- Will lead the cornerstone Te Kotahitanga programme
- Has a wide and up-to-date perspective of educational issues, current theory, learning activities, effective teaching and management practice
- Is adept in actively working within a multicultural community and with local schools developing our 'Building Partnership' approach and initiatives
- Is a skilled communicator and facilitator with excellent interpersonal skills.

Information pack available from: Jane Jones of the Education Group Ltd
phone 09 9202173 or email admin@educationgroup.co.nz.

MISSION

Personal achievement at the highest level

VISION

An extraordinary, vibrant and progressive student centred learning environment that:

- builds pride in the school
- inspires students to:
 - be confident
 - seize opportunities
 - be creative thinkers and able users of knowledge
 - show resilience and enterprise
 - be connected and responsible contributors in our community

VALUES

Ako

Teachers as Learners
Learners as Teachers

Kaitiakitanga

Guardianship of and respect for ourselves, each other and our environment

Whanaungatanga

School and community as one family
Relationships at the heart of learning

Mahi

Striving for personal excellence in everything we do



The next stage of the 'Building Partnership' project

As a startpoint we are establishing four groups to further the work that has been achieved through the student, staff and community workshops.

These groups will comprise a student group, staff group, Maori group and a Pasifika group.

Terms of reference have been established with all groups submitting their 'partnering' ideas into the Board. The Board will then prioritise ideas for consideration and take-up.

Students and Staff

To date initial group meetings have been held with students and staff.

Two key ideas include:

- the development of a 'gala day' for students, staff, parents, whanau and the community where our cultural diversity is celebrated through music, dance, art and food and where students also have an opportunity to sell their carpentry work, art, and culinary delights, thereby raising funds for additional sports and gym equipment;
- more organised 'social activities' for students particularly over lunch times whereby students and staff get to do fun things together.

Maori

We are working with George Stirling (Head of Maori) and Maori staff to establish a Maori group starting firstly with whanau of the school's Te Reo classes. We will meet with each whanau with a view to identifying initiatives where the school can meaningfully engage with Maori (60% of our school roll).

We already have tremendous support for this initiative from Papakura's manawhenua group "Te Roopu Kaitiaki O Papakura" and Whaitiaki, a group committed to Maori development in Papakura particularly in Education, Rangatahi, Health and Cultural Wellbeing.

Pasifika

We are working with Beverley Matamua, Pasifika Coordinator for Papakura High School to facilitate the development of a group of Pasifika students, staff and parents to lead the engagement process. The Auckland Maori and Pasifika student Polyfestival, which takes place towards the end of Term 1 is a key event and our aim is to use preparation for this event as the foundation for an ongoing partnership.

Call for New Board Members

March 2010 is the time for putting forward nominations for your school board. For anyone interested we suggest that you visit www.nzsta.org.nz or www.minedu.govt.nz for further information.

Additional information will be available closer to the time.

Wishing you all a happy and safe festive season.

Peter Goldsmith

Chairman - Board of Trustees