



BUCKLAND SCHOOL BOARD OF TRUSTEES

TERM 1 NEWSLETTER 2021

KIA ORA PARENTS AND WHANAU

Welcome to all our new and returning families for the 2021 school year. We appreciate it has been a slightly unsettling start with two small lockdowns already, and we thank you for all the hard work you have been doing to keep your children safe, happy and learning from home each time. As the restrictions have eased it has been great to see our learners settling back into school full of enthusiasm and ready for a positive year ahead. This newsletter provides you with information about some of the work the Board has been doing this term.

ALERT LEVELS AND COVID PROCEDURES

The Board wishes to acknowledge and thank our principal and teaching staff for their hard work and continued efforts to maintain student learning during ever-changing alert levels. Best health practices continue to be a priority for our school, and Mrs Glasgow shares current Covid-19 guidelines via the newsletters and on our website. Thank you for following these guidelines.

BOARD MEETINGS

The Board meets every month to discuss, review and plan governance related issues. Board of Trustee meetings are open meetings and parents/caregivers are welcome to attend as an observer. Dates for meetings will be advertised in school newsletters, Skool Loop app, and on our electronic sign.

Our first meeting of the year was held on 24th February 2021. The Board discussed several items; including approving our 2021 Budget, reviewing 2020 Curriculum results, finalising our 2021 Charter and Strategic Plan, and discussing the ongoing progress of our Property Plan. At this meeting Darryl Goldsack was re-elected to the position of Board Chair unopposed. Our most recent meeting was held on 17th March 2021. The Board discussed several items; including ongoing Covid-19 preparedness, school camps, Kelly Club and received a PE & Health Curriculum report.

Next BOT Meeting: Wednesday 14th April 2021

FINANCE UPDATE

With the most recent lockdown the Board decided to fund Steps Web for all Year 3 - 8 students. We hope this has assisted with the financial burdens families have at the beginning of the year. As a Decile 8 school we do not qualify for the Government donation scheme and so we thank those families who have already made donations to the school. These donations go towards the extras that we provide at Buckland School and the Board always appreciates these.

PROPERTY UPDATE

The Board has recently completed our school Property Plan and this has been submitted to the Ministry of Education, awaiting approval. Our new backcourt Tiger Turf and hoops were installed over the Christmas break and look fantastic. Thanks again to our school PTA for their generous contribution. Additional office space and construction of a new decking area behind the library will commence soon. We look forward to sharing more information from our Property Plan with the school community in due course.

KELLY CLUB UPDATE

Buckland Kelly Club is a fantastic after-school care programme available on site every day at Buckland School. Children enjoy a range of fun activities in a safe and supervised environment between the hours of 3pm and 6pm. There are many benefits to our children, parents and school in having a successful private after-school care programme operating. We recommend you pop in and meet Amila and her team to discover if it could be an option for your family, or visit kellyclub.co.nz/buckland to learn more.



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BOT-HOSTED BBQ AND SWIM EVENING

It was great to see so many students and whanau at our BOT-hosted BBQ and swim evening. We got very lucky with the weather, and even luckier with alert levels! We had a lovely evening and the kids had an awesome time. Thanks to everyone who came along, and to those who helped us pack up at the end.



WHAT DO SCHOOL BOARDS DO?

The Board acts in a stewardship (governance) role and is accountable for the school's performance, emphasises strategic leadership, sets the vision for the school and ensures compliance with legal and policy requirements. The school Board delegates all authority and accountability for day-to-day operational organisation of the school to the principal, who must ensure compliance with both the Board's policy framework and NZ law.

Essentially, the school Board is the governing body and is responsible for the policies. The principal is the chief executive of the school. While the Board is responsible for setting the school's strategic direction and ensuring that the school provides a safe environment and quality education for all its students, we are not responsible for the day to day running of the school or when the lunch bell should ring for example.

Some examples of governance are:

- Sets policies and plans
 - Accountable for outcomes
 - Leads strategic review
 - Accountable for principal and staff performance
 - leads school performance review
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Some examples of management by the principal are:

- Making day to day decisions
 - Acting as chief executive of the school
 - Developing, implementing and reviewing day to day procedures to meet policy expectations
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SCHOOL SURVEYS

In order to set the strategic direction for the school, it's very important that the Board consults with parents, staff and students regularly. Our school surveys are an excellent way to achieve this and we ask for your cooperation in completing these when they take place. In fact, there will be a couple coming out this year so please keep an eye out!



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CONTACTING YOUR BOARD OF TRUSTEES

If you would like to contact the Board regarding any queries, you can email us at: Board@buckland.school.nz. It is important to remember that there are proper channels and procedures in place for concerns and complaints, and these can be found on the school website here: [Home>BOT>Concerns and Complaints Policy & Procedures](#).

If you need assistance and would like a Board member to support you in following the correct processes, please do not hesitate to ask. Additionally, say hello and have a chat next time you see us at school!

Your Buckland School Board members are
(left to right in photo):

- Sarah Herring (Secretary)
- Andrew Maunder
- Mavis Glasgow (Principal)
- Dave Honiss
- Brandon Foster
- Darryl Goldsack (Chairperson)
- Lisa Robertson (Staff Representative)

