



Ellerslie School

Board of Trustees Newsletter

April 2017

A Word from the Chair

Kia ora koutou

It's hard to believe that we are at the end of the first term already. Every year we say it, but it seems that time just creeps up even faster, and we chase our tails to stay on top of things. It's no different for the Board, as we enter the second year of a three year term – typically meaning we have a busy year ahead of us in which to get things done.

The role of the Board of Trustees includes a number of things, some of which we have outlined further in this newsletter. At a high level, though, a school board must:

“ perform its functions and exercise its powers in such a way as to ensure that every student at the school is able to attain his or her highest possible standard in educational achievement.”

Essentially this means that the board is tasked to:

- establish the purpose of the school as set out in **the charter** (see later in this newsletter for more on this)
- **allocate funds and resources and approve spending to** enable the implementation of the charter goals
- **establish the schools identity** in the community and ensure that consultation takes place
- **report** to the government and the school community
- ensure that all legislative requirements are met

With all of this in mind, and having had Lisa now on board for two full terms, we are excited to see so many positive changes for the school and its community – and thank you all for engaging with Lisa and the Board to guide us with our future direction.

Coming to the end of one of our primary property projects (a new 24 classroom block is pretty impressive in this current economic climate) doesn't

mean we can now rest on our laurels (although it is great to see the students thriving in the spaces).

So, moving forward, we are embarking on the next 10 year property plan and looking forward as to what the school needs, and how we can fund it.

Which brings me to donations. Whilst we understand that donations are voluntary from parents to the school, it is also money which the Board relies on to keep things such as the music teacher and curriculum, and the technology offering – things that the Ministry of Education do not fund for us otherwise. Over the past year, we have set up more ways to make it easier for you to pay, in order that we can meet our budgets to keep providing these “extras” for our students.

The Board appreciates the work, time and donations that the parent community make, and look forward to the future, where we are focused on making Ellerslie School the best it can be.

An enormous thank you

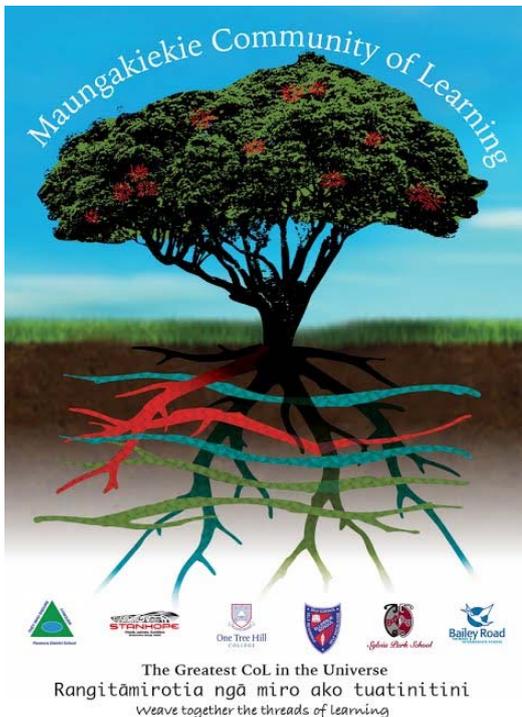
Eleven years ago Ellerslie School were lucky enough to have the wonderful Dawn Findlay join as Finance Officer. During her time at Ellerslie School, Dawn has dealt with a number of highs and lows including the Ministry's infamous Novopay debacle, a complete property rebuild and the introduction of online payments for Ellerslie School.

The Board would like to acknowledge the **enormous** input that Dawn has had into where we are today, and to offer a special thank you for the incredible help she has offered to Lisa in her first months as Principal. Without Dawn, it would have been a **lot** harder.

As Dawn embarks on a calmer life, with less working hours per week, we wish her all the very best and on behalf of the school community - Thank you, Dawn!

Nga mihi nui

Tara



Maungakiekie Community of Learning (Manungakiekie Kahui Ako)

At the last Board meeting we had a discussion about how the Maungakiekie Community of Learning (Kahui Ako) was progressing, and Lisa expressed her optimism that the community of learning would have a positive effect on the future development of Eilerslie School.

There are mutually beneficial learning that the Kahui Ako schools could share with each other, as well as improved transitions for children between the various school levels.

The other schools in the Manungakiekie Kahui Ako are:

- One Tree Hill College
- Bailey Road School
- Stanhope Road School
- Sylvia Park School and
- Panmure District School.

For more information you can visit [here](https://sites.google.com/ellerslie.school.nz/maungakiekiecol/home) (<https://sites.google.com/ellerslie.school.nz/maungakiekiecol/home>).

The Charter

The Ministry of Education determines that all school's charters set out the main aims, purposes and objectives. Each year, it is updated by the Board of Trustees and is sent to the Ministry of Education by 1 March as required by legislation. It incorporates the school's strategic plan including our goals for the three years ending December 2019 along with annual goals and targets for improving student learning outcomes in 2017.

This year we have condensed Eilerslie School's charter down to one digestible page so that we can all clearly see what we are aiming for.

2017 Charter Targets

As part of our charter, the Board are required to provide a plan for high quality learning opportunities to meet the educational needs of all of our students. Schools are required to set targets and plan strategically, to focus their actions, and ensure they make a difference for any students at risk of not achieving.

