

BOARD ON TOP

Newsletter of the Tapanui School Board of Trustees

5 April 2017

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

The Board met on Wednesday for the second meeting of the year. The budget for 2017 was approved at the meeting and the board reviewed progress made on the Annual Plan. Several other items were also discussed at the meeting and are outlined below.

Property

The installation of the new heat pumps is in the final stages. These were destroyed as a result of a power surge in late 2016. It has been a very lengthy process and the Board wishes to thank the staff and students for their patience.

The school holiday break will see the beginning of a large Ministry of Education funded project which will include improved concrete surfaces and the installation of automatic doors in the Rimu Hub and school office.

Also discussed at the meeting were the next steps required in order to begin the process of adapting the learning spaces to reflect the changes in how learning is delivered at Tapanui School. In 2016 a plan was finalised and a Quantity Surveyor employed to provide us with an estimated cost of the changes. We are now looking at Stage One of the project which involves creating an efficient space to house school resources.

Staffing 2017

The Board were very happy to receive confirmation from the Ministry of Education that, due to a roll increase, we were entitled to employ a sixth teacher for the 2017 year. Miss Kaitlyn Roughan has been employed to work in the Rimu Hub and will begin on April 10th. The Board extends her a warm welcome.

Blue Mountain Community of Learning Update

Representatives from the cluster of schools and Kidzway met at the end of March. The CoL is working through the process of appointing a Community Leader, guided by a Ministry of Education representative. The role of the leader will be to work with the other members in the CoL to create shared achievement goals. The Board will continue to keep you updated and informed as the process continues.

General

It has been an incredibly busy term and the students have had some great opportunities for learning outside of the classroom - athletics, swimming, visits from a performing arts group and the Working Waters Trust.

Congratulations to those students who have gone on to represent our school at Otago or Southland levels. The recent Swimming Carnival was a great opportunity to see the improvements made by all children at different levels and was a great opportunity to celebrate their growth in ability and confidence. The highlight of the term was the unveiling of the Waharoa and Tukutuku panels and the hangi. What a great way to bring the school community together. A huge thanks to the many individuals and families who contributed in so many ways.

The next meeting of the Tapanui School Board of Trustees is to be held on May 25th at 5.30pm.

Have a safe and happy holiday period and we look forward to seeing you in Term Two.

Kind regards,

Alena Stuart

Board Chairperson