



MARIAN SCHOOL BOARD OF TRUSTEES

NEWSLETTER

02/2010

Members of the Marian Community,

This is the last Newsletter for the current Board of Trustees. However, as an integrated school we are fortunate to not only have elected staff and parent representatives along with the principal as the Board's chief executive officer, but we also have representatives of the Bishop that will remain on the Board as they have a separate time cycle to those elected by the community. Given the separate appointment cycles for the different Board members, we can always be assured of ongoing continuity for the new Board and a wealth of knowledge relating to past decisions and Board activities.

Please remember to vote in the upcoming election for staff and parent representatives. The next Board Newsletter will introduce the new Board to the community and thank those trustees not returning to the Board who have served the community over the last three or more years.

The upcoming key dates for the Board elections are:

Nominations close 23 April

Voting papers distributed by 28 April

Voting date 7 May

Count votes 13 May

New Board takes office 14 May

Library Development

On 25 February the Barbier Library was officially opened by Bishop Denis and Sister Mary-Ellen (the last Mission Sister to teach at our school).

The library marks the completion of another capital project improving our core infrastructure and will enable an additional classroom space where the old library was located in the St Mary's block.

Heat Pumps

Over recent months a number of junior school classrooms were fitted with heat pumps. These were installed in response to heat building up in the classrooms. Rooms 1 -14 and the school hall have been fitted with heat pumps this year. Other classrooms may also be earmarked for heat pumps as part of future improvements.

School Pool

The school pool subcommittee has considered possible options for the future of aquatics education at Marian school, including concept plans for the replacement of the current pool.

To assist the Board of Trustees in making an informed decision on the future of the school pool, a community survey will be undertaken over the coming weeks outlining projected costs to the

school community for a new pool. It is important that the community clearly indicates the direction and level of support for aquatics education.

New Zealand Curriculum Standards

The Government has mandated National Curriculum Standards and the Board is committed to ensuring that Marian school will be well prepared and the community well informed.

This year, Mr Mike Sommerville, Assistant Principal, along with Mrs Kay Petchell, Deputy Principal, will lead the staff in a school wide review of assessment and reporting. An outcome of this work will be the implementation of the National Curriculum Standards and the reporting of student progress against these standards.

Leading up to the implementation of National Curriculum Standards further information will be provided to the community through the weekly School Newsletter and the Board Newsletter. Initially, the community are likely to notice a different format of mid-year reports.

2010 Levies

The Board is aware that a number of the 2009 activity levies were not paid. The whole school is reliant upon the payment of the cost of additional items not covered by the Ministry of Education. Without the reimbursement of these additional costs the Board may not be able to provide the additional staffing resources that we have committed to provide if funds are needed to be reapportioned. The Board can no-longer be assured of income from other income streams such as foreign fee paying students.

The Board acknowledges that there will be genuine cases of familial hardship and if you are in this situation please contact the school administration. Hardship forms are available on request.

BOT Notice Board

In the school office foyer is a notice Board that displays consultation documents and information relating to the Board of Trustees.

Please take the time to stop by and review the notice Board. The Curriculum Delivery and Emergency Management Policies are newly formatted and scheduled for approval at the next Board meeting.

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 next Board meeting date is:

18 May 2010 at 7.30 pm

Marian School
Board of Trustees
21 April 2010