

BOARD ON TOP

Newsletter of the Tapanui School Board of Trustees

3 March 2017

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

The Board of Trustees met last week for the first meeting of 2017. We extend a warm welcome back to our existing families and staff and welcome all new students and their families to our school. We also welcome back Leanna McKenzie from Maternity Leave.

The first order of business at the meeting was the election of Board Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson. This process happens at the first meeting of every year. During the process we also determine our Sub Committee delegates. We are pleased to announce your board as follows:

Mrs Alena Stuart	Board Chairperson (member of all sub committees)
Mrs Zita Young	Deputy Board Chairperson, COL representative, Maori Liaison
Mrs Julia Body	Finance Committee
Mrs Charmaine Blair	Assurance Committee
Mr William Byars	Assurance Committee
Mr Cliff Brensell	Property Committee
Mr Antony Criglington	Principal
Mrs Penny O'Meara	Staff Trustee

Our first meeting of the year is about reviewing last year's results (Annual Report) and formalising our goals for the current year (Charter). We are required to forward to the Ministry of Education an annual report covering details in respect to our school for the 2016 year. The report covers:

- An overview of school activities which have occurred during the 2016 year
- Results of Student Achievement Targets set for 2016
- Kiwisport Report
- An Analysis of Variance which provides an explanation of what happened in relation to student achievement targets, what we did, how targets were resourced, the results achieved, what we believed made a difference and where to next.

Results of Student Achievement Targets for 2016

While we have expectations for all our students, the school is required to identify particular areas of weakness and report to the Ministry of Education around these target areas. In 2016 we identified two areas to target, one in reading and one in writing. These were reported on at the end of 2016 and the results are printed again below.

Target Set	Results/Comments
Reading - Boys across the school who were below the Government's National Standards at the end of 2015 will make accelerated progress towards the Government's National Standards' expectations with at least half being at or above the Standard by the end of 2016.	At the end of 2016, 79% of <u>boys</u> are at or above the Government's National Standards. The aim was to shift 50% of those below or well below - we actually shifted 58%. Furthermore 92% of the target group showed accelerated progress. This Target has been Met.

<p>Writing - All students across the school who were below the Government's National Standards at the end of 2015 will make accelerated progress towards the Government's National Standards' expectations with at least 85% being at or above the Standard by the end of 2016.</p>	<p>At the end of 2016, 73% of students are at or above the Government's National Standards. This Target has not been met.</p>
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Kiwisport

Kiwisport is a Government funding initiative to support students' participation in organised sport. In 2016, the school received total Kiwisport funding of \$1543 (excluding GST). Once again the funding was spent, along with other Board funds and donations, on the SouthWest Otago Sports Activator Programme and West Otago Athletics, Cross Country, Swimming and Winter Tournament at a total cost of \$6018 (including \$3468 for pool usage) to the School. 100% of students participated in organised sport with 3 sport / physical education lessons per year group, per term during the year. All students were provided with 10 x 30min Swimming Lessons, attended the West Otago Athletics and West Otago Cross Country. Additional opportunities offered to students included an Activator Swimming Initiative for at risk swimmers and the West Otago Winter Tournament for Year 4-6. A number of students had sessions with Otago Country Cricket while others participated in the Clutha Primary Schools Golf Tournament, Sport Clutha Triathlon, South Otago Swimming Sports, Eastern Athletics Sports, South Otago Cross Country and Eastern Southland Cross Country. A number of students went on to represent the school or the West Otago / Eastern Southland area at provincial sports events.

School Charter - 2017

The School Charter is our key planning document and is the basis for all board activity. It is an extensive document which sets the vision and strategic direction of the school. It includes an Annual Plan which sets goals in several areas including Curriculum, Property and Finance and Health and Safety. An Action Plan is developed for each goal. Updates are provided to the Board once a term.

At our recent meeting the Board approved the 2017 Charter. If you wish to view this document it is available on the Tapanui School website or at the school office.

The Student Achievement Targets for 2017 are as follows:

- Reading - Students after 2 years and after 3 years at school who are currently below the Government's National Standards in Reading (60%) will make accelerated progress towards the Government's National Standards' expectations with at least half being at or above the Standard by the end of 2017.
- Writing - Students in Year 4 and 5 who are currently below or well-below the Government's National Standards (34%) will make accelerated progress towards the Government's National Standards' expectations with at least half being at or above the Standard by the end of 2017.

Note: "Accelerated progress" = more than a year's progress in 12 months ie. Closing the gap

Christian Religious Education Programme - 2017

The Board has again approved the inclusion of this programme for 2017. CRE is a religious education programme, overseen by the Churches Education Commission, for state schools within New Zealand. The programme, named Life Choices, is approved by the Ministry of Education. It provides an opportunity for students to explore Christian beliefs and values through the lens of the Key Competencies and values found in the New Zealand Curriculum.

CRE will begin on Tuesday 14th of March from 9.00am to 9.30am. Attendance is voluntary. The school must be legally "closed" while a religious instruction programme is taking place, however the school is also obliged to provide supervision for children who are not participating in the programme. If you wish to withdraw your child from the programme or have any other queries please contact our Principal - Antony Criglington.

General

A Roll Review is currently in the hands of the Ministry in regards to our roll increase. We are optimistic that our application for increased staffing will be accepted and we will be able to employ a third teacher to join the Rimu Hub.

As always, it has been a busy start to Term One. Well done to all students who took part in the West Otago Athletics Day yesterday. Let's hope the sun continues to shine throughout March.

The next meeting of the Tapanui School Board of Trustees is to be held on Tuesday 4th of April.

Kind regards

Alena Stuart

Board Chairperson