



Kelburn Normal School



29 September 2017

Board of Trustees News

The Board met recently for the second of two meetings this term. Andrew's principal report was very full and showed how busy Kelburn Normal School is. It was high in praise for the efforts the children are making to be the best that they can be, and for their enthusiasm and engagement towards their learning. The spirit of the school is strong. He covered the development areas for the staff in their professional learning, who this term have been workshopping the operations and organisation of the new building as well as our Digital Technologies PD contract work. This has been terrific for the teaching staff. Next term the teachers will be visiting some school visits. The roll at the end of term is 335.

Andrew's Blog

Andrew has started a blog that informs families of the journey to our new teaching block in 2018. This blog aims to provide information about what teaching and learning will be like in the different learning spaces and helps to explain how some of this is organised. [You can read Andrew's blog by clicking here.](#)

Andrew will also continue to keep you up to date with the happenings of the school via the weekly *Bird's Eye View* and through the [KNS Facebook page](#).

Health Curriculum consultation

This term the Board engaged with the community through the Health Curriculum Consultation. We had a 37.5% return from families with 75 responses.

We received positive feedback on the leadership of the school and overall the feedback from the parent community was very positive and constructive. We noted the parent's appreciation for the work the school is doing on anti-bullying and manaakitanga and would like to see the effort on this continue.

For families - an emphasis on developing skills in managing relationship with others rated as a high priority. Bullying, cyber bullying, responding to peer pressure and being a good friend outweighed most other topics in the survey.

Other strong themes included:

- children developing awareness in managing their personal safety for themselves and others
- fair play and sportsmanship was a priority in physical activity
- the Y5-8 sexuality education programme was important for families.

A small amount of feedback on healthy eating was noted. While the Board feel that this is a parent driven responsibility, the school supports healthy eating habits and reinforces these messages whenever possible.

Community of Learning

The school has been in conversation with local schools in forming a [Community of Learning](#). The connection with Wellington Girls' College and Wellington College and local primary schools can only be helpful in developing a smooth pathway for our children from Kelburn Normal School through to college. The idea of increasing collaboration and cooperation with the other schools around us fits with the spirit of working together for the best for our children. The development of the CoL will take time and all going to plan is expected to be in place for 2019.

Policy

Our policies and procedures are on the school website under [SchoolDocs](#) (user name: kelburn, password: normal). As part of our Policy review schedule the Board and senior management reviewed the current practices and associated supporting processes. We approved, on behalf of the parent community, the following policies:

- Students with special needs
- Appointments procedure
- Child protection

Personnel

The Board has received the resignation from Hilary Hadfield. Hilary has been at Kelburn for a while and has been on refreshment leave this year. She has decided not to return to her full time teaching position. We thank Hilary for her contribution to our school and wish her all the best for the future.

Building update

Great progress has been made this month with the installation of the structural steel and pouring of the concrete slabs. Although there have been some delays due to the inclement weather and soft ground conditions, we are still on track to move into the new building during term 1 2018. The current construction program has completion mid to late March. Demolition of the existing buildings to make way for the new play spaces will follow on from the move.

As part of the school redevelopment the hall is currently being renovated. We will have use of the hall temporarily in December for school only end of term use. It will then be out of action again for the contractors to complete the work ready for the start of the new term.



After School Care is in operation in Room 13 and the school library as well. Please contact Kim or Richard if you have any questions.

Thanks for your continued patience during this time. We know it is disruptive and we are doing our best to minimise this wherever possible. Very soon we will have a brand new school to enjoy!

Furniture acquisition

The Board approved the purchase of some furniture as a precursor to a significant furniture purchase for the new build. We acknowledge Kayleigh's efforts in Room 7 to 'remove the desks' and the children have had fun making this room happen! Pop in and have a look if you like. Next term Room 8 and Ngaio will have trial furniture in place to allow the children to try out furniture at different heights, and to change the layout of the rooms.

Coming soon

Next term we will be inviting you to participate in a community survey. We would like your feedback so that we can better understand how we are performing as a school and to facilitate continuous improvement.

We are also excited about the launch of a new website for the school. Hard work has been going on behind the scenes and we are looking forward to sharing it with you when we return from the holidays.

Nga mihi nui

Tim, Martin, John, Lisa, Matt, Bob, Susie and Andrew
Kelburn Normal School Board of Trustees