



BOARD ON TOP
Newsletter of the Tapanui School Board of Trustees

16th November 2018

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

The Board of Trustees meet last Thursday for our first meeting of Term Four. Our agenda included discussion around Curriculum - Performing Arts, Assurance - MLE, BYOD & EOTC whānau surveys and staffing for 2019.

The Arts (Performing – Dance, Drama, Music)

The arts learning area comprises four disciplines: dance, drama, music – sound arts, and visual arts. Within each, students develop literacies as they build on skills, knowledge, attitudes, and understandings at each of the eight levels of the curriculum. Through arts practices and the use of traditional and new technologies, students’ artistic ideas are generated and refined through cycles of action and reflection.

Key Findings Children in general love the performing arts and, from many of the comments in their student voice, they would love to be doing it more!

Observations:

1. It is important for students to be reminded that dance, drama and music are not confined to the stage and shows such as the ‘school production’. Indeed the use of imagination and drama can be evident interwoven through literacy and in ‘play’.
2. The Arts link naturally with our Kāhui Ako goals including building capacity in students to participate and contribute to the groups to which they belong and how to relate to others in social groups while raising oral language through interaction.

Assurance - Education Outside the Classroom, Modern Learning Environments, Bring Your Own Device Surveys - The Board would like to thank whānau for participating in these surveys. 29 (37%) responses were received from the 78 whānau were registered with the school. We have considered all the responses and concentrated on the recurring trends and themes to come up with several recommendations for management to consider in each of the three surveyed areas.

Personnel

Congratulations to Mrs. Judy Clayton on successfully becoming a permanent full time teacher at Tapanui School. Congratulations also to Mrs. Rebekah Stoop for a 12 months full time fixed position and Ms. Kaitlyn Roughan for a fixed term part time position.

Ulearn - The Board paid for 8 staff to attend a 3 day training conference in Auckland in the last lot of holidays. Two members of staff made a presentation at our meeting about the experience. It is very pleasing to see how they all valued the shared experience of attending such high calibre PLD together as a team. The shared experience has been great for the future health of the school.

Kāhui Ako - Community of Learning (COL)

It was requested by the Stewardship Group and ratified by the Tapanui Board of Trustees (Antony's employer) that Antony Criglington is to remain in the role of Kāhui Ako Lead Principal until at least July 2019. This will ensure the momentum the Kāhui Ako has at the moment will be best maintained by keeping the same leadership.

The first Kāhui Ako Professional Development Training Day is occurring on November 21st with leaders from all 6 learning centres partaking with the focus being "Making Technology Better".

General

As the end of year fast approaches, the Board will be busy drafting the budget for 2019, revisiting the goals laid out in the 2018 Charter and beginning to plan ahead for 2019.

A Transition to Rimu Parents Evening is planned for Thursday 29th of November. This will give parents and caregivers of students in Year 3 an opportunity to find out about how learning happens in the Rimu Hub, gain information about BYOD and ask any questions you may have. Our final Board meeting for the year will be held on Tuesday 11th December at 5.30 pm.

Kind regards,
Zita Young
Board Chairperson