

Minutes of Waikite Valley School Board of Trustees Meeting,

Tuesday 14th May 2019, WVS Staffroom.

ADMINISTRATION

Present: Lisa Dinning, Teresa Topp, Shelley Schnuriger, Katie Wheeler, Henry Worsp & Andrew La Grouw

Apologies: Cam Negus, Running late

In Attendance: Kelly Curtis (Secretary)

Meeting opened: 6.30pm

Confirmation of previous meeting minutes: Taken as read, Approved

Matters arising: School House Tenancy Agreement

The Board discussed whether the words "no pets" were accurate. Pets such as lambs or calves are fine. The wording needs to be "Pets by negotiation" in future tenancy agreements for the property.

Correspondence: As per list circulated in meeting pack

Matters arising: Boiler removal quote - \$1380.00

-Scrap Metal merchants weren't interested in it.

-The quote was for 2 days, it could be less if it took 1 day.

Cam arrived 6.45

- Cam offered to look at removing it, Henry said he would help.

MONITORING

Principals Report: Previously circulated.

- ✓ The roll is 73. June 1st will change again. As far as we know there are more coming in than leaving.
- ✓ Property – Boiler removal as discussed above.
- ✓ Personel – Kate Stubbs is the New ORRs funded Teacher Aide.
- ✓ Health & Safety - Nothing to report.
- ✓ Curriculum – as stated in Principals Report. Hockey Teams (4) are up and running.
- ✓ Community Engagement – Teresa discussed holding a Parenting toolbox workshop for the Teenage years. Will look into costing.
- ✓ A grant for 15k towards a Specialist Support Teacher has been approved by Infinity Foundation. Great news. Andrew thanked Tersea for her work in gaining this grant. This will be used to fund teacher time to put together extra resources for our students with additional learning needs.

School House Insulation

Shelley thanked those involved in installing the school house insulation.

The left over will be purchased from the school by Henry Worsp (approximately 3 or 4 bags at \$45.00 each).

The saving by installing it ourselves , and discounted Carters price meant we saved around \$3000.00

Krista said the difference it has made is very noticeable.

Finance - The credit card statement was placed in everyone's Board pack. A couple of queries were clarified. Will be included in future packs – with sheet for Education Services for clarification. Straight forward.

Governance Policies 19 - 21

Change to be made to the wording of the heading from Concerns and Complaints Process to Concerns and Complaints Procedure.

Complaints need to be encouraged to be put in writing to ensure the information is understood clearly.

BOT Members Chart: Please change Shelley's surname, Lisa's phone number and reviewed date are corrected.

DISCUSSIONS/DECISIONS

Strategic Aim Discussion The Board discussed Learning and Teaching as stated in the Annual School Improvement plan 2019.

Our ERO feedback shows we are working well towards our improvement plan goals.

Wellbeing and Mindfulness is being used more and more within our school. It can take a while for everyone to get on board and needs to be supported wholeheartedly. We are in the fortunate position where most staff now practise for their own benefit – this is being reflected in classroom practise.

Children struggle to learn if they are in the wrong state of mind. Mindfulness can help them to engage more fully with learning.

Robust discussions were had with the ERO reviewers regarding the meaning of "Learner Agency". Differing opinions can lead to different judgements of our approach.

The Reviewers felt the children didn't know their "next steps" for learning, however, the staff argued that the children were fully engaged with their learning. The Staff felt that some of the questions were asked out of context (asked in the staffroom at the Student interview) and felt if it was asked in the classroom the students would have had immediate context to consider. The commitment and passion of our staff was strongly reflected in the final report and we can be proud of the calibre of our Waikite Valley School staff.

School House The Board discussed the School house maintenance and pets.

Shelley discussed jobs she'd like the Tenants to get done immediately, including: waterblasting the deck, cleaning up the lawns, removing rubbish and cleaning up the shower area.

We'd like to know where the smoke alarm from the hall way is.

Does the Board need to remind the Tenants of the original tenancy agreement that states that tenancy will be terminated if the conditions regarding pets are breached in any way?

The Board agreed to get quotes for a Corrugated iron fence.

The Health and Safety side of the Dogs in the school house was discussed. A sturdy fence would allay concerns.

Jobs the Board need to address:

Replace gate post

Repair wood shed

Investigate new fence. Entire yard needs to be enclosed.

If Campbell is unable to fix, let us know and Pat could take over.

Leave the farm side of the fence as it is .

Draw up a report for Krista with recommendations.

Lock Down Procedure

The Board discussed Lockdown procedures.

We need a basic outline – what signal to use, different bell ring that needs to be taught to kids.

What do we do next – move to room 3, ring 111.

What will be the best way to contact the greater community?

We need a uniform way to contact parents – face book page seems the best way at this stage.

Are panicked parents going to look at a facebook page?

Could we send a school wide text message?

Teresa will be attending a meeting with the MOE and the Police.

A draft will be prepared, approved by the board and put in place.

Drills will be run to see if it is effective.

The Board talked about the convenience of having a mobile school phone in this type of situation.

Curriculum Review - English

The Board discussed the English Curriculum.

Teresa explained and answered questions such as :

What is the Core Curriculum? This is what we work to – Reading , writing, Maths, Science, Social Studies Technology and Health & P.E. These are itemised with strands children should be forming understanding about.

The Board discussed spelling and handwriting. How families valued handwriting, the benefits it had for brain development because of cross patterning , and the development of fine motor skills.

We will continue to survey the community to ensure our local curriculum captures what our school parents value .

Support Staff Hourly Rate

This is an ongoing Board conversation, particularly for positions where staff turn over is high (e.g. cleaner , After School Care Supervisor.

Its been ok lately, staffing has been relatively stable.

The way Support Staff are paid, pay scales, duties and responsibilities were discussed .

The Board stressed the importance of Support Staff and the needed support they provide for Teachers and students, their importance to children's learning . It was asked if what they are being paid was realistic. Teresa will review their pay and ensure an equitable rate, within the realities of our school budget. Could look at for setting the 2020 budget.

Teachers Strike – 29th Mat 2019.

The Board discussed the imminent Teachers strike.

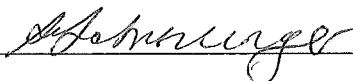
It was emphasised that this strike action was not about pay increase but for improved teaching conditions and resourcing.

Meeting closed: 8.20

Next Meeting: Wednesday 26th June 6pm

Agenda Items: BOT induction/ training

Signed _____



Date _____

26th June 2019