



TE AROHA COLLEGE

Parent Representative: Triennial Election 2022

There are 9 candidates for 5 vacancies.



Michael Horan

I returned to Te Aroha from Australia 10 years ago with the desire for my family to be able to enjoy a rural upbringing in a country town that I had the privilege of doing so myself. I am married to my wife Lisa who works as a Veterinary Nurse at Te Aroha Vets and we have two sons aged 11 and 14. I have a strong passion for community sport, coaching junior rugby and cricket in Te Aroha. You can normally find me at Boyd Park on Saturdays during Rugby season supporting our local club teams. I also have a keen interest in distance running and spend most of what spare time I have running the trails of the Kaimai Ranges or rural roads around Te Aroha training for various ultra marathon events.

In my day job I am the Site Engineering Manager at Inghams Te Aroha Primary Processing, forming part of the wider Site Management Team. I enjoy the challenges and responsibilities of the role, as well as the opportunities it provides to connect with different groups of people.

My strengths include understanding the commercial / operational aspects of an organisation including financial reporting and analysis. I believe our children's time at college is one of the most crucial in their lives. Gaining experiences, friendships and learnings that stay with them for the rest of their lives. Having a strong, high performing college in our local community is important both to provide these opportunities for our children, and to give them a sense of connection to our town that they can be proud of.

Christie Grant

My name is Christie Grant and I am a parent of two year 9 students who are currently attending Te Aroha College. I would like to be considered as a parent candidate in the upcoming elections for the



College Board of Trustees as I believe that I can offer a very genuine representation of our wider community.

I have been employed locally with the Bank of New Zealand for the past 9 years assisting local residents with a range of financial solutions. Outside of business hours I have voluntarily served my community as a PTA member at Stanley Avenue School (2019), and as the Secretary (2020) and the

Treasurer (2021) on the Te Aroha Cobra's Junior Football Committee.

I work very well in a team and enjoy having open, candid and sometimes challenging conversations. I'm not afraid to ask questions when necessary and feel that it's important to consider other people's ideas or opinions objectively and without bias.

Throughout the past 9 years in my role as a personal banker to many of Te Aroha's residents I have consistently demonstrated myself to be a reliable and trustworthy member of the community. Getting to know and understand many of the families of our small, yet diverse, community gives me a measure of confidence that I am well placed to represent the current and future families of Te Aroha College.

I would like to join the Board Of Trustees so that I may play my part in ensuring that Te Aroha College remains a safe, inclusive and joyful place to learn.

Angela Kathryn Bolstad

My name is Angela Bolstad, I am a past student of Te Aroha College, and my daughter Grace is currently in year 9 at Te Aroha College.

I am standing for election as a parent representative on the school board of trustees as I have an ideological vision where Te Aroha College provides all students with a safe, secure, nurturing environment focused on students wellbeing. Thus encompassing student's academic, physical, mental, spiritual and social needs are met to allow Te Aroha College students the ability to achieve their highest educational standard and develop skills to set them on a positive life experience.

Some of you may know me from my years as a Plunket Nurse in Te Aroha and surrounding districts where my work ensured children received the best possible start in life, with a positive direction. I served on the Royal New Zealand Plunket Society governance

board for the Waikato district and this experience has given me the skills to conduct the stewardship role of the school board of trustees. I will endeavour to protect students wellbeing, through working in collaboration with the rest of the board of trustees, to develop and set policies so the Te Aroha College's principal can ensure the schools values and teaching staff can reflect fostering student's capacity to achieve their educational goals and set Te Aroha College as a school with positive direction.

I have recently returned to live in Te Aroha after working for 8 years in remote Aboriginal communities in Western Australia. Working with one of the most marginalised indigenous populations in the world I was culturally responsive, respectful, empathetic and used adaptive communication techniques, to listen, clarify and adapt practices to improve health and education outcomes for vulnerable populations. Education plays such an important role in forming our children's futures, assisting change and developing strength during adversity, therefore I am passionate that through being a representative on the governance board of trustees, I will advocate for a Te Aroha College that provides the best possible opportunities for its students. While my profession has a strong health focus I have been involved in developing strategic plans and providing oversight for organisations, my clear communication skills, strong leadership and integrity will help me to ensure that Te Aroha College is responsive to the values and beliefs of the Te Aroha community.

Jill Taylor

Kia ora koutou. I was co-opted onto the TAC Board in August 2021. I believe I have contributed significantly to the Board over the last year, during some very challenging times for the school. There is still much to be done to make our school a safe and encouraging learning environment for all.

I have extensive governance experience, from my children's sporting committees, to Crown and Local Government engagement. I am very pragmatic and focus on solutions. I have an accounting and finance background, but my passion over the last 10 years has been in different governance roles. I am known for getting things done.

