

Board Update – February

Board

As indicated in our November update, Dan Ormond has been appointed the Chair of the Board of Trustees. Dan has a son in Year 7 at the school. Retiring Chair Mary-Ann Butterfield will continue as a trustee until the end of the next Board election in mid-2019. She will continue to oversee the building development on behalf of the Board.

Once again, the Board would like to acknowledge the immense contribution that Mary-Ann has made not only to the Board, but also to the wider school community, over a number of years.

One of the Board's goals for this year is to ensure a smooth transition at the next Board election so if anyone is considering running to become a Parent Representative next year and would like further information on the role, or how to become involved, feel free to contact us.

Government Priorities

You will have seen a lot of media coverage of the new Government's proposed education reforms. Many of these are still to be developed, and until the details are released we do not know what they will mean for Brooklyn School. However, one change we do have details on is the removal of National Standards in reading, writing and maths. We will still be reporting to parents, at least twice a year, on their child's progress and achievement across the curricula. We will be reporting across the school at the end of term 2 and at the end of term 4.

Building Project

The detailed design is now complete, however, the final quantity surveyors report and building consent are not yet complete. Therefore, we will not be starting in April as hoped. We still expect that construction will start by mid-year, and we will keep you updated. As outlined at the Information Evenings the project will be phased to help minimise disruption to the teaching programme. The phases are:

- Stage 1: The extension to the existing Hall and an additional exit for the Library
- Stage 2: Takahe Block increased by the equivalent one classroom creating innovative learning environments
- Stage 3: Replacing the current Kiwi Village (the classrooms closest to Harrison Street) with a new block.
- Stage 4: Remediation of the Administration Block.

Landscape Masterplan

Following the workshops last year on the building redevelopment the Board agreed to get a landscape masterplan done. We have contracted Sarah Poff to do this. Sarah has previously worked with a range of Wellington schools, early childhood centres and the Wellington Zoo. She has completed a scoping document and will be holding a workshop with interested parents on 26 March at 7-8pm.

Fundraising

Thank you everyone who completed the fundraising forms. We will be working on identifying our priorities at the next Board meeting. However, we want to highlight the upcoming Appetites Evening to be held Thursday 5th April – this is a fantastic evening and one of our major fundraisers for the school. The last evening raised over \$3,500 for the Library and Tui reading resources.

Vogelmorn Park Bike Track

The Board is excited to be support this fantastic community project being led by Ridgeway/Brooklyn parents. Construction is now underway. To support the project's next stage visit <http://bit.ly/2GrlRdd> for details.

We welcome your feedback. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact us by email or via the School Office.

bot@brooklynprimary.school.nz

Our next meeting is scheduled for 7.00 pm Tuesday 20 March in the Staff Room.

Board of Trustees: Dan Ormond (Chairperson), Liz Rhodes (Principal), Mary-Ann Butterfield, Debbie Chitty, Chandra Littlewood, , Nick Simcock, Mark Vivian and Glen Burdon (Teacher Representative).