



# TE AROHA COLLEGE

*A purpose joyful; A courage blameless*

March 2019

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Chairperson  
Julie Sweeney

Parent Representatives  
Mel Wilson  
Graham Hallett  
Fiona Ryan  
Mark Spooner

Staff Representative  
Rachel Scott

Student Representative  
Keara Costar

Principal  
Heather Gorrie

Secretary  
Sandy Gwynne



## Straight From the BOT Table

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES Changes Afoot

I write this report as we head into the triennial elections for the Board of Trustees, so this is the last update from me as Chair before a change of Board personnel.

Te Aroha College, along with most other New Zealand secondary schools, has set 7<sup>th</sup> June as election day for its Board.

Nominations for 5 parent trustees and 1 staff trustee are currently open so take the opportunity to put your name forward if you are interested in a rewarding role at governance level. Several of the current members of the Board will not be standing for re-election, so there will be quite a few vacancies to be filled.

I take this opportunity to thank all current Board members for their contribution:

Graham Hallett joined the Board in 2010, so a big thanks for his 9 years of service, during which he took on leading roles within property and Board Chair.

Mark Spooner joined the Board in 2013 so this week's meeting brings to an end 6 years of service to Te Aroha College BOARD OF TRUSTEES for him. Mark also served a number of years as Chair. It is very fitting that Board of Trustees Graham and Mark

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



(farmers by profession), will serve their final days as Board members advising on the asset replacement purchase of a new tractor and mower for our grounds staff!

Mel Wilson has completed almost 5 years as a Board of Trustees member for Te Aroha College, with one of her latest legacies being the concept of the school communication app – an idea which she brought to the Board at a meeting late last year.

Fiona Ryan is a relative newcomer from 2018 and it is pleasing that Fiona has announced she will be re-standing for the Board going forward into the next 3-year period.

As current Chair, and a member since February 2017, I would like to publicly thank all the parent representative members of the Board of Trustees current and past who have helped to shape Te Aroha College through their governance roles and responsibilities. Having had 4 children now complete their secondary education and time at Te Aroha College, it is the end of an era for me, and an appropriate time to step down from the Board and my role.

I have thoroughly enjoyed gaining an in depth insight into secondary school education, and am in a much better position to take my hat off to every single employee who goes above and beyond the realms of a 'normal job' to educate and mentor our teenagers through changing times and challenging situations. Thanks Te Aroha College!

Now is the time to sign out and give our best wishes to the incoming Board of 2019-2022. Nominations are open until Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May – take up this opportunity to get involved.

**Julie Sweeney (BOT Chair)**

