



10 June 2016

Dear Parents / Caregivers

This week our next Board of Trustees has been confirmed. Congratulations to our new trustees and to those from our previous Board who are returning. Thank you to everyone who put their names forward as candidates, we were fortunate to have eight nominees for the five parent representative positions. Once again a big thank you to Clare Ramsey, Andre de Thierry and Chris Plant for their efforts as members of the outgoing Board. Please see overleaf for the BOT election results.

Nga mihi

Vicki Saunders, Principal

Te Kauwhata Primary School – Community Consultation 2016.

Earlier this year, the School sent a survey out to all parents and caregivers, seeking input on a number of key areas around the school. Thank you to all who took the time to complete the survey, especially to those who provided additional feedback via their comments. Below is a summary of the numerical results, plus a selection of comments from the survey.

School Environment & Communication – Very high ratings at the classroom level, though the School needs to do some work to ensure that all parents know who the Team Leaders are and what their role is. Similarly, almost half of you said that you did not know all of the School Trustees, so one of the first jobs for the incoming Board will be to identify themselves to the School community. The School newsletters and e-communication (website and Facebook) were well rated.

Innovative Learning Environment – Once again, the vast majority supported the ILE concept, as well as having an all-male class at the Year 5/6 level. Most felt that both concepts would have less benefit for the lower age groups.

Curriculum – A few suggestions were received about topics to add to the programme, but almost everyone agreed or strongly agreed that TKP was covering the basic curriculum.

Uniforms – it has been almost two years since the new uniforms started to be introduced, and now all of the old uniforms have been phased out. All but one respondent agreed that uniforms were a good way of building the school's identity. The comments were generally based around uniforms making it easier for parents – one less thing for parents and kids to have to decide.

Christian Religious Education – of all the topics covered by the survey, CRE was the only one with no clear result. Exactly half of those surveyed believed that CRE should be offered at TKP, the rest believed it shouldn't be. A similar split existed between those wanting it taught during school hours versus those wanting it done outside of normal school time. The one item that was supported by the majority is that if CRE was taught at TKP, then there should be a simple means to opt out. This topic also delivered the largest number of comments. The most common suggestion was that if there was religious education at school, then it should encompass all religions, not just Christianity.

As a result Christian Religious Education is not being offered at school this year. The Board will keep you informed should a different programme be available in the future.

Overall, you have told us that you are very satisfied with Te Kauwhata Primary, both operationally and as an environment for your children to spend a large part of each day. The results will be very useful to the new Board that has just been elected – thank you again for your valued input.

Grant Clegg

BOT Chair (as at 9 June 2016)

Te Kauwhata Primary School

Board of Trustees Election Declaration of Parent and Staff Election Results

Parent Representative votes:

Clegg, Grant	46	Hickey, Kevin	71
Croucher, Michelle	44	Hughes, Lauren	55
de Thierry, Andre	26	McNamara, Daniel	38
Hansen, Natalie	46	Short, Karen	43
Invalid Votes	0		

I hereby declare the following duly elected.

Grant Clegg
Michelle Croucher
Natalie Hansen
Kevin Hickey
Lauren Hughes

Staff Representative

Berney, Carolyn	10	Plant, Chris	7
Invalid Votes	0		

I hereby declare Carolyn Berney **duly elected.**

Signed

Brenda Hitchcock
Returning Officer