

HOUGHTON VALLEY SCHOOL

Home and School Meeting

Thursday 19 October 2023, 7:30pm in Staff Room.

Agenda

(Quorum 4+1)

Present: Luana Carroll, Tim, Flic Morris, Ian Vanstone, Ana Tovey, Ronja levers, Jo Young, Jenny, Fenella Rich, Luke Cartmell-Gollan, Mary, Nicola Du Toit.

1. Introductions

Icebreaker - introduce yourself, your tamariki, and what they wore to the disco.

2. Apologies

Carlie Uivel, Kirsten Podmore, Anna Barlow,

3. Minutes of previous meeting

August minutes approved by Ronja and seconded by Luke.

4. Board Report (Ana)

The Board is progressing well through the strategy review, which will replace the existing charter with a new strategic plan for the next two years. The final day of consultation is 20th October. There have been great responses and a great response rate (50% from the whānau survey, plus more from the hui, circulated drafts, etc.).

There are four new draft goals:

1. Deepen our culturally responsive practice of Te āo Māori by strengthening our use and understanding of tikanga Māori, te reo Māori, the whenua, and whanaungatanga.

2. Either:

2.1. Integrate our natural environment into our learning.

Or:

2.2. Inspire our akōnga with an exciting local curriculum that is grounded in our natural environment.

3. Deliver a robust, relevant, inspiring local curriculum, in a caring and inclusive environment, providing every student with the opportunity to thrive.

4. Nurture connection and communication to encourage ākonga, kaiako and whānau to participate together in learning and celebrate success.

There was a discussion about how schools create a local curriculum based on the national curriculum.

There was a discussion on why there are currently two options for draft goal number 2. The two options are based on community feedback. The Board will use the feedback from the community on which option resonates best and then finalise the goals.

There was a discussion on the old charter having themes and the new plan having goals.

5. Teacher's Report (Luana Carrol)

The new strategic plan process is going well.

Property and site management are a challenge. The library will not be in operation until 8th November. The library will include a Houghton Valley feature wall. Room moves have gone well - with great help from tamariki and whānau. Te Kouka and Haraiki are next to move so that improvement work can be carried out in their classrooms. There are challenges, but the builders have been great.

Athletics day is next week (Tuesday 24th October).

The Year 5&6 trip to Noho Marae is coming up at the end of November.

Week 6 teacher only day Friday 17th November.

Luana is looking forward to future huis, once the hall is open again.

6. Events

Term 4 Disco Debrief (Jo & Ronja)

- Ronja and all thanked Jo for organising the Disco.
- Kept it simple, which worked well.
- Good parent/caregiver support but finding volunteers was hard. Preferable in future to have more volunteers (e.g. so that volunteers on sausage sizzle get a break).
- Lesson learnt - the afterschool care at SWIS overlapped with disco, which was sorted out on the day.
- Suggestion to have ear muffs available for kids that need a break from noise.
- Jo has made a good setup document to help future organisers.

Term 4 Quiz Debrief (Flic on behalf of Kirsten Podmore)

- Very small team of 3.5 organisers did incredibly well to organise such a great event. More organisers would be valuable next time.
- Really successful event in getting the community together.
- Some suggestions received on format (e.g. maybe less rounds next year).
- Scheduling discussion (e.g. the quiz and fair are normally further apart).

Term 4 Fair Update (Flic on behalf Anna Barlow)

- Major update is that the library and balcony in front is out of action; Luana + Anna catching up tomorrow to review the map and confirm access points, egresses etc, need to push the food forward onto the court area (just curly Anna thinks).
- With hall available and rooms 5 and 6 then we will definitely be ok.

- Volunteer push still critical; will need to review capacity again next week and potentially rationalise games as needed.
- Donations continuing to come in.
- Digital map will be finalised next week then QR code added; printing at very last minute in case of any logistic changes due to the w..... (word that we are not saying out loud yet).
- Health and safety plan is pretty much finalised then Anna will send that to the leads.
- Will sort power with Dave in due course.
- Will finalise trestles/tables/furniture/floats also next week then link in with Luana/Denise to guide school staff on clearing rooms i.e. what furniture we need to keep in place.
- Still not sure about silent auction vs raffle...we still need someone to lead this...we have a few items.
- Set up from 3pm on Friday as per usual with movie/snacks for kids.
- Anna will be on site at school the whole day 27th; anyone call or message her any time with concerns/queries/updates.
- One more thing - drinks at Anna's house for anyone still standing after fair pack down!

Open discussion on engaging volunteers

- With events this year struggling to attract enough volunteers, there was a discussion on potential ways to increase numbers of volunteers in future years. Ideas included, H&S getting in front of whole school at start of year (e.g. hui and/or picnic), H&S getting in front of junior school parents/caregivers somehow, and class social events for parents/caregivers.

Term 1 Planning

- Welcome picnic is on Friday 9th February.

- Proposed INSIDE OUT HUI (Flic) InsideOUT Kōaro is a national charity providing education, resources, consultation and support for anything concerning rainbow and takatāpui communities. They offer guidance, professional development and workshops for schools, workplaces and community organisations across Aotearoa. We'd be keen, as there have been suggestions from the school community, to get them to come and run an evening workshop for our HVS community to provide safer schools and communities for rainbow (LGBTQIA+) and takatāpui young people. Seeking a volunteer who might like to take the lead on this event?
- Move-A-Thon proposed. Last one was in 2018. Ian/Seb/Luana to put a call out.
- Bake sales - dates TBD.

7. Treasurer's Report (Luke)

Recent fundraising events have been very successful from a financial perspective:

- The quiz raised \$3,190
- The disco raised \$511

8. Other Business

Chess Club Equipment (Tim)

- Nicola started lunchtime chess club. Subsequently, a large HVS team competed at a chess tournament at SWIS - 20 of the 23 kids in the rookie category were from HVS. It was a great experience for our kids. Be good to buy some chess sets and timers for a chess club. 5 clocks, 5 boards, 5 sets, 5 containers comes to \$446.50. Tim kindly offered to pay for some of that to reduce the cost for the school.
- Sandpit - roof being removed for safety this weekend. Work and cost TBD. Probably work for next year (possible resource consent).

Funding Approvals

Home and School give the majority of funds raised directly to the School Board to support the general running of the School. However we do keep a small proportion of all funds raised so

that we can directly support one-off financial requests from the school, or school community. All funds available for Home and School funding relate to previous years fundraising (i.e. fundraising completed in 2023 is not able to be allocated to any requests).

- Funds APPROVED - \$5,480 approved
 - 5 new School Chess sets - \$350 APPROVED
 - School t-shirt subsidy - \$1,000 APPROVED
 - to be allocated at ~\$10 per t-shirt on a first-in-first-served basis. NB:
Likely to continue to fund this in future years.
 - Bus costs to Year 5&6 camp (Marae) - \$480 APPROVED
 - New Chicken hutch - \$3000 budget APPROVED
 - *Final costs TBC; If further H&S funds will be needed over the approved budget, H&S must be consulted.*
 - Snapfish Leavers books - \$650 APPROVED
- Funds not approved
 - New BBQ - Discussed, but not approved.
 - Sandpit repair - Costs TBD. Likely run a special fundraiser in early 2024 to support this

Calendar Art reminder (Fenella)

- Please let everyone know that Calendar Art is available now.

9. Communications from Meeting

Minutes to be shared in the H&S newsletter.

10. Meeting closed

11. Next meeting

Date TBC in Term 1. Once confirmed, the date will be communicated in the H&S newsletter.