

**Minutes of the Wellington High School Board meeting held on  
Monday 22 August at 6.00pm**

**Present:** Belinda Rynhart (chair), Shaun Tavernor (Acting Principal), Annette Atkins, Bharat Pancha, Evžen Novak (online), Jo Macdonald (online), Nicky Birch (online) Solomon Daniel, Wyatt Page, Hannah Paton-Smith, Giovanni Tiso, Jorah Ramlan-Pointon, David Cooling, Nick Tramoundanas, Eve Ashby, Theo Melville

**Visitors:** Lulu Shepherd, Mia Rosemergy, Mary Maughan

**In attendance:** Alison Jeffery (Board Secretary)

The meeting opened with a karakia

*Hannah MOVED: THAT the outgoing Board members be co-opted for the meeting with Belinda as Chair.*

CARRIED  
Wyatt

- All members and visitors present introduced themselves to the meeting.
- The service of the previous Board was recognised by the incoming Board members.

**Minutes of the last meeting**

*Shaun MOVED: THAT the minutes of the meeting held on 25 July be accepted*

CARRIED  
Solomon

**Matters arising from the minutes**

- Te Whānau representation and Mana whenua representation on the Board: Nicky will be attending a meeting with mana whenua whanau this week. Documentation will be tabled at the meeting on 19 September. See also *Te Whānau a Taraika report*.
- Health and Safety Issues on GoNoGo remaining live. This was followed up with the staff member responsible for the school's Health and Safety. Items that are open are in progress but not necessarily remedied completely. Updates will be added so it is clear what remediation is being undertaken.
- SchoolDocs - Policy reviews are due for the September meeting. These will now be redistributed to members of the incoming Board.

**ACTION:** Alison to circulate policy review details to the Board. Board members to sign up to review policies with a view to reporting on these in the September meeting.

- Board Manual - Jo and Wyatt were thanked for their work in this area.

**ACTION:** Wyatt to finalise the Board Manual for the new Board for the September meeting.

**Strategic business**

**Strategic plan**

- Gabrielle Wall (draft strategic plan) was unable to attend the meeting.
- Shaun spoke to the process through which the strategic plan had reached its current state. This included the Board and SLT strategic planning day, and consultation with Te Whānau a Taraika prior to the construction of the draft before the Board.



**ACTION:** All members present at the meeting to provide feedback on the draft strategic plan by Monday 5 September. To capture feedback, Alison will send a Google Doc to all in attendance.

**ACTION:** The September meeting will be moved to Monday 19 September to enable feedback from the 5 September whānau hui to be forwarded to Gabrielle.

**ACTION:** Gabrielle Wall to be invited to attend the 19 September Board meeting.

It was noted that the 19 September meeting also has a focus on the campus master planning.

**ACTION:** Shaun to liaise with WSP regarding the campus master planning focus for the next meeting to establish whether an exceptional meeting should be convened. Shaun to request WSP provide plans for circulation to the Board prior to the next meeting.

*Belinda MOVED: THAT Evzen be co-opted to the Board to assist with the campus master planning as required.*

CARRIED  
Hannah

## Reports

### **Principal's report**

- The Board acknowledged Shaun's work in compiling the report in particular for continuing to highlight Māori achievement.
- Updated figures for Year 9 enrolment were confirmed: 240 as of 22 August.
- It was clarified that any incident requiring physical restraint (including any incident that requires physical restraint at Te Ara or Praxis) will be brought to the Board in committee.
- It was noted that no trends in stand down and suspensions could be seen in relation to previous years. The number of students referred to Alt Ed has increased. The essential nature of this service was recognised by the Board.
- Attendance data was not included in the Principal's report. Attendance is currently at 80.5% - while this has dropped and has not rebounded since last year's lockdown. Although a drop it is favourable in comparison to that experienced by other schools. International travel, particularly as families reunite, is now a factor in the lower attendance rate. 140 justified absences for Monday (10%) much of which is winter illness.
- It was noted that an increase in anxiety about being in school and an increased level of school refusal has been observed.

*David MOVED: THAT the Principal's report be accepted by the Board*

CARRIED  
Hannah

### **Finance report**

- No Finance report was tabled for this meeting. The next Finance meeting will take place on 19 September once the Finance sub-committee has been convened.

### **Te Whānau a Taraika**

- Nicky gave a verbal report
- Te Whānau supports the positive changes proposed for Student Council membership which will ensure that Māori representation is central to the Council's structure. Kapa Haka leaders, Waka Ama leaders, and Manu Kōrero senior students will be included when the next Student Council is formed.
- Board representation: kōrero with Māori whānau and mana whenua who whakapapa to the area the school is in, and who have students in the school, are guiding the key area of whānau and mana whenua representation on the Board.



- On behalf of Te Whānau a Taraika Nicky expressed thanks to Shaun for his work with whānau representatives on the He Kaiwhakapuapua job description.
- With regards to the strategic plan, the draft strategy will be shared with Māori whānau and feedback provided as outlined on page 1.

### **Student report**

- Lulu spoke to the student report, emphasising the Student Council's focus on raising school spirit
- With regards to reports from year group reps on the Student Council, additional support for scholarship and university applications in 2023 has been requested by seniors, as has the possibility of running an additional Āwhina (which could be run by Year 13) for Year 11 students. Year 10 students have requested more tikanga Māori be included in the Aotearoa Histories course as a way of increasing engagement.
- The number of students attending Wednesday breakfasts is increasing.
- Students have been working on consent education and developing a proposal for increasing consent education in schools across Wellington
- This year's student leaders' project for developing seating and furniture around the canteen and foyer is in progress.
- The report expressed sadness that the Roots and Shoots group has shut down. It is hoped that it will be resurrected in 2023. Others at the table spoke to the reduction in numbers at clubs and societies this year: this is considered in part to be a result of Aroha Day taking place online, and is also related to students' anxiety about congregating in larger numbers. The impact of COVID in this area is not to be under-rated.
- A new group, Under the Sun, for minority groups and refugees students has been formed.

Jo left the meeting at 7.10pm.

### **Functional Business**

#### **Mask review**

- The current policy was put in place to cover weeks 1-4, the place. The Board considered extending it up to and including Monday 19 September. The policy will be reviewed at the 19 September Board meeting.

**ACTION:** Shaun to amend the policy to emphasise that this applies to staff and visitors, not just students.

**ACTION:** Extension to the mask policy to be circulated to the community.

*Hannah MOVED: to accept the extension and amendment to the mask policy*

CARRIED  
Wyatt

#### **Faculty Board reports**

- The Board strongly recommended that, in 2023, the Heads of Faculty report to the Board early in Term 2 in a face-to-face meeting.
- The Faculty Heads were thanked for their response to a process that has been protracted by COVID in 2022.

#### **Board manual**

See above

#### **Student election**

*David MOVED: that Shaun be elected Returning Officer for the Student Elections*

CARRIED  
Wyatt



- The student election timeline was agreed by the Board.
- The outgoing Board recommended that, as the Spirit of Adventure is now operating again, next year's representative has the opportunity to take part.

### **Election of new Board Chair**

*Hannah MOVED: that David be elected as Board Chair  
Giovanni seconded the motion.*

*CARRIED  
Unanimously*

### **Finance sub-committee**

Wyatt, Nick and Jorah volunteered to form the Finance subcommittee.

*Hannah MOVED: THAT Wyatt, Nick and Jorah form the Finance subcommittee*

*CARRIED  
Giovanni*

The contribution that the outgoing Board has made to WHS over the past three years was gratefully acknowledged by all present at the meeting.

*The meeting moved to in committee at 8.03pm*

