



MARIAN SCHOOL BOARD OF TRUSTEES

NEWSLETTER

01/2010

Members of the Marian Community,

Welcome to those new to the Marian School Community and welcome back to those returning. We especially welcome Father Adrian Paule and Father Philip Billing to the Marian Community, both priests have arrived at the Cathedral since our last Board Newsletter, with Father Billing being our new parish priest for the Cathedral following Monsignor Frank Eggleton's move to Waihi.

Library Development

The building of the new library is now complete and is a warm addition to the school's core infrastructure. The library will be officially opened by Bishop Denis at 2pm on Thursday 25 February.

As with previous building projects, such as the addition to Marian House and the Marist block redevelopment, the library embraces the charism and history of Marian School. The Board recognises that our school is founded in the history of the former schools that merged to become Marian School. As such, the official building name will be the Barbier Library, named after Euphrasie Barbier, foundress of the Sisters of Our Lady of the Missions. Mother Mary of the Heart of Jesus (Euphrasie Barbier's religious name) was a woman of spirit, conviction, and dedication to God through her missions and her congregation. Her dedication to the missions in Oceania in close cooperation with the Marist communities resulted in the establishment of many schools including what has now become Marian school.

Board of Trustees Election

The triennial Board of Trustees elections will be held for the parent representatives and the staff representative in May this year, with nominations being called for in March. Mrs Panettiere is the school returning officer and will coordinate the election. The proprietor's representatives are appointed separately by Bishop Denis.

Marian school is one of the nation's leaders in Catholic education with an excellent staff and senior leadership team. The Board provides governance, impacting upon the future direction of the school. The Board consists of real people just like you and it is there to represent the community from which we come.

If you have a sense of community and a willingness to assist in setting and maintaining the direction of the school, please take some time to consider standing for election to the Board of Trustees. If you want to assist the school in other ways, opportunities exist with the PTFA and also through helping the school with individual projects. The PTFA can be contacted through secretary of the PTFA, Mrs Natalie Douglas on 027 226 2268.

All members of the Board of Trustees are approachable; if you have any queries about standing for election, feel free to ask any one of us. Members of the Board can be contacted through the Board secretary, Mrs Stephens.

Current members of the Board are:

John Coulam (Principal & Chief Executive of the Board)

Parent Elected Representatives:

Baden Hilton (Chairperson)
Matthew Cooper
Freda Grace
Nonu Tui Samoa
Mark Willcock
Tammy Wong

Proprietor's Representatives:

Andrea Savage (Deputy Chairperson)
Sue Kenrick (Treasurer)
Judith Burrows
Veronica MacKenzie

Staff Representative:

Marie Montgomery

The key dates for the Board elections are:

Call for nominations 15 March
Nominations close 23 April
Voting papers distributed by 28 April
Voting date 7 May
Count votes 13 May
New Board takes office 14 May

Sports Co-ordinator

As mentioned in the last Board newsletter the Board of Trustees approved the establishment of a part-time sports co-ordinator role at Marian school. Lisa Burgess has subsequently been appointed to the role.

School Pool

Following on from the community consultation meeting last year, Mr Matthew Cooper has continued to lead the pool subcommittee to establish the benefits of a new pool against transporting the pupils to an aquatic centre.

The school pool subcommittee has initially resolved to commission Gisler Architects who have worked with the school (new Library development, Administration Block) and recently have completed pool developments for Putaruru, Te Rapa and Morrinsville primary schools.

Gisler Architects are able to present a costing analysis and visual presentation with which the subcommittee can then present to prospective funders.

Reporting on Achievement

In 2010 the Board of Trustees, through the school leadership team, will be reviewing the school's processes surrounding assessment and reporting to parents. This review will sit alongside the implementation of the new national curriculum in 2010 and the lead in to the new national standards being introduced by 2012. Through the auditing of current processes the Board intends to ensure consistency of reporting to the community in plain language about your children's progress and achievement.

Strategic Goals

The school leadership team are continuing to focus on the areas of strategic focus as set by the Board. Those areas of focus are currently:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The implementation of the new Revised Curriculum	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improving written language, reading comprehension and numeracy skills
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Religious Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Physical Activity and skills
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Development of the Arts Curriculum	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Aquatics Education
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improved facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Marian School Identity(Charism)

BOT Notice Board

In the school office foyer is a notice board that displays consultation documents and information relating to the Board of Trustees. Members of the Board of Trustees can be contacted through the Board secretary, Mrs Stephens (jstephens@marian.school.nz) or feedback given through the communication book for the Board of Trustees at the school office. The Board also welcomes members of the community to our Board meetings held in the school staff room. The upcoming meeting dates are:

9 March 2010 at 7.30 pm
20 April 2010 at 7.30 pm

Baden Hilton
Chairperson
Board of Trustees
9 February 2010