

# Dunedin Rudolf Steiner School Board Meeting

Monday 21 August 2023 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), Michelle McGrath (MM), Natalie Bartonova (NB), Anna Noble (AN), Esther Gilbert (EG), Jerry Hsu (JH), Angela Clark (AC), Kesava Sampath (KS) (late), Emily Czibere (EC)

Apologies : none

<b>1. Karakia, apologies, conflict of interest</b>	<b>Who</b>
As above. No conflicts of interests declared.	
<b>2. Reading</b>	<b>Who</b>
This raised questions such as how does the school manage the development needs of children when we are looking at combining 2 year levels. EC gave some explanation of composing approach. Noted how well the approach aligns with the Whare Tapa Whā model. Some discussion on Pūrākau being cultural narratives and not myths.	
<b>3. Authorisation of six year olds</b>	<b>Who</b>
Approved the education of a school enrolled child within the kindergarten - Tova Dingemans – Approved by MM, EC	
<b>4. Past minutes</b>	<b>Who</b>
JH approved as accurate, AC seconded. <b>Matters arising</b> Physical restraint and Staff survey - both will be included in meeting discussion below.	
<b>5. Principals Report</b>	<b>Who</b>
As per the report. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Joint hui feedback – action points to be addressed.</li><li>• Feedback on positive meeting with Nikki from Puketeraki. It was suggested that her first step could be to meet with Māori families.</li><li>• AN also reported on the Māori teaching resources which should be available for 2024.</li><li>• EOTC proposal for Class 3 and 4 camp – JH approves, AC seconds. Some question about the distance to be travelled.</li><li>• Matariki wishes – 6 from parents of school children, 7 from kindy. Can we do things to improve the response rate? Some discussion, but it was not an official survey. Could run a pilot to ensure the exercise is understood?</li><li>• Physical Restraint and Seclusion – procedure represented - NB approved, EC seconded</li></ul>	
<b>6. Literacy and Numeracy</b>	<b>Who</b>
As per report.	

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<b>6. Literacy and Numeracy</b>	<b>Who</b>
<p>The teacher aide's work has made a huge difference for some children.</p> <p>There was a suggestion that we could get feedback from alumni and how they transition to high school. For example invite them back after a year.</p> <p>Why is the maths lower? This was explained as partly due to the criteria of assessment. Ie if you have not yet taught fractions the child cannot be seen as achieving in that area, whereas a child is always reading.</p> <p>Have we also sought feedback from parents of children who have come from other schools. KS commented on his family's very positive experience.</p> <p>Strong reading results – probably partly due to the fact that there is no screen time.</p>	
<b>7. Health and Safety</b>	<b>Who</b>
<p>Fire drill done 10<sup>th</sup> August, Earthquake practice to be done once a term.</p> <p>Lockdown – drill to be done, blinds required in some areas.</p> <p>Emergency supplies to be reviewed</p> <p>Should plan for landslips in this area and the school being cut off.</p> <p>Action plan to check all our supplies etc</p>	MT
<b>8. Planning and Reporting</b>	<b>Who</b>
<p>As per powerpoint. Need to show that we are listening to the community.</p> <p>Raphael House example was provided.</p> <p>Engagement with drafting a method of consultation – EC will ask teachers, AN will be involved, and EC, members of Props, Board.</p> <p>Plan this term, consult next term.</p> <p>JH will send out an invite. Should be a fun event/ meeting.</p> <p><b>Panel for interviews of new class teacher</b> – EC, AC, AN. Invite a Prop. (Otherwise JH can be involved).</p>	JH
<b>9. Policies</b>	
Legislation being updated, will come back to next meeting	
<b>10. Staff survey</b>	<b>Who</b>
<p>Analysis by Kesava presented.</p> <p>Seem like emotional needs may not be being met. The Board should not have a result with any employee who does not feel safe. Are the concerns coming from one or more people? This could be seen on the survey results even if anonymous.</p> <p>What do staff need to make them feel better – how would they feel safe, acknowledged etc</p> <p>Need more opportunities for people to answer why.</p> <p>Could survey again, asking for three things to make life at work better, and add Michelle as a potential contact if people do not want to make use of AN's open door. This could go out with a summary of positives and a couple of points of concern.</p>	MT

**Next meeting date – Monday 18 September**

Closing verse

Key to Initials : Clare Ridout (CR), Management Team (MT), Proprietors Trust (Props), Emily Czibere (EC, Michelle McGrath (MM), Natalie Bartonova (NB, Jerry Hsu (JH), Anna Noble (AN), Esther Gilbert (EG), Angela Clark (AC).