

the future of our young people



Papakura High School Board of Trustees Newsletter - October 2009

This is the second newsletter from your Board of Trustees building on the observations and outcomes of the community workshops held earlier this year.

Principal of Papakura High to retire after 16 year commitment to School

Mrs Angela Appleby, Principal of Papakura High School, has made a decision to retire at the end of Term 4, 2009.

Mrs Appleby has been Principal of the school since October 1996 and over the past 13 years has worked tirelessly to meet the needs of students and staff in a challenging environment.

Her decision to retire has been influenced through the development and drive for a new strategic direction for the school. Fully supportive in the development of a new vision for 'an extraordinary, vibrant, and progressive student centred learning environment' Mrs Appleby has decided she cannot commit to driving this vision forward over the next five years.

She thinks that it would be unfair on students, staff, parents and the wider community to start the process and then pass the baton on. She feels the timing is right for the Board to search for a new Principal who has the passion, empathy and drive to lead this vision, which is supported by the whole school community.

During her long term leadership, Mrs Appleby has made a significant contribution with the school responding to the changing needs of education and the community through the introduction of the Academic Institute, Sports Academy, Te Kotahitanga, Te Wero, Alternative Education, Foundation Arts and the development of thriving Food

and Hospitality programmes.

While it will be a big change for everyone involved with the school, the Board respects and supports Mrs Appleby's decision to retire at this time.

We thank Mrs Appleby for her contribution to the school and wish her well in her retirement.

The Board will shortly begin advertising for a new Principal.

School Charter for consultation –submit your thoughts by 15 November

The Board and management have formulated a draft School Charter which builds on the outcomes of the community workshops. This is the directional document for the School and future planning will centre on the mission, vision, values and objectives of this Charter. Everyone now has the opportunity to comment on this Charter document (overleaf) and submit your feedback by 15 November to:

Christine McCullagh
c/o Papakura High School
PO Box 72080
Papakura 2244

or via email to:

christine.mccullagh@papakurahigh.school.nz

We welcome your ideas.

Next stage of 'Building Partnerships'

We are initially 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, a staff group, a Pasifika group, and a Maori group (building on the existing Matariki Group including whanau, teachers, support staff, and wider community). A board member will be part of each group.

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

The overall objectives are to:

- Drive the culture shift required to deepen partnership between the school and its stakeholders;
- Build capacity across the stakeholder groups, particularly within the school, in building partnership; and
- Ensure systems and processes within the school reflect the kaupapa of partnership.

Once these groups are up and running we will also look to establish additional forums reaching out to all parents and the wider community.

We will keep you informed, sharing the ideas and outcomes of our 'Building Partnerships' process.

Peter Goldsmith
Chairman - Board of Trustees

MISSION

Personal achievement at the highest level



Summa Pete
Kimihia te taumata o te Matauranga
Seek the Highest

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

OBJECTIVES

A Quality School Environment

We are aiming to:

- Transform the whole school environment to meet the strategic objectives– physically, culturally and socially
- Develop an environment that provides safety for all
- Access funding/resources to support students and staff with student learning and wellbeing
- Improve access to technology and equipment to support learning
- Create a student support centre.

Leadership

The Board will:

- Ensure the school has inspirational, motivated, energetic, progressive leadership
- Support the leadership team, staff and students in achieving strategic objectives
- Foster and promote student leadership
- Ensure effective engagement and communication with and between staff, students, leadership and the Board
- Build strong and active partnerships between the school and students, staff, parents, whanau and the wider community
- Ensure appropriate succession planning.

Student Pathways

We are aiming for:

- Individual goal setting plans including co-curricular and extra-curricular aims
- Support systems to enable students to reach their goals
- Students supporting students
- Student learning and behavioural needs to be identified early and addressed
- Our students leaving school, prepared for work and/or training and/or further education
- Strong partnerships and relationships with tertiary education and training providers.

School Culture

We are aiming for a school culture where:

- Students, staff and community 'live the culture'
- Students, staff and community have pride in Papakura High School and respect each other
- All our staff and students are valued
- Student achievement – academic, sporting, cultural and artistic – is recognised and rewarded
- Diversity is acknowledged and valued
- Home-school partnerships are valued and strengthened to support learning and life skills.

Learning and Teaching

We are aiming for:

- All our students to be meaningfully engaged in learning and teaching
- Full attendance for our students
- All our students, including Maori and Pasifika, achieving or exceeding national levels
- All our teachers effectively implementing current theory and practice
- Evidence based practice informing teaching and learning decisions
- A teaching and learning environment that optimises technology
- Incorporating the Key Competencies (New Curriculum) into all aspects of our learning and teaching
- Learning communities to be developed and implemented throughout our school.

The Mission, Vision and Values will be visible and explicit in everything we do.