

Minutes of Meeting
Tuesday, 4 August 2020
63 St Georges Rd, Avondale
at 6.45pm



BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2020

Attending: Allan Bates, Sandra Bosman, James Bull, Michael Causley, Vicki Morris, Warren Peat, Amrita Sadanand, Dianne Thompson.
Also present were Maliah Tato, Marcia Duinkerke

Apologies: None

Devotion: Warren opened the meeting with prayer and spoke about Jesus' teaching in Mark 10 and the physical context at that time. Jesus and those listening (including parents) would have been outside while children ran around, maybe getting in the way and being noisy. The disciples were annoyed but Jesus said "Let the children come ... for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these." And He took the children in his arms and blessed them (hugged them and welcomed them). This last verse reminded Warren of Jireh, where children are drawn in, welcomed and encouraged to know the power and spirit of God, being drawn to Him and inspired to give of their best. In this we follow Jesus example which is a wonderful thing.

1. Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of 23 June 2020 were accepted as a true and accurate record.

Moved Allan / Sandra Seconded. AGREED

2. ESOL Report –

Michael welcomed Marcia to the meeting and she spoke to the paper that had been tabled and was taken as read. She went through her report and a few points were clarified. There are 103 children who speak another language at home and we are only funded for 67 at this stage. Most have some English but it is not their first language. The Junior students are mostly taken out of class and have their own lesson plans made. They spend half an hour with Marcia, twice a week. By Year 3 and 4 they need more sophisticated English to access the curriculum more than everyday speaking English and this assistance is given in class during normal curriculum teaching for approximately 45 minutes. Teachers are all getting PD on ESOL and are doing enquiry around this. Sandra also explained that parents are encouraged to speak their mother tongue to their children as that helps with concept development. Marcia would love another ESOL teacher so that one is in charge of Juniors and one in charge of Seniors. Michael prayed for Marcia and she then left the meeting.

3. Ika Learning Area Report- Maliah Tato

Michael welcomed Maliah to the meeting and she spoke to the paper that had been tabled and was taken as read. The big difference for IKA this year is that there are only two year levels. This move has been a success and works well. They are working hard on character and building leadership skills as well as encouraging the gifts that they see in the children. The students love the discipleship time that they have together and the interactive learning they have with Kereru. Challenges for Year 5&6 next year is having the appropriate number in each class and working on minimising the number of children that leave at the end of Year 6. Sandra mentioned that this is being worked on in conjunction with the Open Day this month. She has contacted local primary schools that finish at Year 6, spoken with Principals, given out flyers and invited families to attend the Open Evening especially for Year 7&8 next year. She has been favourably received by most and many have said they will advertise the event via newsletters, etc.

The question was asked about students having to choose either Te Reo or Kapa Haka and whether it would be better for students to be able to do both. Maliah explained that Kapa Haka is a choice but she will look into whether Te Reo can be put elsewhere in the timetable so all can benefit from this.

Sandra explained that the installation of blinds in Morihana will happen but there are other classes (Kereru and Tui) that also need new blinds and this year's budget was spent on the admin, prefabs, music and science rooms) The issue with lateness is school wide and some parents have been spoken to. It has been explained that lateness and leaving early regularly does impact on a child's academic progress. Continual pressure is needed regarding this as it is an ongoing issue.

A question around ILP's was asked and it was explained that there are 4 or 5 who are just below the expected level at both Year 5 and 6. The teachers goal is to see them continuing to make progress, even though they may stay under the expected standard. Part of the strategy is to give the students tools to build their confidence. Teacher Aides are distributed over the whole school so we try and make their input as effective as possible. Amrita prayed for Maliah and the Ika group and Maliah then left the meeting.

4. Matters Arising from Minutes & Action List

- ★ Vicki reported that the issue of everyone having access to their own devices at home is now okay.
- ★ Sandra reported that parking issues still needs to be looked at further. Tomorrows newsletter will include the 3 different options again. Two parents have suggested a 'full' sign for the Great North Rd entrance. Sandra is also keen to contact the Council to see if they have suggestions re parking. Only a handful use the Kelvinside entrance.
- ★ Sandra reported regarding the transport issues. She has contacted all parents living in similar areas and put them in contact with each other to organise carpools for next year. Rolene will take the school van, transporting 10 children except for Wednesday when she doesn't work and when she isn't able due to illness, etc. A backup plan/driver is needed here. Another parent has a 9 seater van they are wanting to sell and they will come and see Sandra about this. Sandra has contacted everyone but some are slow to respond so not everyone is sorted yet for next year. Currently there are 45 children using the buses and it would have been approximately 40 next year. Sandra will update at the next meeting.

5. Conflicts of Interest

None

6. Policies

– English Speakers of Other Languages Policy. This was reviewed by the Board and no changes were suggested. It was moved that the Policy be accepted.

Moved Warren / Allan Seconded. AGREED

7. Reports

a. Principal's Report - taken as read.

A few points to highlight –

- i. By the start of Term, 4 we will have enrolled over 60 students this year. The new, New Entrant teacher currently has 10 students and next term that will go up to 18.
- ii. The Pasifika homework centre has started and is growing with approximately 10 – 15 students each Tuesday and Thursday. This is run by the Pasifika parents and supervised by a qualified teacher. One teacher has already commented that she has noticed improvement in one child in her class. There is a dance group being set up as well. The evening meeting for Pasifika parents would have had about 80% attendance from the parents which was very encouraging and things are going really well so far. Also one Mum from the school in the Asian community has set up a group that meet once a week. The WeChat group organised by Irene Goh is a great help in keeping these parents informed. This past week Irene sat in on an interview with a prospective parent in case she was needed to interpret.
- iii. The Makerspace is being worked on. Sandra and Vicki have some done research into this with other schools and others in the know and work will continue to progress on this area.

It was moved that the Principal's Report be accepted.

Moved Sandra / Seconded Warren AGREED

b. Finance & Property sub-cmte report -

The Financial Reports were tabled and taken as read. Allan added that the school continues to be in good shape.

It was moved that the Finance & Property sub-cmte report be accepted.

Moved Allan / Seconded Dianne AGREED

It was moved that the Balance Sheet Budget be adopted.

Moved Allan / Seconded Sandra AGREED

8. Inwards Correspondence

None

Extra Item

Sandra spoke to the Staff Wellbeing Survey that was run this term. Vicki and Sandra will go through this together and will meet with the 3 staff that have requested a meeting. Generally, the staff are happy but the issue of busyness and too many meetings will be addressed. A balance needs to be found between what the teachers would like compared to what the parents would like.

9. Future Business –**10. Next meeting – 1 September, Dianne on devotions**

Michael closed in prayer at 8.00pm

Signed as a true and accurate record:

Approved:

Chairman:

Date: