



BOARD ON TOP

Newsletter of the Tapanui School Board of Trustees

May 29th 2020

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

The Board met on Tuesday evening for their first face to face contact meeting since March. It was good to all get together whilst keeping to the 'Rules' and social distancing.

Thank you for your cooperation with our school during the last couple of months. It was strange at first not to have to be anywhere but in my bubble, however I quickly got used to it. Our staff have been amazing and I would like to congratulate them all for rising to the challenge and embracing distance learning and connecting with your children in a completely new way of learning. Your children basically had a couple of months of Play Based Learning at home, learning by doing normal everyday stuff e.g. baking (reading, maths, science), playing board games (reading, maths, resilience, co-operation), farming (work etiquette, following instructions) to name but a few.

Curriculum Review - Technology

The Board received its tri-annual report on Technology.

Technology is about the process of designing and developing products or systems to meet the ever-changing needs of society. Adaptation and innovation are at the heart of technology. It's about creating or realising opportunities to be innovative.

General Analysis of Data

- 95% are working within expected curriculum bands
- 85% are set up for success being well into the band or above expectations
- While results show boys are achieving higher than girls, their achievement results also have a far greater disparity
- 94% of **Māori** students are within the appropriate curriculum bands, 76% have consolidated well into the band they should be in. 12% are achieving above expectations

This is a very pleasing result.

Property

Finally work has started again in Matai. Phase 1 should be completed in mid June with the senior students getting to move into the "new" area while work in the Clearing can begin.

Our SIP (School Investment Package) of \$81,774 which I mentioned in my last newsletter is now in the waiting for builder quotes stage. The MoE approved our Procurement Plan and ideally we would like the building work to continue to flow from one stage to the next until it is all finished.

The MoE has also allocated us up to \$82,500 to refurbish a space of up to 15m², plus \$1,850 for Furniture and Equipment. This money comes into the school as a result of the new Learning Support Coordinator working on behalf of the Pomahaka Kāhui Ako - Community of Learning (CoL) who started this new role at the beginning of the school year.

While the space is 'tagged' as office space for our Learning Support Coordinator, it can be used for anything in the times that this person is not on site.

Assurance

The assurance committee reviewed our P4 Administration Policies. It was found that some of the policies required minor changes to reflect current and correct practice which were all adapted by the Board.

It was also time for the annual staff audit of all Tapanui School staff. It was conducted through a confidential survey using google forms. Some recommendations and feedback were given to management.

Overall the Assurance Committee is happy with the positive survey results and we acknowledge the dedication and commitment shown to students by staff and management.

General

I hope you are all enjoying catching up with friends and family now that we are in Level 2 and we are getting back to more of a 'normal' life again. It will be great to see the more clubs and sports starting up and keeping kids active and into team sports again.

Kind regards,
Zita Young
Board Chairperson