



BUCKLAND SCHOOL BOARD

NEWSLETTER

TERM 2, 2021

KIA ORA PARENTS AND WHANAU!

Welcome to your Buckland School Board update for Term 2, 2021. The purpose of these newsletters is to communicate the work of the board back to our school community. We want to share with you what we are doing, how and why we are doing it, and most importantly how our school is progressing.

Please note: Some recent changes to the Education (School Boards) Regulations 2020 have removed the use of the word "Trustees". Going forward, Trustees are now known as Board Members and the Chairperson is now known as the Presiding Member. We will be known as the Buckland School Board.

WORD FROM THE PRESIDING MEMBER

This term seems to have flown by with only a couple of weeks left. I would like to firstly thank our staff for their effort and dedication this term, and in particular with their work in making sure each of our students has a report to bring home shortly. There are many hours spent doing these reports, so once you have received them, if you see your child's teacher around school please join with us in letting them know how much we appreciate them.

Thank you also to Mavis and the board who are working hard currently to update most of the school policies. This is taking a lot of extra time but will make them much easier to work with and share in the future.

Two weeks ago was support staff week. We are fortunate to have a fantastic group of support staff throughout our school who work behind the scenes but have a big impact on keeping the school running smoothly. The staff showed their appreciation by putting on an amazing morning tea for them all.

Next term we will be sending out an online community survey for each family to give us your thoughts and feedback on a number of things. Please look out for this and be sure to respond with your views, as your board uses this to make sure we are following what our school community wants for Buckland School.

We hope you enjoy the last couple of weeks of school before some family time over the holidays, so that we can all return refreshed and ready for term 3.

Thanks,
Darryl Goldsack

BOARD MEETINGS

Your school board meets every month to discuss, review and plan governance related issues. Board meetings are open meetings and members of our school community are welcome to attend as an observer.

If you would like to attend or learn more, please contact the board via email (board@buckland.school.nz) or enquire within the school office.

Additionally, board meeting minutes are public documents and available to view on our school website.

Next BOT Meeting: Wednesday 28 July 2021.



PROPERTY UPDATE

- As you would have seen we have just received a new Portacom office block last week. The services and finishings will be installed over the next couple of weeks along with finishing off the new deck and ramp. This office will be used to provide a dedicated working space for our Learning Support Coordinator, who has until now been temporarily based in the school boardroom.
- Library renovations are underway, and we look forward to these being completed in the near future.
- We are awaiting council consent for a planned extension to our staff room, so this will be the next project undertaken this year.
- We are working with the Ministry of Education to finalise a project to upgrade 7 of our classrooms, and we will keep you updated on this as it progresses.
- A group of our students are currently working to design a minor facelift to our senior playground while we wait for the approval to replace this, hopefully in 2022/2023.



WHAT DO SCHOOL BOARDS DO?

In our last newsletter, we explained a bit about the role of the board and the difference between governance and management. To expand on this further, the board has seven key areas of responsibility:

- **Development and ongoing review of our school charter.**
The charter/strategic plan is a key planning document that sets out the school's objectives and targets. You can find our charter on the school website [here](#).
- **Monitoring and reviewing our school's progress.**
The board uses the charter at board meetings to review progress made towards achieving goals and targets.
- **Putting in place a policy framework.**
The board sets policy for the school to follow. Policies are reviewed on a 3 year cycle or as legislation or needs arise.
- **Employing the principal.**
The board is the governing body. The principal is the chief executive of the school.
- **Managing assets.**
- **Ensuring our school's legal compliance.**
- **Implementing the National Education Guidelines.**
The government sets the National Education Goals for the education system of New Zealand. They can be found [here](#) if you are interested.

POLICY UPDATE

As mentioned above, one of the responsibilities of the board is to put in place a policy framework. We are pleased to confirm that we are in the process of transitioning our school policies onto an online platform at schooldocs.co.nz. SchoolDocs provides us with a comprehensive core set of policies which comply with New Zealand legislation, ERO and Ministry of Education requirements and are tailored specifically to our school. Once completed, our policies and procedures will be accessible online to the whole school community via a password protected website. We look forward to sharing this with you all soon.



FINANCE UPDATE

Our school finances remain healthy. We continue to appreciate the donations of our PTA towards future projects. The upcoming Agricultural Day is our largest fundraising event of the year, and we encourage you to contact the PTA and get involved if you are able to!

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Our teachers are undergoing extensive professional development to use the "PaCT" tool to assess progress and achievement in reading and writing. The tool identifies developmental signposts of knowledge, skills, strategies and attitudes that are linked to the NZ Curriculum. Each signpost gives a comprehensive view of student progress from new entrant to year 10.

School reports will be coming home with students at the end of term 2.

HEALTH & SAFETY

We recently engaged Franklin Trees to safely remove some large trees at back of our school grounds that presented a risk of injury. This project has been completed.

CONTACTING YOUR BOARD

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)



IMPORTANT DATES!

- Monday 28th June: Special assembly for the launch and blessing of our new school values
- Monday 28th June – Friday 2nd July: Matariki activities at school, including a disco on Friday evening
- Friday 9th July: Last day of term 2
- Monday 26th July: First day of term 3

HELPFUL LINKS

A parents' guide to the role of the board:

<https://www.nzsta.org.nz/assets/Information-for-parents/A-parents-guide-to-the-role-of-the-board-of-trustees.compressed.pdf>