

# TE AROHA COLLEGE

A purpose joyful; A courage blameless

October 2017

## **Board of Trustees Newsletter**

106 Stanley Ave Te Aroha 3320

P O Box 218 Te Aroha 3342

Ph. 07 8848625 admin@tearohacollege.school.nz

> Chairperson Graham Hallett

Parent Representatives
Mel Wilson
Maria Admiraal
Julie Sweeney
Mark Spooner
Victoria Oosthoek

Staff Representative Rachel Scott

Student Representative Sven Aranui

> Principal Heather Gorrie

Secretary
Sandy Gwynne



## Governance Update from the BOT – October 2017

The Board of Trustees have continued to work with the Ministry of Education to ensure that we are progressing with an extensive plan of property improvements around the College.

### Gym upgrade

The Gym upgrade is finally underway and will involve intensive works over the next few months. The completion date is set for June 2018.

### **Prefab Removal**

The removal of excess prefabs has started. One has been removed and the other four are scheduled for removal later in the year.

### **International Student Programme**

We have hosted our last overseas visitors for this year and are already planning a busy schedule for 2018. Again we thank all hosts involved that help make these visits possible. Our first groups arrive in early January 2018 and we look forward to the continued support of our community. To be able to bring the world to our door provides a wonderful opportunity for our students to grow as global citizens and in 2018 will see the first of our students travel overseas as part of our growing cultural exchange programme.

### **Academic Results**

As NCEA exams continue teachers have worked very hard arranging extra tutorials where needed to maximise student achievement. We realise it is a stressful time for some students but teachers are helping out where possible. Congratulations to all our Senior Prize winners. Our Senior Prize Giving was a fantastic evening celebrating the success of so many students. The BOT would like to thank and acknowledge the staff for their tremendous work in supporting the success of our senior students.

# TE AROHA COLLEGE

A purpose joyful; A courage blameless

### New Staff for 2018

The BOT has again been very pleased to get an incredible set of teacher applicants for the jobs we have advertised for 2018 as our school roll continues to grow and we cover the leave of two key staff members.

The BOT welcomes Jamie Reid who is joining us from Wellington as our new teacher of Physics and Science. He has a keen interest in triathlon and cycling.

Arleen McLaren is joining us as a full time teacher of Maori and Social Science and we congratulate Arleen on the completion of her teacher training. We look forward to Arleen's incredible cultural strengths and knowledge as we continue to develop Te Reo Maori and cultural understanding within the school.

The BOT also welcomes David Chan who is joining us from Christchurch as our new teacher of Mathematics. David is an incredibly talented young man. Originally from Northern China, he has studied in New Zealand for the past seven years and brings a wealth of cultural experience and also a passion for geography and mountaineering.

The BOT also welcomes Annalise Pulman who will be taking History and Social Science while Torina Halford takes maternity leave for 2018. Annalise comes to us from Morrisville and has strengths in debating and Netball and has an absolute passion for history.

### **Motutapu Island Camp**

It was very disappointing that the annual Year 9 camp had to be cancelled because of storm damage to the Island facilities. Mrs Livingstone has worked intensively to organise an alternative event for those that have missed out and things are looking promising for a delayed camp in 2018.

### **Pool heating**

The school pool is now open and running for the new season. All the work that has been done has resulted in a warmer pool and will mean it can be used for a longer time period each year. The improvements are making a very positive difference that is currently being enjoyed by our students and the swimming club. The works done have included new covers, a heating system, a chemical dispenser and new filter sand and this has made a major difference and we thank all those involved in the work to upgrade this fantastic school and community asset. We continue to explore with the District Council the possibility of opening the pool to the public in the future.

### **Next BOT Meeting**

Thursday 30th November 7pm - College Staff room

### **Contact Details for the BOT**

If you would like to contact the Board please email the BOT Secretary on <a href="mailto:sgwynne@tearohacollege.school.nz">sgwynne@tearohacollege.school.nz</a> or you can contact the Chair, Mr Graham Hallett, on 07 8845714. We welcome your feedback.

**Graham Hallett** 

Chairperson

Te Aroha College BOT