



TE AROHA COLLEGE

A purpose joyful; A courage blameless

July 2017

Board of Trustees Newsletter

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Secretary
Sandy Gwynne



July Board of Trustees Meeting Report

At the Board meeting on Monday the 31st of July:

International

The Board received the International Student Report and acknowledged the work done in hosting 52 overseas students from Korea, Japan and Taiwan. The Board acknowledge Te Aroha Primary for their support and contribution hosting five primary age students from the Taiwanese group for weeks one and two of term 3. The Board also acknowledged our senior students who worked during the holidays as student tutors of English with our Taiwanese students and our school students who chose to be 'buddies'. Most significantly the Board acknowledged the tremendous support of our community in hosting such a large group of student visitors to our town. This is our school's most significant fundraiser for the year and has provided an amazing opportunity for all the students involved to enjoy the cultural exchange.

College: Attendance - Thanks - Congratulations - Year 12 Phys Ed Camp - Sports Council

The Board received a full attendance report for term two showing a continuation of strong attendance trends across the school for the term.

The Board added their congratulations to Tatiana Kaumoana for her exceptional achievement winning silver in the discus at the Youth Commonwealth Games in the Bahamas.

The Board acknowledged and thanked the Ball committee for their work in organising the Senior Ball held in the July holidays. It was an excellent night.

A PURPOSE JOYFUL A COURAGE BLAMELESS
HE WAKA EKE NOA HE TU MANAWANUI KI TE KEI O TE WAKA



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Mel Wilson, Patrick Aislabie and the parent supporters were acknowledged and thanked for their work with the 1st XV rugby trip to the Gold Coast, Australia.

The planning for our annual Year 12 Ski camp is well underway. The Board approved the application to NZCT for a grant to help with students' costs.

The Board discussed parental concerns raised around involvement of students in multiple sports. A Sports Council meeting has been set down for Thursday August 10th at 12.45pm to look at how the long standing issue across a number of sporting codes can be better addressed moving forward. This will be chaired by Wayne Stringer. For further information, he can be contacted at wstringer@tearohacollege.school.nz

Property

The Board has received final confirmation that the Gym upgrade is underway. The planning is progressing and works are intended to start at the end of term 3. We are hopeful that it will be completed by the start of term 1 2018. We have been planning an upgrade of these facilities for some time and are fortunate the Ministry was also in the process of assessing all school buildings particularly those that have been constructed historically with some asbestos cladding products. Our gymnasium falls into this category.

As part of the Ministry of Education's assessment process, we had the entire gym commercially surveyed as well as air and swab tested by an accredited testing agency. As a precaution, because a panel of the boys' change rooms interior cladding had recently been damaged, we were advised to exclude that area from staff and student access until the upgrade process begins. We are very pleased to have this project proceeding in the near future and are looking forward to using it next year. We are also very pleased at the significant contribution made by Ministry of Education to fund this upgrade.

The Board have also received confirmation that the school's aged prefab stock of three classrooms, the common room and the caretaker's store are to be removed due to the exterior cladding no longer meeting appropriate building codes. This too is being fully funded by the Ministry of Education. Planning is now underway for these to be removed prior to the Christmas break.

The replacement programme for the three teaching spaces, caretaker's shed and student space are now in the formal planning phase as we work to fit these additional teaching spaces within our school footprint. Works will hopefully begin on this during terms 3 and 4. This is a significant opportunity for our school to modernise and future proof our facilities and will see at least one of our classroom blocks upgraded by the beginning of 2018.

The heating of the college swimming pool is well underway. The next step in this planning is to purchase a pool cover and roller unit. We are working in conjunction with the Te Aroha Swimming Club so that we can extend the pool swimming season for the coming year.

The Board also reviewed a chemical incident that occurred in a science class in week 1 of the term. They want to assure our school community that the matter has been fully reviewed under our Health and Safety structures.

Students in Technology have begun works on landscaping enhancements. These will continue with further planning and re-development outside the food room area and then move on to the arts room area.

Moving Forward

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held in week 8 of term 3.

Should you have any enquiries or concerns please contact the board secretary Sandy Gwynne on 07 8848625, extn 815 or the Chairperson, Mr Graham Hallett at 07 8845714.

BOT, July 2017