



WELLINGTON HIGH SCHOOL – BOARD AGENDA

Notice of a meeting to be held on **Monday 12 May 2025**

- Present:** Giovanni Tiso (presiding member), Dominic Killalea (Principal), David Cooling, Geronimo La Hood, Fiona Nichols, Evžen Novak, Wyatt Page, Marama Steele
- Apologies:** Nick Tramoundanas, Yaya Alley, Jorah Ramlan-Pointon, Nicky Birch
- Visitors:** Aidan Gillespie, Fern Ashby, Molly Hereaka Bowden, Sophie Hereaka Bowden
- In attendance:** Alison Jeffery (Board Secretary)

The meeting opened with the karakia.

Geronimo MOVED: that the visitors be granted speaking rights.

CARRIED
Wyatt

Motion to co-opt Yaya Alley as Māori student rep.

This was moved to the June meeting as Yaya was unable to attend. Molly and Sophie Hereaka Bowden were welcomed as visitors to the meeting.

Minutes of last meeting

David MOVED that the minutes of the meeting on 7 April 2025 be received as a true and accurate record.

CARRIED
Wyatt

Matters arising from the minutes

- Succession planning added to the Board's plan for 2025: this has been completed.
- Staggered election cycle documentation for sharing with the community
 - The new Board will resolve this post-election.
 - It was noted that candidates will not need to state whether they are standing for 18 months or 36 months.
 - **ACTION:** Staggered election cycle documentation to include information about the composition of the Board and a link to where information can be found on the WHS website.
 - **ACTION:** Alison to email information to the school community and to post in the Wrap Up.
- PLD related to UNCRPD and UNCRC followed up by Giovanni and Dominic
 - It was suggested that Liz McKay runs the PLD. She currently does this for TAs and would create a slideshow. Carly Elder (HoF Learning Services) supports all staff having a shared understanding. This would be ideal for a staff meeting which Liz would lead.
 - **ACTION:** Dominic to talk to MYL about scheduling UNCRPD and UNCRC PLD for a future staff meeting.
- Endowment fund management
 - It was confirmed that the Nīkau Foundation does not return initial capital when a fund winds up.
 - The Board confirmed its support of Ross Shotton's proposal. This needs to be communicated to Ross. It was noted that if the fund is to be run by the Friends of WHS, that Dominic or the Board may also be involved.
- Shaun Tavernor to discuss students' place on the Board with incoming representatives
 - Shaun met with Molly, Sophie and Yaya prior to the May Board meeting
- Dominic has emailed the Ministry re: Property and next steps
 - As of 12 May no reply has been received.
 - WSP will be on site this week for concrete testing around A, B and D blocks.
 - The next property meeting will take place on Friday 16 May
- WHS website update for Te Whānau a Taraika
 - A plan is in place for updating the website.
- Ensuring Māori students know about opportunities at enrolment interview

- **ACTION:** Megan Southwell to follow up with Deans to make sure that is included in enrolment conversations
- Student representatives to discuss Matariki fundraiser with Marama / Nicky
 - See: Student Report below

Reports

Principal's report

- Staffing has been updated with appointments made in Maths, Food and Fashion, with interviews planned for Pūtaiao advisor and International Director.
- The policies for review this term were tested during Wellington's red weather warning in week 1. The policies were found to be fit for purpose so there is no need for further review by the Board this term.
- Term 1 attendance was circulated for information. It was noted that attendance has improved recently. This is attributed to a higher profile in the media, and students more actively following their attendance and increased communication with home about students' attendance rates. It was also noted that students believe that they have to have attendance above 75% to go to the Ball.
- Te Reo classes for staff will continue, funded by the school. WHS is able to support this independently of government funding, but this is an inequity across the education sector.
- Ngā manaakitanga will start in Term 3. The Board asked whether there was resource among the wider school community that could enable this to start earlier in the year. It was acknowledged that Kapa Haka running this term does mean that the start of Ngā manaakitanga is later than in other years, although timing will be the same as 2024.
- Dominic's Professional Growth Cycle (PGC) for 2025 will focus on how to raise attendance levels: raising awareness with rōpū teachers and improving connections with home. Dom will participate in the same professional learning group as in 2024. From the Board's perspective this will include a mid-year update with the Presiding member with sign off from the Board as a whole at the end of the year.

Evžen MOVED that the Principal's report be accepted by the Board.

