



ST IGNATIUS CATHOLIC SCHOOL

BOARDTALK

August 2019

Introduction

Welcome from your new Board of Trustees.

The Board is made up of:

- Five parent representatives (elected): Christopher Duncan, Sylvia Langridge, Anthony Chapman, Stephanie Aquilina-Little and Rhian Thompson.
- Four proprietor's representatives (appointed by Bishop Pat): Helen Pryde, Peter Brown, Karen Rassie and Vanessa Waldron
- Principal: Jane Penney
- Staff representative (elected): Karen Rooney

The majority of the Board members are new to the role and as we are settling in our appreciation for the amazing job done by the previous Board grows. The handover and induction provided by the previous Board gave us a great start and we have decided to keep the existing structure of four subcommittees; Our Place, Our People, Our Faith and Our Way in place for the time being.

The new Board has now held two Board meetings. Student achievement, policies and the safety of our students remain key focus areas for the Board. In this edition of Boardtalk, we will share more about one of the initiatives we are currently working on related to road safety around our school and specifically the lack of pedestrian crossings.

We also wish to say a genuine and heartfelt thank you to the previous Board for all the effort you have put into the governance of our school and a long list of achievements during your tenure as a Board. Thank you to your families for their support and patience while you spent multiple hours at various meetings, subcommittees and other engagements (not to mention the hiring of not one but two Principals).

Nga Mihi,

Sylvia Langridge, Board Chairperson.

Board of Trustees - Election results

CES undertook the Board of Trustees election for 272 schools in New Zealand this year, including our school. Out of those, 165 schools went to parent election. Collectively CES sent out about 120000 voting papers.

308 voting papers were sent out to our school community with 126 returned. We would like to thank all of you that have voted for your continuous engagement with the school. Overall, we achieved a return rate of 40.9% compared to an average return rate of 16.8% (across schools represented by CES).

Please continue to stay engaged with your school, kids, teachers and Board as your feedback is very important to us. You are welcome to contact the Board on: stignatiusbot@gmail.com

Some members of the Board will be present at the Keeping Ourselves Safe Programme meeting on 12th September where we will provide a quick introduction to the Board and an opportunity for you to provide feedback on our charter and strategic goal.

Information about our Board of Trustee Members and a copy of Boardtalk can be found on the school website at <https://www.stignatius.school.nz/our-people/bot/>

School Policies

Another key aspect of the role of the Board, is the responsibility for "setting the policies by which the school is to be controlled and managed".

Instruction on how to view our school policies can be found on <https://www.stignatius.school.nz/our-place/policies/>.

All our policies are on a 3 year review cycle, usually 2 policies are reviewed by the Board each school term. The School Docs system allows Board members, staff and parents (where relevant) to comment on procedures under review online.

Road Safety Initiative

The Board feel strongly that the safety of our children on their way to school can be improved by introducing crossing on some of the roads immediately surrounding the school and neighbouring roads. We are also hoping this will have a positive impact on the parking and volume of traffic around the school.

The Boards is therefore looking to petition Auckland Transport and/or Council for safety improvements along the roads surrounding the school by the end of this year.

We would like to thank Matthew Prasad for joining the Board at our last meeting to provide guidance and share his experience in this area to help us form a plan of action.

To assist us with the petition and with shaping our proposal we need to gather some information from you. We will be sending out two questionnaires with your children in the next few days; one to be completed by the parents and one to be completed by the children with your support.

We can of course not guarantee the outcome, but the chances of success increase with more data showing support for the petition, therefore please complete it and return it back to school as soon as you receive it.

Transition to high school

St Ignatius School has strong connections with both Sacred Heart College and Baradene College, the secondary schools that the vast majority of our Year 6 students move on to. Our Principal, Mrs Penney has recently met with leaders from both schools and discussed the transition requirements for our students. Past students will be returning to talk to our Year 6 students about what to expect later in the year. We are confident that St Ignatius students will

be well prepared to make the transition to their next place of learning at the beginning of next year.

PTA Auction Night 31 August 2019

Our PTA and Year 5 parent representatives have been working very hard preparing our biggest fundraiser event of the year Glitz & Giggles. The early bird tickets sold out very quickly and it is shaping to be a great night.

Live Auction is already opened on

https://www.stignatius.school.nz/noticeboard/2019-auction-fundraiser/?fbclid=IwAR1C3MFuwZCImkVullJne_5f9r95p3JOdzNlm8X5vrl-938EVMZPviY1zQl

You can still volunteer to help out with a number of activities. Please have a look at what help is still needed and sign up on

<https://volunteersignup.org/J38R4?fbclid=IwAR3lqippLfDLTpoaWBc-rkH3UqmMc2PAes8u8LhEe1vPFJmgKCOW-23W2E8>

Recent property improvements and plans

The Board is always looking at ways to improve the school environment and facilities. You will all be aware of the new shade sails that have been installed over the senior playground and the area outside reception. We expect that these will result in more activities being able to be undertaken outside with appropriate sun protection.

We have also installed a heat pump in Manawanui learning space which will ensure a much better environment in that space at all times of the year.

New basketball hoops are in place and we are currently looking at repainting the markings on the playground and providing new signage around the school.

We are progressing with plans to make use of a legacy donation that we received from a former pupil earlier in the year. We will communicate further when we have firmer plans.

If you have any ideas that we should consider to improve the school please do not hesitate to let us know. There will also be an opportunity to join a brainstorming session later this term or early next term around redeveloping the area beside Pai and Manawanui learning spaces including the sandpit.

Finally thank you for all your financial support which makes all these improvements possible!

"Do all you can with the means at your disposal and calmly leave the rest to God"
Saint Mary MacKillop (1891)