



WELLINGTON HIGH SCHOOL – BOARD AGENDA

Minutes of the meeting held on **Monday 18 August 2025**

Present: Giovanni Tiso (Presiding Member), Dominic Killalea (Principal), David Cooling, Jorah Ramlan-Pointon, Geronimo La Hood, Fiona Nichols, Evžen Novak, Wyatt Page, Nick Tramoundanas

Apologies: Nicky Birch, Marama Steele, Yaya Alley, Molly Hereaka Bowden, Sophie Hereaka Bowden

Visitors: Fern Ashby, Aidan Gillespie

The meeting opened with a karakia.

Evžen MOVED to grant speaking rights to visitors.

CARRIED
Geronimo

Confirmation of Previous Minutes

Giovanni MOVED that the minutes from the meeting on 21 July be accepted as a true and accurate record.

CARRIED
Nick

Matters Arising from the Minutes

- The whānau hui to discuss the strategic plan is scheduled for 3 September but may need to change.

Reports

Principal's Report

- **Alternative Education (AE) Contract:** BGI, which holds one of the AE contracts, is considering charter school status. It was noted that PPTA and the disability sector have concerns regarding charter schools, particularly around transparency and safeguarding. The Board requested information to understand BGI's proposal in more detail. The current contract continues for another year.
- **NCEA:** The Board was encouraged to make submissions to the Government regarding the proposed changes to NCEA. The current flexibility of NCEA was noted as an advantage, and concern was expressed that the proposed changes might favour higher education pathways over the needs of all students.

ACTION: The Board to submit a collective response on the proposed NCEA changes. Alison to share a template for Board input.

- **Property:** The Board discussed writing a submission to the Minister of Education in relation to this.

ACTION: Evžen to draft a submission and circulate it to the Board for feedback. Timeline: 4 weeks.

Geronimo MOVED that the Principal's report be accepted by the Board

CARRIED
Wyatt

Student Report

- The student representatives attended a strategic planning hui on 18 August. Notes from the hui to be sent to Dominic.
- The first of two auditions for the talent show have been held.
- The student-run radio station, Fly on the Wall, is live on Thursdays from 6:00-6:30 pm and can also be played online retrospectively.
- Students are voting on the school mascot.

Evžen MOVED that the Student report be accepted by the Board

CARRIED
Wyatt

Finance Report

- Wyatt presented the report on behalf of the Finance Committee.
- **Solar Panels:** The school does not qualify for the best deal on solar panels due to the lack of a transformer to manage power. A second, less attractive deal was considered. Solar panels will not be pursued until the transformer issue is resolved.
- **Auditor's Report:** The auditor's report noted a net adjusted deficit of \$61,000 for 2024. Minor concerns included the Alfred George East Trust, which has been in place since 1943 but was only recently included in the audit. Action is to be taken in conjunction with Massey University to resolve this. The auditor recommended that Board minutes are documented to include more explicit financial inclusions plus cyclical maintenance reporting.
- **Revised Draft Budget:** The report noted that some of the current deficit is due to a reconciliation issue with the International Department fees. It was noted that if the international fees hadn't been incorrectly coded to 2024, then last year's deficit would have been greater by about \$80k.
- **English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL):** There will be more money for ESOL and refugee learners. Dominic has been speaking to the Ministry of Education about this. An attendance services contract for approximately \$6,000 per term is forthcoming, as is \$50k of property funding for expenses incurred in master planning.

ACTION: The auditors' draft report to be circulated to the Board.

Nick MOVED that the Finance report be accepted by the Board

CARRIED
David

Approval of Revised Budget

Nick MOVED that the revised budget be accepted by the Board.

CARRIED
David

Strategic Business

Strategic Planning Timeline

- Gabrielle Wall to provide a revised strategic planning timeline.

Functional Business

Policy Review

- The policies for Abuse Recognition and Reporting, Child Protection, and Safety Checking were reviewed and SLT feedback shared with the Board.
- Geronimo requested clarification support available to students who might support peers who have been subject to abuse.

ACTION: Geronimo to discuss the Abuse Recognition and Reporting policy with Dominic.

Giovanni MOVED that the Child Protection and Safety Checking policies be approved, with SLT feedback added.

CARRIED
Wyatt

ACTION: Alison to provide policy review feedback to SchoolDocs.

EOTC (Education Outside the Classroom)

- **China Trip:** The RAMS (Risk Analysis and Management Systems) for this trip must reflect all possible risks, including those that are politically determined.

Giovanni MOVED that summary of EOTC presented be accepted by the Board.

CARRIED
Wyatt

WHS Beehives

David MOVED that Beehive proposal be accepted by the Board

CARRIED
Evžen

Correspondence

Date	From	Concerning	Action
Magazines, Newsletters, Promotional			
21.7.2025	Ministry of Education	Education Gazette vol 104. No 7	
31.7.2025	NZSBA	Onboard - June 2025, Issue 6	
6.8.2025	Sport Aotearoa	Active bodies, active minds	
Letters and other addressed mail			
16.7.2025	NZSBA	Stepping up, stepping in	
22.7.2025	Ministry of Education	Education bulletin extract re: NZSBA	
13.8.2025	PPTA	Preliminary notice of industrial action	

- It was noted that partial strikes would result in teachers' pay being docked. The NZEI's challenge to this in the High Court was unsuccessful, and the strikes in September will have financial consequences.

Wyatt MOVED that the correspondence be received by the Board.

*CARRIED
David*

Geronimo MOVED to extend the meeting by 15 minutes.

*CARRIED
David*

The meeting moved to in committee at 8.07pm.

The meeting moved out of the in-committee session at 8:16 pm.

The meeting closed with a karakia at 8:17 pm.