CARRIED
Wyatt

Marama MOVED that the Board accept the plan for the Principal's Growth Cycle for 2025

CARRIED
Wyatt

Te Whānau a Taraika report

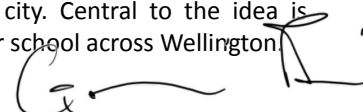
- It was noted that at the recent whānau hui, the Māori success summary still requires some support in terms of collating information.
- **ACTION:** Dominic to follow up collation of Māori success summary with Whakamarurangi Chadwick.
- Website updates are under way. The plan is to keep updating and refreshing content to better collate information for whānau Māori and to create a one stop shop.
- The Pōwhiri for Ihaia Puketapu (who will begin the carving project for the wharenuī) will take place on 22 May.
- Following last year's raranga workshop, a raranga wananga is planned to take place at Otari Wilton's bush.
- The whānau Māori option is being offered for Open Evening in 2025.
- Whaea Char and Whakamarurangi Chadwick are working with Marama to share history of Taraika and the history of Whakanuia taonga.
- Kapa Haka dress rehearsal will take place on Saturday 7 June. The volunteer contribution in supporting the kitchen for the second noho was much appreciated. The Kapa Haka rōpū limit is 40 and 39 rangatahi have signed up. It is a huge collaborative commitment from staff and students involved as noho run from Friday through Sunday each week for 7 weeks.
- The Board noted that the Student Council in conjunction with Māori student representatives are seeking to produce a handbook and video focused on student achievements ahead of the next elections.
- **ACTION:** School map request - Fiona to follow up re: sharing with students and updating the maps.

David MOVED that the Te Whānau a Taraika report be accepted by the Board.

CARRIED
Wyatt

Student report

- **ACTION:** Student Council tikanga representative to connect with VUW and senior students who could be eligible for iwi grants
- **ACTION:** All student reps to meet together to discuss reviving a Māori student group focused on giving opportunities for Māori students to meet and talk.
- Student representatives have been part of a Head students collaboration across the city. Central to the idea is collaboration, and the idea that when you become a head student you are representing your school across Wellington.



- Shakespeare Society performances took place in week 2 despite Hall renovations disrupting the run up to the production and it ran well.
- **ACTION:** Dominic to follow up regarding concerns about electrics following the leak above the Riley Centre's stage
- The Student Council is aiming to put on a student-led Matariki event
- Access Radio have offered to host a WHS section on their website.
- Rebuilding WHS student radio - Friday hui with Access Radio who have offered to host and offer a section on the website. Students will be able to send in segments that they want to talk about and the hosts can arrange to be posted to the wider site.

Wyatt *MOVED* that the Board accept the students' report.

CARRIED
Evžen

Finance report

- It was noted that additional international income is anticipated and that some MoE funds have not yet been received.
- The budget will be revised mid-year as planned.

Wyatt *MOVED* that the finance report be accepted by the Board

CARRIED
David

Strategic Business

Faculty Reports and feedback

- The Board recognised the work of the Heads of Faculty and the effort involved in the Faculty reporting.
- It was suggested that future reports include a single page executive summary with key recommendations to the Board e.g. what are the three things that would make a difference to your faculty next year?

Geronimo *MOVED* that the meeting be extended by 30 minutes

CARRIED
Fiona

- The possibility of Heads of Faculty attending future Board meetings was discussed.
- **ACTION:** Dominic to invite two Heads of Faculty to a future Board meeting.

Self-review discussion

Staggered election cycle documentation for community

- See matters arising

Succession planning

- This will now be a rolling agenda item until the elections.

Functional business

Policy review

- See Principal's report

EOTC

Wyatt *MOVED* that the Board receive the summary of EOTC approved since the 7 April meeting.

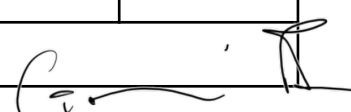
CARRIED
Marama

NZSBA conference

- David will be attending the NZSBA conference.

Correspondence received by the Chair and actions taken:

| Date | From | Concerning | Action |
|--|-----------------------|---|--------|
| Magazines, Newsletters, Promotional | | | |
| 28.4.25 | Ministry of Education | Education Gazette vol 104. No 4 | |
| 30.4.25 | NZSBA | Onboard April 25 - Issue 3 | |
| Letters and other addressed mail | | | |



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|---------|----------------|---|--|
| 8.4.25 | SchoolDocs | End of term 1 updates | |
| 10.4.25 | NZSBA | NZSBA Conference registrations | |
| 15.4.25 | NZSBA | Learn more, do more, be more - Term 2 learning events | |
| 24.4.25 | NZSBA | Board Matters Term 2 2025 | |
| 28.4.25 | NZSBA | The Board's role in suspension meetings workshop | |
| 29.4.25 | NZSBA | Maximise the difference you make | |
| 1.5.25 | SchoolDocs | Term 2 review and board assurances | |
| 8.5.25 | Friends of WHS | Update regarding heritage listing of Riley Centre | |

- It was noted that Onboard included information highlighting changes to the Education Act plus additional information from NZSBA.
- **ACTION:** Riley Centre Heritage listing documentation to be shared with Evžen

David MOVED that the correspondence received by the Board.

*CARRIED
Geronimo*

There being no AOB, the meeting moved into in committee at 8.30pm.

The meeting moved out of committee at 8.54pm.

The meeting closed with Karakia at 8.56pm

AOB

In committee meeting

[Karakia](#)

For future agendas: (see also the [Board's annual plan](#))

June 2025 - Final approval for Rarotonga trip; EOTC and Sports (Rebecca Rāpira-Davies and Eilidh Hamill)

