



BOARD ON TOP
Newsletter of the Tapanui School Board of Trustees

14th December 2018

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

The Board of Trustees met on Tuesday night for our final meeting of the year. Much of the meeting was spent reviewing the current year and planning ahead for 2019.

Charter Review

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 paid particular attention to the Curriculum goals due to their focus on Student Achievement. It was pleasing to see that the objectives of each Action Plan had been met and that areas of further action required had been identified.

Review of Learning Support/Special Needs

Learning support is growing aspect of the school with 43% of students now receiving some sort of intervention.

- In 2018 external funding was received from outside agencies to assist 18 children within our school. A further 5 students were supported in English for whom English is their second language. A total of 23 students received targeted support.
- Resourcing was also provided by para-professionals such as the Resource Teacher of Learning and Behaviour, Speech Language Therapist and the Resource Teacher of Literacy. Tapanui received approximately 180 hours in-school from these three resource teachers who worked directly with students or their teachers.
- Board Funded Support - The Board allocated funding to provide teacher aide support in both learning hubs. These teacher aides also assist greatly in the implementation of collaborative teaching, allowing teachers to:
 - ❖ Focus on curriculum delivery and leave the supervision of children on independent tasks to the teacher aides.
 - ❖ Deliver learning in smaller, quieter spaces allowing time for children to think.
 - ❖ Ensure that those with the greatest need have the most experienced teacher working with them.

Staffing for 2019

From the start of the year we are fully funded for six teachers - Mrs Penny O'Meara, Mrs Leanna McKenzie, Ms. Abbie Gibson, Mrs Judy Clayton and Ms. Rebekah Stoop.

We say goodbye to Ms. Kaitlyn Roughan as she was successful this week in getting a full time job in another school. Congratulations Kaitlyn and best of luck for your future. We are going to start looking for a replacement immediately.

Mrs. Jane Stuart will continue in her role as Deputy Principal, Across CoL Teacher and Principal release teacher. The Board has made a commitment to continue funding teacher aide hours in 2019 to ensure learning can continue to be delivered to a high standard.

Kāhui Aho - Community of Learning (CoL)

The first across community professional development day for leaders with 'Using Technology Better' took place in November. This is the beginning of using over 410 hours of successfully applied Professional Development hours for all teachers within the 5 learning centres.

General

It was great to see so many parents and caregivers at the final assembly today. It was a wonderful way to end the year and to celebrate learning at Tapanui School. Best wishes to the Year 6 students who move on to other schools in 2019.

Thank you to my fellow Board members for your time and effort in 2018.

To Antony and staff, I hope you all have a well-deserved break over the holidays. Thank you all for your effort and commitment to the students of Tapanui School.

I wish you all have happy holidays and get to have some quality family time together and make memories!

Looking forward to seeing you all in 2019.

Kind regards,
Zita Young
Board Chairperson