



BUCKLAND SCHOOL BOARD

NEWSLETTER

TERM 2, 2022

KIA ORA PARENTS AND WHANAU!

Welcome to your Buckland School Board update for Term 2, 2022. 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.

WORD FROM THE PRESIDING MEMBER

It's hard to believe we are halfway through the year already but I'm sure we are all enjoying a much more settled time back in the classroom. A big thank you to our staff, who are working hard to get all of our students' learning back on track and filling in any gaps, and to our students and school community for their commitment in this also.

As you may well be aware the current School Board term is coming to an end shortly and we have a few members stepping down. We would like to encourage anyone who is keen to step up and stand, to come along to the board meeting on the 27th of July to find out what it is we do and how you can contribute to this important role. If you are unable to attend please feel free to approach a current member to ask any questions or send any questions through to our board email address. We would also encourage you to assist our new PTA members in planning for upcoming events including our AG Day this year.

Lastly, like all schools and organisations we have a set of policies that are set by the Board and which the school follows. This includes a Concern and Complaints policy which not just the school, but you, our parents and caregivers must follow. Please make yourselves familiar with at least the part that makes it clear who you are to approach with these concerns or complaints. Under no circumstances is it acceptable to enter school grounds and approach other students directly. If you are found to be doing such, there will be consequences which may result in you being trespassed from the school grounds. As you can imagine we do not want to go down this route, but we will, as we must protect our students. Please take this seriously as this policy is non-negotiable.

We hope you enjoyed the inaugural public holiday to celebrate Matariki last weekend and were able to spend it with family and friends.

Thanks,
Darryl Goldsack

HEALTH & SAFETY

Covid-19 continues to affect our community and we thank you for your continued efforts in keeping our staff and students safe and well. Please keep sick children at home. If a member of your family tests positive for Covid-19, all in the family must isolate for the required days.

The Board approved the purchase and installation of non-slip tread on the decking area outside the entrance to the library and school hall. This decking area becomes very slippery in wet and cold weather and we have installed this tread to mitigate any risk to staff, students and visitors.

Cold and flu season is upon us, so please remember to keep illnesses away from school to avoid any spread of infections. Hand washing/sanitising is still a priority for everyone at school and mask wearing for Year 4 to 8 and adults visiting is strongly recommended.

Some modifications and repairs have been made to both playgrounds after identifying some areas in need of attention.

Given the disruption to our students' learning over the last two years, our ultimate goal is to have them and our staff in the classroom as much as possible. With this in mind we would like to request that masks continue to be worn indoors within the school at all times for the duration of the winter at this stage.

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

We are happy to report that for those students whose attendance is regular, we are seeing excellent engagement in their learning and this engagement is helping them to make steady progress. Teachers are prioritising the basic subjects; reading, writing and mathematics daily so that gaps due to Covid-19 lockdowns/isolation from the last two + years can be filled. Individual reports will be sent home at the end of term and for those with poor attendance a copy of your child's attendance record for the last two terms will be included.

POLICY UPDATE

A reminder that our school policies and procedures are now hosted by SchoolDocs. These are available to our school community to view and we invite you to visit the site <https://buckland.schooldocs.co.nz>. Our username is "buckland" and password "george72".

FINANCE

The School's Annual Financial Report for 2021 and supporting reports have been placed on our website in the Board folder for community viewing.

SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS: SEPTEMBER 2022

Are you interested in becoming a member of the Buckland School Board? The next election is taking place on 7th September, and nominations for board members will be called for by 15th July. If you are interested in becoming a Board member or have questions about what's involved, then check out the information at the link below. You are welcome to have a chat with one of us! We are happy to help. You are also welcome to attend Board meetings.

For really useful information and resources that explain the role of school boards and information about how to become a school board member, visit: <https://nzsta.org.nz/advice-and-support/information-for-parents/>

Please note! We will have an information evening or event where parents/caregivers can come and learn about being a board member on the 27th of July from 5:30pm, prior to the Board Meeting for July.

BOARD MEETINGS

Your 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 us via email (board@buckland.school.nz). Board meeting minutes are public documents and available to view on our school website.

Next Board Meeting: 27th July starting at 5:30pm with a 30min information event for prospective new Board members.



IMPORTANT DATES!

Friday 8th July: Last Day of Term 2

Monday 25th July: First Day of Term 3

PROPERTY UPDATE

A long-awaited extension/upgrade to our staff room has unfortunately been delayed, however we hope to have works commence in October.

A Board Committee has been formed to work on the development of a new senior playground. This Committee has made significant progress already; gaining student voice and thoroughly researching different types of playgrounds, equipment and providers. Meetings have taken place with four major playground companies and we are pleased to share that we now have a chosen supplier and design. We are excited to deliver a fantastic new playground for our tamariki.

Early investigation into permanent coverings for one of our turfed courts continues. This would be a really beneficial addition to the school in terms of allowing assemblies and outdoor activities to take place in all weather conditions.

A Property Modification project to allow wheelchair accessibility to all areas of the school has begun. Many new ramps and handrails have been installed around the school and further work to complete this project will continue in the next school holiday break.

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 (Presiding Member)
- Lisa Robertson (Staff Representative)

