

# Houghton Valley School Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

Monday 21 March 2022

*Meeting held via Zoom due to COVID-19*

**Meeting opened:** 7:00pm

**Present:** Bret McKenzie (Presiding Member), Luana Carroll (Principal), Mike Brough, Georgie Ferrari, Vanessa Smith, Stephanie Bosch (Staff Trustee), Emily Faith (Secretary)

**Conflicts of interest:** None.

**Last month's minutes:** Approved.

## 1. Principal's Report

### *PAT results*

Luana reported on the Progressive Achievement Test (PAT) results, which are almost completed. Some key aspects:

- These are a nationally-normed assessment tool for students Years 3-10 which enable teachers to compare student performance across cohort groups and against nation norms.
- Year 3s only do three of the tests – listening comprehension, maths, and STAR (reading and vocabulary comprehension test).
- Overall, impressed with results, given that we are now in our third year of disrupted learning due to COVID.
- Maths above national norm.
- Results similar to norm across most other areas, except punctuation/grammar, which is lower.
- Have been monitoring year 2s going into year 3.
- Junior school is having a very positive impact considering COVID.
- Will continue with Accelerated Literacy in Literacy (ALL) in writing, which will support comprehension.
- Miriam is working on structured programme interventions for years 3 to 6.
- Some significant increases in stanines. Last year had a high rate of students that didn't complete the test; this year the number was lower.
- Māori student results – mixed, targeting through professional development and cultural responsiveness team work. Already seeing higher engagement with whanau onboard.
- The data was moderated last Friday and discussed. Luana noted that the results give teachers good data to challenge how we are pitching some of our learning programme, particularly maths and reading, and will discuss this again at the teacher only day on Friday.
- Difference to pre-COVID – current data looks more like pre-COVID results, overall higher level of achievement (compares against a historical average – pre-COVID norms for a decile 10 school).

### *Out of zone enrolments*

The board approved a motion to open the zone for Terms 2 and 3 (for Year 1s, 5 places only).

#### *Server update*

Still awaiting further information from new IT provider. Intention is to shift to a cloud-based system. A motion will be brought to the board, as this was not included in this year's budget.

#### *Budget*

Donations are tracking well, over halfway already. Saving \$1500 p/a on phone costs after having copper lines removed, and the system is improved.

#### *Property*

Have some School Investment Package (SIP) funding for resealing top court; pencilled in for the July school holidays. Will also use \$50,000 of this funding to put ceiling tiles in rooms 5-7 for acoustics and replace lighting in junior classes. (Will come off the total cost of the junior block redevelopment.)

Luana noted that she has been working on making active progress on the property front with the Ministry of Education's property advisors.

#### *Acknowledgement*

Luana noted the great job by all staff this term.

#### *COVID-19 update*

School has had 19 cases in total now, 9 current cases are at home. 27 household contacts so far. Other children away for other illnesses, other health reasons, or waiting for second vaccinations. First case of class transmission in the last week. Parents were contacted and class was closed on Friday for a deep clean. Hard packs have gone home, but focus is still on children learning at school, as this is more manageable for teachers. Noted next fortnight will be critical in terms of numbers in Wellington.

The board approved the update.

### **2. Election Planning**

We need to hold a by-election to fill Kelly's position. Bret has already mentioned this to the school community in the Term 1 Week 5 newsletter.

The Board approved an election date of Wednesday 1 June 2022. *NOTE: Subsequently it was necessary to change the date to 8 June to avoid nominations closing in the school holidays.*

### **3. Property**

As discussed in the principal's report. Luana has a meeting with the Ministry this Thursday.

**Meeting closed: 8.00pm**

*Next meeting: Monday 9 May 2022*

