

Dunedin Rudolf Steiner School Board Meeting

Tuesday 13 August 2024 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 : Clare Ridout (Board Secretary), Natalie Bartonova (NB), Anna Noble (AN), Esther Gilbert (EG), Angela Clark – on-line (AC), James Guthrie (JG), Natalie Bartonova, Kesava Sampath – on-line(KS). Kussi Hurtado (KH).

Apologies : Jerry Hsu

Meeting opened with a karakia and waiata

1. Conflicts of interest, minutes, matters arising	Who
<p>Reading: Continued of the Education of the Child p8 to 17. Discussion of ideas ensued. Approval of accuracy of prior minutes of 11 June 2024 EG moved, NB seconded Apologies from Jerry. Conflict of Interest – No new conflicts of interest.</p> <p>Matters arising: No further problems with visiting dogs. The College of Teachers met to discuss facilities that should be on the site plan – a google doc was created for staff to add to. CR will provide feedback to Props on this. Approval of 6 year olds in kindergarten who are enrolled at school: there are no children turning 6 before the next Board meeting.</p>	

2. Principals report	Who
<p>The Report had been circulated to all.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AN gave some feedback on her trip to Steiner Schools in Germany. Noted German schools are not run by Principals but by a College of Teachers, who work extra time to manage the schools. Also, that all children start school across all schools at age of 6 or 7, rather than it being a Steiner specific thing. Therefore, the start age is not a barrier to enrolment. • The upcoming Parent experience evening is described in tomorrow’s newsletter. Will try to get better parent engagement this time. Make it more explicit that it is for school and kindergarten parents. • Barriers to parent attendance at school parent teacher meetings? No specific barriers- parents may decide not to come if there are no questions, or if their questions have already been addressed directly with the teacher. • Open day tour for the school poorly attended. A few more attendees for kindergarten. Will keep on doing one a term. • Disco well attended and enjoyable. • Stand down process - AC will send out information to the Board so it is ready to form a disciplinary committee if required. AC volunteered to be on the committee that would make the decision. Kussi , Esther and Kesava also willing to be part of this. The Board approved the motion that it delegates its decision-making to this committee which will have at least 3 members. Moved by Kes and seconded NB. What conflicts of interest are there in joining the subcommittee - eg if you have a child in the class? If you know the family? Each individual would have to determine. 	AC

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3. Staff Survey	Who
Management unit was also discussed with staff - there is one spare that has not been taken up. Staff have not come up with this block of work that could use the MU. It has not yet been suggested to staff that CR comes to meetings to discuss finances but this can be offered. Finance updates on class budgets are circulated to teachers each month. JG suggested that budget work could include discussion of needs for Class 3 building projects, Instruments – recorders. Budgets were discussed with teachers last September.	
4. Board self review	Who
See attached report. To unfold over the next meetings – AC will work through the action points.	AC
5. Proprietors	Who
Integration Agreement - looking to be updated Audit complete and no concerns After School Care - price raise will happen over time. The programme is not yet financially breaking even. Kindy numbers are low KH moved that his report is accepted. EG seconds.	
6. AOB	Who
NB will always be 10 minutes late for Board hui on Tuesdays as her work finishes at 5.15pm.	

Closing verse. Meeting ended 7.35 pm **Next meeting date – 5.30pm Tuesday 10 September.**

Key to Initials : Clare Ridout (CR), Management Team (MT), Proprietors Trust (Props), James Guthrie (JG), Natalie Bartonova (NB), Jerry Hsu (JH), Anna Noble (AN), Esther Gilbert (EG), Angela Clark (AC), Kesava Sampath (KS).