

# BOARD ON TOP

## Newsletter of the Tapanui School Board of Trustees

26 May 2016

Dear Parents / Caregivers

Your Board met on Tuesday for our 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of Term 2. This meeting we farewell 3 of our Trustees, Gareth Kean, Chris Hughes and our Staff Trustee Jane Stuart. Gareth & Chris have completed 3 years on the Board and Jane has been on the Board for 6 years. On behalf of Tapanui School Board of Trustees, Staff, Children and our extended community we thank you all for the hundreds of hours you have given our school, your input and knowledge have been invaluable. We wish you all the very best in any future endeavours.

As we farewell 3 current Trustees we welcome back Charmaine Blair and extend a warm welcome to our 2 new Parent Trustees, Cliff Brensell and Will Byars and new Staff Trustee Penny O'Meara. Thank you for putting yourselves forward to be a member of our School Board; we look forward to working with you.

### Modern Learning Environments

Building plans are being finalised and the costing process is beginning. We realise this is going to be a long journey but look forward to starting and seeing what our school will look like as a Modern Learning Environment.

The staff will be hosting another Tech Evening on the 15<sup>th</sup> June, 7-9pm. We look forward to hearing what topics you would like covered. Our last Tech Evening was very successful and I know we all learnt a lot. Therefore if you have a spare couple of hours, I urge you to attend.

### Property

The Board in association with the Ministry of Education are in the process of selling our surplus school house (30 Durham Street, Tapanui). Advertising and open homes have commenced. We look forward to this process being completed and funds becoming available to enable us to start our building renovations within the school.

### West Otago Community of Learning (COL)

What is a Community of Learning?

*"Investing in Educational Success (IES) is a Government initiative to help raise the learning and achievement of all our children and young people, particularly students at most risk of underachieving. It focuses on tools and resources that will help to build teaching capability"*

*"Under IES, a Community of Learning is formed, works together on identifying common achievement challenges and shares expertise for addressing them. Where possible a Community will be made up of 8-12 schools of different types, usually in geographic area, reflecting students' journey through the education system. This may include Early Childhood."*

After a lot of investigation your Board has agreed to be part of the West Otago Community of Learning Group. This group is in its infancy and Boards from Blue Mountain College, Waikoikoi School, Heriot School, Waikaka School, KidzWay ELC and Tapanui School have been asked to participate. At our next meeting scheduled for the 10<sup>th</sup> June we will know which schools have agreed to join and then next steps will be determined.

We will continue to update you as more information comes to hand.

### Curriculum Review – Physical Education & Health

In health and physical education, the focus is on the well-being of students, themselves, of other people, and of society through learning in health-related and movement contexts.

It is very pleasing to report the following results:

#### **Physical Education**

70% of students are working within the expected levels for their time at school and a further 22% are beyond the expected level. These results are well above the norm curve of 75% at or above expectations.

#### **Health**

70% of students are working within the expected levels for their time at school and a further 20% are beyond the expected level.

What a great result, if you wish to read the report(s) in full they are available from our Principal, Antony Criglington.

### General

It was great to see the weather play its part for the West Otago Cross Country on Wednesday. The students gave it their all on a chilly afternoon. Thank you to all the Parents, siblings and Grandparents that attended, it was wonderful to see so many of you out in the cold supporting your children. Finally, to the children who qualified for the Eastern Cross Country I wish you well and look forward to hearing how you all get on.

The Board has approved a Teachers Only Day for Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June, (Blue Mountain College also has a Teachers Only Day on this day).

Another busy term ahead, our next meeting, the first for the new Board, is scheduled for the 5<sup>th</sup> July, commencing at 5.30pm in the Blue Room.

Kind regards  
Julia Body  
Chairperson.