



Board of Trustees Newsletter

Mokoia Intermediate

Board Chair's Shout Out

Tena Koutou Katoa

Vision Statement:

'The needs of ākonga are at the heart of all that we do at Mokoia Intermediate School'.

I thought I would start with our Vision Statement. All the decisions we make as a Board we relate back to our Vision Statement.

I would like to congratulate all those students who competed in the Rotomath competition held at John Paul College, the board is so proud of you all. We were especially excited when Mrs McMurdo came into our board meeting to show us your trophy and give us the results from the competition. Well done to you all and thank you to Miss French and Mrs McMurdo for coaching you.

I would like to give a '**BIG SHOUT OUT**' to all the parents, caregivers and teachers who have given up their time to coach the winter sports teams and other extracurricular activities. Without your help and enthusiasm our students wouldn't be able to enjoy the sports and extracurricular activities as they do. The students look fantastic in the new sports uniforms that the board has invested in over the last 2 years.

Stand downs and Suspensions

As you all know we had an incident happen a couple of weeks ago where 15 students were stood down and 5 students were suspended and had to appear before the board disciplinary committee, we were disappointed with their actions. If I'm honest it was a particularly hard process to go through and we were exhausted by the end of it but I think we came out with best outcomes under the circumstances. All these students do have consequences and conditions for their actions, plans are put in place so they can make better decisions. I think one of the key things to come out of this process was peer pressure and social media was a major contributing factor, to what happened. I know we have had a really hard year with COVID-19. There is a lot of stress in the community and maybe the children are picking up on this. I urge all parents and caregivers to have a talk with their children about making good decisions to help them identify an adult who they trust at school. If they see or hear anything they know isn't right, get them to talk to that adult so we are able to stop things escalating. Prevention is always the best option. The school does have several programmes which will be run next term which will focus on peer pressure, social media and some substance abuse.

Staff Changes

We would like to thank the following staff for their service and dedication during their time at Mokoia Intermediate. Whaea Te Aroha Wihapi (K3) who has won a position as a Learning Support Co-ordinator in our Rotorua East Kahui Ako. She has been assigned to our school so won't be going far next term.

We welcome back to Mokoia Intermediate Mr Gareth Upston who will be the new teacher in (K3) starting in Term 4.

The board has also approved the appointment of a new Learning Support Assistant on a fixed term contract for Term 4 who will be based in Kaituna.

Policy Reviews

The following governance policies are being reviewed. If you would like to view any of these policies they are available on our website or alternatively if you would like a copy emailed please email jdufall@mokoia.school.nz

1. Conflict of Interest policy
2. Chair role description policy

Property

The new additions to the playground have been finished this week and I'm sure the children will enjoy them. The board has also approved the quote for new fencing to replace the old fence along the astro turf driveway side so that will be done as soon as possible. We have also approved some new bike racks which we are trialling at the moment. Part of our 5/10 year property plan we identified some key infrastructure that needed replacing. We have engaged our project managers Opus to start the planning process with the hope of getting some work done over the Christmas holidays. Cladding replacement, school painted and the main water pipe from the road into the school needs replacing, once this is done the board has approved the replacement of the schools drinking fountains.

Budget

We will be working on next year's budget over Term 4, the school is financially in a good position. One of the things the board invested in this year was extra learning support assistants to help improve the educational outcomes of our students. The senior leadership team reported back to the board at our last meeting on how positive this has been.

Have a good, restful break. Stay safe.

Regards

Bruce Davidson

Bruce Davidson
Board Chairperson
Mokoia Intermediate

We are Limitless! We are Passionate! We are Mokoia!