Dunedin Rudolf Steiner School Board Meeting

Tuesday 11 August 2026 from 5.30pm

The Board is legally responsible for the school. Our role is to watch the far horizon, to support its direction as a Steiner school, and to ensure it arrives safely within the law. The Board provides guidelines within which the staff manage the school.

Present: Anna Noble (AN), Esther Gilbert (EG), Zoē Cummings (ZC), Margo Lett (ML), Nina Veenstra(NV), Kussi Hurtado (KH), Clare Ridout (CR), Michelle McGrath(MM), Trisha Geraets (TG), Tony Miles

Apologies- none.

1. Conflicts of interest, minutes, matters arising	Who
The hui started with a karakia and a waiata. Special Character Reading – Main lesson by Hoffman discussed. Register of conflicts of interests – no new conflicts of interest declared Approved accuracy of prior minutes of 9 June 2026 Moved ZC, seconded TG. Matters arising: All cleared or covered by this hui. Kākāpō camp happening in 2027 not this year. CR yet to speak to Solar person. ML has provided a helpful builder as suggested at last hui. Authorisation of 6 year olds in kindergarten: Two six year olds authorised for education in the kindergarten. Approved – moved ML, seconded KH.	

2. Tumuaki/ Principals Report	Who
As per report. Orchestra plan is very welcome. Annual Plan update – Roll cap expression of interest is with MoE, unlikely to hear until 2027/8. Concern that staffing shortage at MoE may be causing delay. West Harbour schools may have indicated that they are happy to be consulted in term 4 this year and have indicated their support in the past. Marae visit still planned for term 4 with an overnighter for the older class. Literacy and Numeracy – report attached. MM and ML have been to a training course on this. Some explanations of assessments done in the school were provided and how assessment is moderated across teachers so there is a cohesive approach. More detail in class by class, ethnicity etc is provided in the year end reports. May need more teacher aide time in 2027 for literacy and numeracy and for other reasons. Attendance – report attached. No concerns. AN moved that her report is accepted, MM seconded.	

3. Finance Report	Who
Report attached. Some explanations given for some lines – for example the Furntiture and Equipment budget where we are also spending unspent Furniture and Equipment grant money from prior years, International fee for 2027 approved – EG moved ZC seconded. It was commented on how Anna's work to enmable the school to take International Students has had a positive impact on financial well-being. The budget for 2027 was provided as a very rough draft to set the ball rolling, but this will be revisited in November when funding is confirmed. A budget balance sheet and cashflow will be provided then too. KH moved Finance report accepted, MM seconded.	

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4. Board election	Who
Trisha has resigned as Staff rep. By election will be held. CR appointed as Returning officer. Election date 14 September. Many thanks to Trisha for her work.	

5. Policies and Procedures	Who
No community feedback was given in the consultation. The Board approved the revised Policies and Procedures. Moved EG seconded ZC . Concern raised about children's photos on the internet and whether parents are making an informed choice. Are we explicit enough in how photos are used. For example if a photo is in the newsletter, it would then be on the internet. Point 4 reference to consent or information was queried in the Privacy Policy. More clarification on enrolment or later about what information on children that may be shared with which 3rd parties. This still needs to be resolved by the Board.	Board

6. Student Achievement workshop	Who
Margot and Michelle attended this workshop. Useful session. Does the Board want to see reports on students not achieving more regularly than twice a year. Could have a summary report from Learning Support to the Board. MM and ML will amend the procedure on the Guidelines on the Principal's curriculum report to the Board and bring it to the next Board hui for approval prior to consultation. The school processes should be clear on how parents are reported to if a child is below the expected standard. Parents are always informed if a child is receiving Learning Support.	MM/ML

7. Joint hui	Who
Report from AN on hui. MM added the point that it would be good to keep alumni informed on a six monthly basis.	

8. Props Report	Who
KH reported that it has been good to have two potential new members at the hui. Site development work is underway Property work is also scheduled – girls' toilets and window replacement for class Miro. Work on trees and external painting is also being reviewed.	

9. Next meeting date	Who
Tuesday 1st September at 5.30pm	

Closing verse.

Meeting ended at 7.43 pm

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