To reduce identified achievement gaps, leaders and teachers must also know whether their planned actions are having the desired effect on the students that need to make the most progress.

The following have been set as Eilerslie School's Student Achievement Targets for 2017:

- *90% of all students achieving At or Above the National Standard in Mathematics, by the end of 2017*
- *Mathematics Pasifika Students: To have 83% achieving At or Above the National Standards in Mathematics by the end of 2017.*
- *Writing- Year 8: To achieve 70.2% students achieving At or Above the National Standards in Writing by the end of 2017.*
- *Reading Year 1 - To have 82.4% of all students At or Above expectations in Reading in Year 1 by the end of Year 2017.*

Measuring Charter Goals

The Board uses the national education priorities set by the Government as a framework to develop school-wide goals. Raising student achievement and agency, increasing teacher effectiveness and leadership, and connecting honestly and openly with our community to improve student outcomes will be key focus areas for 2017.

The education provided will challenge them to achieve personal standards of excellence and grow their understanding of learning and of themselves as a learner 'To be the best we can be'. The school curriculum is designed to achieve these purposes. This plan shows how the school expects to meet the aspirations of the school's community and also how it

intends to contribute towards the achievement of national educational priorities. Throughout the year we will complete a comprehensive review of our progress made. We will also conduct a variety of parent/whanau surveys for stakeholder feedback (Principals email group, Health and PE consultation, Maori and Pasifika consultation).

We will use this information as part of our annual planning process, which in turn will determine the shape of the following years' annual plan. The Board of Trustees, through the Principal and staff at Ellerslie School, will ensure the school meets the goals and objectives set out in this plan within the limits of the resources available.

A copy of our one pager charter document is below:



OUR VALUES

Self reverence
(*respect*)

Self knowledge
(*knowing*)

Self control
(*manners*)

	Objective	Goal
Learning and Teaching	Community of Learning	To provide high quality learning and teaching programmes throughout the school, built on a strong literacy and numeracy foundation
	Innovation	Each student learns to develop and demonstrate the knowledge, skills, practices and attitudes necessary to be engaged, connected citizens capable of shaping our future. By embracing a collaborative approach to teaching and learning we are preparing our children for a changing world.
	Language of Learning	The Ellerslie learner will develop and understand the skills and attributes to be an effective lifelong learner
	Culturally Responsive Practice	All students are engaged in their learning and are achieving educational success
Community	Communication/Engagement	To develop strong links of communication and engagement amongst all members of the community

Policies

Whilst balancing the needs of our students with this directed learning as per our charter, we also strive to ensure that all policies and procedures not only meet Ministry of Education and statutory requirements but are also relevant and accessible to all of our stakeholders. To this end, we are undertaking a comprehensive review of policies and procedures and are uploading these to the website as they are completed.

These can be accessed via <http://www.ellerslie.school.nz/about/policies-and-procedures/>

Property update

So far in 2017 we have seen the installation of drinking fountains into the central courtyard space and removal of the temporary classrooms from the field. It is really exciting to finally be getting the field back in use, which we expect will occur over the coming months once repairs and reseeding have been undertaken. We are hugely appreciative of everyone's perseverance with the inconveniences that the property improvements cause when construction work is taking place. At last we are seeing the fruits of these frustrations!

Donations

Another reminder on how you can pay your donations. Remember that without these funds, the school is unable to offer the educational elements that the Ministry don't fund – this includes our wonderful music suite and teacher and much of the technology the students are accessing.

We understand that not everyone can pay in full, but please remember that every donation - or part donation - helps us to keep these opportunities available for our students.

You can pay your donations at the school office, or via the Kindo website, which is accessible from the school website www.ellerslie.school.nz

Welcome to Ellerslie School

Welcome to Ellerslie School. Today we are a full primary (Year 1 - 8) that has enjoyed a long history since its establishment in May 1877

It is the belief of our learning community that we are all here, teachers, parents and students to enrich children's learning. It is the close co-operation between parents and teachers that ensures quality educational experiences for our students.

Our programmes are structured to cater for the needs of each individual, so that they may develop to their full potential. Our aim is to deliver to pupils, rich and wide-ranging programmes, from this curriculum children will acquire knowledge, learn skills and form attitudes, which will help their development, now and in the future.

We are focused on working with you the whānau, and your child. You want your child to thrive. To be happy and focused in an environment that encourages, supports and inspires them in every way. Once again, welcome to the Ellerslie family and we look forward to supporting your child to be the best they can.

Mission Statement
"To be the best that we can be."

KINDO SCHOOL SHOP

CURRENT ERO REPORT

SCHOOL CHARTER

Your board

Jacque Allen (Personnel and Communications)
Andrew Buchanan (Property)
Laura Campbell (Staff Rep)
Rebecca Chenery (Finance)
Lisa Harland (Principal)
Jennifer Perry (Policies)
Tara Robinson (Chair)

The next Ellerslie School Board of Trustees meeting is 6.30pm, Monday 15 May in the school boardroom.

These are public meetings. If you wish to raise an item at this meeting, please contact the Chair prior.

You can contact the Board on board@ellerslie.school.nz