



**Edendale**  
Primary School

4 July 2019

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES NEWSLETTER

### Who are the new Board members?

The first board meeting of the new election cycle took place this week, the final week of Term 2. All of the previous board members have been re-elected while the term of Stanley Findlay, our co-opted trustee, rolls over. We would like to thank all those of you who took the time to vote and also the other candidates who put their names forward.

Here are the trustees for the 2019-2022 term.

Board Chair:  
Christine Scott

Deputy Board Chair:  
Shameen Hayat

Parent trustees:  
Maryvonne Gray, Ben Hasler, Annie Ualesi, Stanley Findlay

Principal:  
Jonathan Ramsay

Staff trustee:  
Kusam Fausett

Information about the board members will be added soon to the 'Our People' section of the Edendale School website.

### What does the Board of Trustees do?

The board has the overall responsibility for the school. According to Section 75 of the Education Act, the board's most important responsibility is for student achievement. To achieve this, the board is legally responsible for the curriculum, property, personnel, finance and health and safety.

The board sets the overall strategic direction for the school with the principal as the 'chief executive' to manage the school in line with the board's direction and policies.

The board has the responsibility for making sure all students are getting a high quality education to set them up for their lives after school and must provide evidence of how well they are doing things to show to its parents, community and government.

As well as providing leadership for its local community and its principal and staff, the board is elected by the community to ensure the community has a voice in how their school operates.

We will explain more about what is involved with the different aspects of working on the board in a series spread out over future newsletters. Next term: finance.

**Strategic direction**

A big focus for the board this year has been setting the school’s strategic plan. The purpose of the plan is to establish the aims, objectives, directions and targets of the board that will reflect how the school intends to achieve its objectives. We have worked hard to include input from our students, parents, community, and staff at events such as the school picnic and disco to ensure everyone has a say in setting the values and creating the goals we want for our school. We got some great feedback at the disco and you will hear more from us on that next month as we condense that further into our final draft statements with the help of our consultant Mary Chamberlain.

**Property and spending:**

We have an exciting update regarding the swimming pool. Following a tender process, the board decided that Swimsation, our current lesson providers, made the best offer in terms of the maintenance, upgrade and running costs of the pool. Swimsation plans to put a roof over both pools which will give our teaching team more flexible use during the school year and will give school families the option of taking their children (of all ages) for private lessons. We are currently working on the final details with Swimsation and awaiting a contract to be drawn up by the Ministry of Education. Once finalised, this will take a great burden off the school budget but still give us essential water safety education like we’ve always had which will be a great result for the Edendale community.

We are gradually upgrading much of the school furniture stock. We recently bought new chairs, stools and cushions for the Mahi Tahi team and will be doing the same for another team next year. Both teachers and students alike love the cool, modern design of the furniture and the fact they offer more flexibility in their usage.

We have also approved for a new heat pump to be installed in Room 11 as soon as possible and are getting quotes for more heat pumps for the music room and some of the prefabs.

**School donations:**

School donations have been paid by 54% of families so far this year and activity fees have been paid by 81%.

That is a great result and an improvement on this time last year, which was 51% for school donations and 69% for activity fees. The payments allow us to ensure the great programmes we offer at Edendale are maintained and as a board we would like to thank you for supporting the school in this way.

**Education Review Office visit:**

The ERO team will be visiting Edendale in Week 6 of Term 3 to evaluate and review the education and care of students at the school. They will provide the Board with a report of their findings following which the results will be shared publicly. We look forward to showing them all the wonderful things Edendale has to offer, including our art, music and Garden to Table programmes, and the fun and imaginative ways we deliver education in our school.

**Special thanks:**

Firstly, a huge thanks to our amazing PTA who put on a terrific disco night for the kids last month. There was a fantastic turnout with wonderful support from our teachers, many of them in fancy dress, once again making this one of the highlights of the year.

And congratulations to our principal Jonathan for reaching his first year at Edendale this Friday. We are proud of all the work you have done this year and are looking forward to the next few years of our exciting Edendale journey together.

**Contact:**

To get in touch with the Board of Trustees please use the following email:  
[bot@edendale.school.nz](mailto:bot@edendale.school.nz)

**Next meeting:**

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees is Tuesday 13 August at 5.30pm. All welcome to attend and hui are held in the Boardroom [Admin area of the school].

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**Board of Trustees**