Dunedin Rudolf Steiner School Board Meeting

Tuesday 1 September 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) via Zoom, Clare Ridout (CR), Tony Miles, James Guthrie.

Apologies- Kussi Hurtado (KH), Michelle McGrath(MM).

1. Conflicts of interest, minutes, matters arising	Who
The hui started with a karakia and a waiata. Special Character Reading – "The Teacher" by Hoffman discussed. Felt that the concept of home visits by teachers was rather outdated. The expectation that the school has of the tamariki's homelife discussed - generally it was considered that parents are expected to support this education at home. Discussion and explanation of teachers' professional development which was considered to be sufficient. Register of conflicts of interests – no new conflicts of interest declared Approved accuracy of prior minutes of 11 August 2026 Moved ZC, seconded TM. Matters arising: None, except for the Student Achievement reporting which is covered in an agenda item. Authorisation of 6 year olds in kindergarten: Two six year olds authorised for education in the kindergarten. Approved – moved ZC, seconded EG.	

2. Tumuaki/ Principals Report	Who
Taken as read. Disco was very successful. Roll numbers to be amended in the report. With these changes AN moves that her report is accepted. EG seconded. Update to the Annual implantation plan was also accepted. AN moved, EG seconded.	

3. New board member	Who
James Guthrie was welcomed to the Board as the new staff rep.	

4. In committee item matter	Who
At 6.04 pm - under Section 48 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, ZC moved that the Board should exclude the public and move into committee to discuss this section of the agenda item which relates to individuals. *MOVE OUT OF COMMITTEE –ZC moves that the Board moves out of Committee at 6.10 pm and asked that recommendations of Board be approved by Open Board.*	

5. Student achievement reporting	Who
This agenda item came out of training that ML and MM attended. A proposal has been made to adjust the nature of the Principal reporting on student achievement, including reporting termly on children who are not at the expected standard. Discussion ensued and it was agreed that the important thing is for the Board to know that there is a system in place for children to be supported to progress, and that the processes are	

Dunedin Rudolf Steiner School Board Meeting

5. Student achievement reporting	Who
working well. The Learning Support Coordinator role has been new over 2025 and 2026 and is being developed further every year. Literacy and Numeracy reports should be August and February – or mid year and start of year. Board agreed that the six monthly reporting should be provided on a class by class basis. There will also be a termly updated on learning support. ML moved that the procedure is amended with the recommendations put forward. ZC seconds. School should also review the procedure on challenged and gifted procedures.	AN

6. Health and Safety report	Who
Health and safety report has been provided NV. Water and emergency supplies have yet to be addressed. Move to get the can collection arranged from families and then donate them. Co2 monitors – need to check whether all classes have them. Moved NV, seconded EG.	CR CR

7. Board report to the community	Who
It was agreed that the Board would report once a term, perhaps against the strategic goals. Brevity would be good. Reporting against strategic goals could be done with the help of the annual implementation plan. Agreed that there will be a termly item from the Board. First one being "community" – ZC will write the first one in Term 4. One Goal per newsletter.	ZC

ZC and NV left the hui. 6.54pm

8. Review of Standdown procedure	Who
The board has received the procedure for their information. This is so that the Board is ready in case there is a standdown, suspension or exclusion. There was some clarification on the procedure to ensure the Board is prepared for such cases.	

9. Proprietors Report	Who
Report from Kussi : The only item of interest to the Board at recent Trust meeting was that a question was raised by one member around the board making policy decisions "without consulting" the proprietors. This was specifically in regard to the decision about supporting Te Tiriti. This was an Education Act amendment brought in by the Ministry relating to schools and therefore a Board matter.	

Dunedin Rudolf Steiner School Board Meeting

9. Proprietors Report	Who
It was clarified to the Proprietors that the Board makes policy decisions for the School and that the proprietors do have a voice on the Board through the representative to voice any concerns that relate to the Proprietors areas of responsibility (Property, Kindergarten and Special Character). KH commented that this arrangement is very one-sided and wondered if the Board would like to have a representative on the Proprietors Trust. He stated that there is a Trust AGM on the 22nd of September and it could be a timely place to make any changes there that are needed. KH is happy to continue to be a bridge between both groups if the board is happy with the current arrangement. The Board members are aware that there are three people who attend the Board who attend the Props meetings and therefore feel that there is adequate representation.. EG moved that the Board considers the one Props rep on the Board is adequate representation on the Trust, seconded ML.	

10. Next meeting date	Who
Tuesday 10 November at 5.30pm	

Closing verse.

Meeting ended at 7.15 pm