



TE AROHA COLLEGE

A purpose joyful; A courage blameless

July 2021

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Chairperson
Teena Cornes

Parent Representatives
Matt Turner
Andrew Gemmell
Debbie Burge
Fiona Ryan

Iwi Consultant
Jill Taylor

Staff Representative
Laura Wade

Student Representative
Braye Stewart

CEO
Heather Gorrie

Secretary
Rebecca Johnson



Board News from the Governance Table - July 2021

The Te Aroha College Board has worked hard for the past term putting our strategic planning for 2021 into full swing. As a team, our Board is very passionate about ensuring all our students gain the best opportunities from our GREAT little school.

As the term comes to an end we would like to thank and acknowledge our teaching staff, support staff and school leadership. We are very fortunate that we have so many talented and dedicated staff who work tirelessly for the success of all our students. As the school newsletter and regular posts on Facebook show, there have been a raft of fantastic achievements this term that showcase the amazing opportunities that are created for all our students.

As a school we have been very fortunate to have gained additional support from the Ministry of Education for a number of key projects all of which are making better opportunities for our students to succeed.

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



Ka Ora Ka Ako Healthy School Lunches programme

The Board is delighted to have been accepted in the Ka Ora Ka Ako Healthy School Lunches programme which will see all students at Te Aroha College provided with free lunches for the next three years starting on the 26th of July. The Board would like to acknowledge the amazing work of our senior students in identifying the need in our community and lobbying the Ministry of Education to gain access to this life-changing programme. Their work through term 1 and 2 in providing affordable food to our students has been very significant in gaining entry to this programme.

We would also like to welcome Karyn Blair to the role of Programme Manager. We are very lucky to have appointed Karyn as she comes with a vast array of skills for this new role and most importantly a passion and love for our students. We look forward to having her on the TAC team.

The student leaders team, supported by Ken Rowe, will continue to run a snack shop in the pavilion for anyone wanting that bit extra during the day and they will continue to run Fun Food Fridays for our student body as well.

The old canteen is being renovated over the holidays to provide the base for lunch pick ups across both break times in the school day.





Building Projects Nearing Completion

We have greatly enjoyed the positive comments from our study body as they have now moved into both B and D blocks after a year of upgrade work. Our projects have remained within their \$ 2.1 million dollar budget and the final finishing work is rolling out. We will see all the deck canopies fitted in this holiday break and as the weather warms back up in early summer, the painting will be completed for both blocks. We are also undertaking a full upgrade of the fire and security systems as part of this completion work. We thank our neighbours for their patience as this work finally draws to a close. This has been a massive undertaking for the school and a year's worth of hard work for our staff as they moved around to accommodate the project work. We believe the results however are well worth the wait with state of the art classrooms and toilets for our students in both blocks.

Junior School Review

The Board received a report from Alex Daroux in his role as 'Across Schools Leader' for the Community of Learning, looking at the recent national testing results for all of our Year 9 and Year 10 students. This has provided a wealth of information on how we can further develop our curriculum across our community to ensure all students are successful and confident in their learning. It particularly highlighted the success of the current Year 9 students' classing structures where we are seeing well settled and confident learners who are showing very positive patterns of success and achievement.

Health, Safety and Wellbeing

The Board has had a significant focus through 2021 on Health, Safety and Wellbeing. As a Board we are committed to ensuring that our students and staff get home safely every day and we provide a safe and organised environment for them both inside school and while learning outside of school. This has seen a review of all of our safety procedures and a full review of Education Outside the Classroom.

As parents and caregivers we ask for your support with EOTC by returning your student permission slips at least a day before any trip departs, as this is a critical part of not only providing informed consent for our activities but ensuring all our safety systems can operate appropriately.

We are also working on supporting wellbeing, ensuring we have a supportive environment that acknowledges and celebrates diversity amongst our school community.



Access to the Te Aroha College Policy Set

We have worked over the past three years to create a digital system of Policy and Procedures for the College that are always live and available. You will all have received an email communicating the password to the School Docs platform that houses the Te Aroha College Policy set. Rebecca Johnson at the office can help if you cannot access this.

Working with our Local Iwi

The Board met with representatives from our local Iwi at the last Board meeting to build ways we can work together to support all our students and tamariki. We are very excited to have Jill Taylor and her team on board with us and look forward to the many planned partnership projects that were discussed.

Uniform changes

Our Student Trustee Braye Stewart reported back on work done to gauge views on facial piercing and facial hair. Although feedback was limited from the parent body over these issues, it is important that there is consultation on how we can make our school uniform work for everyone while still supporting the diverse needs of our students.

Coming up

In the coming months we will be rolling out consultation meetings about changes to the education systems guiding documents. The Statement of National Education and Learning Priorities (NELP) and Tertiary Education Strategy (TES). NELPS replaces earlier documents of NEGs and NAGs to create a more holistic and inclusive view of the importance of education for all youth.

- *LEARNERS AT THE CENTRE* Learners with their whānau are at the centre of education
- *BARRIER FREE ACCESS* Great education opportunities and outcomes are within reach for every learner
- *QUALITY TEACHING AND LEADERSHIP* Quality teaching and leadership make the difference for learners and their whānau
- *FUTURE OF LEARNING AND WORK* Learning that is relevant to the lives of New Zealanders today and throughout their lives
- *WORLD CLASS INCLUSIVE PUBLIC EDUCATION* New Zealand education is trusted and sustainable



1. *Ensure places of learning are safe, inclusive and free from racism, discrimination and bullying*
2. *Have high aspirations for every learner/ākonga, and support these by partnering with their whānau and communities to design and deliver education that responds to their needs, and sustains their identities, languages and cultures*
3. *Reduce barriers to education for all, including for Māori and Pacific learners/ākonga, disabled learners/ākonga and those with learning support needs*
4. *Ensure every learner/ākonga gains sound foundation skills, including language*, literacy and numeracy*
5. *Meaningfully incorporate te reo Māori and tikanga Māori into the everyday life of the place of learning*
6. *Develop staff to strengthen teaching, leadership and learner support capability across the education workforce*
7. *Collaborate with industries and employers to ensure learners/ākonga have the skills, knowledge and pathways to succeed in work*
8. *Enhance the contribution of research and mātauranga Māori in addressing local and global challenges*

Contact and Communication

Our Board members are listed below. We welcomed Laura Wade as the Staff Trustee after Peter Jager stood down due to family commitments.

We remind all Parents, Caregivers and Whānau of the importance of attending, participating and engaging with our school. As a board we are here to help and support all our learners to be the best and we are always available to receive feedback or provide support. If you wish to contact the Board, Rebecca Johnson at the school office is the Board Secretary and is happy to forward on any requests or feedback:

rjohnson@tacol.nz

The Te Aroha College Board

Teena Cornes - Chair

Matt Turner - Parent Trustee

Andrew Gemmell - Parent Trustee

Debbie Burge - Parent Trustee

Fiona Ryan - Parent Trustee

Jill Taylor - Iwi Consultant

Braye Stewart - Student Trustee

Laura Wade - Staff Trustee

Heather Gorrie - CEO

Rebecca Johnson - Secretary

Our next Board meeting is scheduled for the Monday 09 August 2021.

Finally we wish all the students a safe and enjoyable break as they prepare for term 3. We also hope our staff team takes a well-deserved break as they prepare for term 3.

Kind regards

Teena Cornes

Board Chair