I grew up coming to Te Aroha most weekends, riding my horse through town, going to the hot pools and skate park disco's with my cousins. I am a mum of 4, and we moved to permanently live in Te Aroha in July last year.

I decided to go through the election process this term because there is still a lot of work to be done and consistency in the Board would be best for the School and our rangatahi



Vincent Jayme

I am a parent of a student and I have been involved in many sports activities of my son. I would want to extend further assistance to the school if needed.

Fiona Ryan

My name is Fiona Ryan and I am pleased to be standing for re-election to the Te Aroha College Board.



I am a lawyer and co-owner of local law firm Ryan Law. Two of my children Ashton and Olivia are at school currently, another has completed her schooling at TAC already, and the fourth is in primary school. Born and bred in Te Aroha, and an old TAC student myself, I have a strong connection with the school and am looking to ensure it operates with a high standard of excellence for the benefit of our students, staff and community.

Being selected to the board in 2018 and elected the following year, I have enjoyed the challenge of being part of a hard working team over the last four years. It has been fantastic to work alongside, and grow with, other board members while sharing joint purpose of ensuring our school is a great place to be for all who walk through our gates. I'm immensely proud of the care and commitment our board members invest in our school and I hope to be a part of the school's continued growth going forwards. I believe Te Aroha College is a key part of our small community. It's the landing place for our young people and shapes, moulds and supports them into becoming thriving young adults with the greatest of potential.

I have been a member of the Te Aroha Primary School Board for the last 12 years and am fortunate that the nature of the experience and knowledge I have gained from my daily work in the legal profession has brought added value to my board roles. I am highly passionate about our great community and regularly provide pro bono legal services to local charitable and community groups. I am a very capable person and have longevity in my connection with the college, both historically and going forwards.

I strongly believe in encouraging all of our students to be the best they can be. Our children are our future and every one of them is special and unique, not just another number. As a community and individuals, we owe it to our kids to provide them with the best possible schooling environment and I believe I have the right passion, experience and skill set to ensure that happens.

Andrew Gemmell

Kia ora. I was born and raised in Te Aroha and attended Te Aroha College. I live locally with my wife Tania and our children Richie and Greer, who both currently attend Te Aroha College.



I have enjoyed my time over the last three years on the Te Aroha College board and am hoping to be re-elected. During this time, I have gained a good understanding of the requirements and regulations regarding the operation of a school. I am keen to see Te Aroha College continue to develop and improve.

I currently help run the Te Aroha College cricket team and rugby teams and actively support my own children in their sporting adventures. I believe we live in a great community and Te Aroha College has a lot to offer.

Debbie Burge

Hi everyone, I have completed my first term as a board member for Te Aroha College and would love the opportunity to continue this journey and to be considered for a parent rep for the next three years.



My husband Justin and I have three children who have all attended Te Aroha College, I have been a past pupil of the school and lived in Te Aroha my whole life, so have a very good understanding of it as well as having built good connections within the local community.

Having a board that reflects the voice of parents and the community is important, and I believe I can be a member who

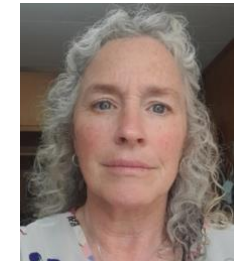
continues to offer that. Being involved in making good decisions and bringing positive direction is what I would offer as a board member.

Education plays such an important role in our children's life and Te Aroha College, though small in numbers, offers a range of participation options both inside and outside the classroom, as well as opportunities for our students that they would not always get in a bigger school. I would like to be part of the process that makes sure the best opportunities possible are offered to our students.

I am excited to have the opportunity to continue to support the teachers and staff and to contribute to the positive direction and future of Te Aroha College.

Julie Blanks

As a parent with two children currently attending Te Aroha College, I would be honoured to be part of the team moving forward. Our family continually has a high opinion of Te Aroha College, the leadership team, and its staff. I have had previous Board experience with Te Aroha Kindergarten, where again I was lucky enough to be part of a group who believed in what they were doing and benefits improving for the child and their families.



For a small College, Te Aroha College certainly punches above its weight, displaying certain activities which I feel very few other Colleges currently offer. One example of this would be Smart Day, where students experience different activities, allowing them to see if they are correct in their education pathway or should another profession and route be taken. Our family can see an incredible benefit to this one element the school offers and discovering all the time, the College has the students best interests in mind. So far, our children have good plans for their careers, being very happy with their preferences and the Colleges assistance to get there. For our youngest, the College has already started assisting to navigate the approach, which I am not sure, they would have got at a bigger College.

To me, all children should enjoy an education, respect their school, themselves, and each other and I hope I am considered for one of the spots on the Board.