

Brighton Merged School Appointed Board Newsletter #1

11 December 2013

Dear whānau, parents and caregivers

The Appointed Board of Trustees for the Brighton Merged School and North New Brighton School will be formally in place on 27 January 2014. In the interim we introduce six of the seven board trustees and give you an overview of our key tasks in 2014.

Communication

We will be putting out a newsletter regularly which will be available by email, as hard copy and will be published on the schools' websites. We will hold meetings and use email, facebook and other media to engage with the school and wider communities.

Key tasks for the board:

Establishing how we operate as a board: Agreeing on a code of conduct, meeting schedule, subcommittees, and North New Brighton operations in 2014

Planning: In consultation with the school community defining a school vision and developing a charter and policies

Principal appointment: Appointing a Principal by May 2014, with the position advertised nationally. The new Principal will then be responsible for developing a staffing plan for the new school and appointing staff.

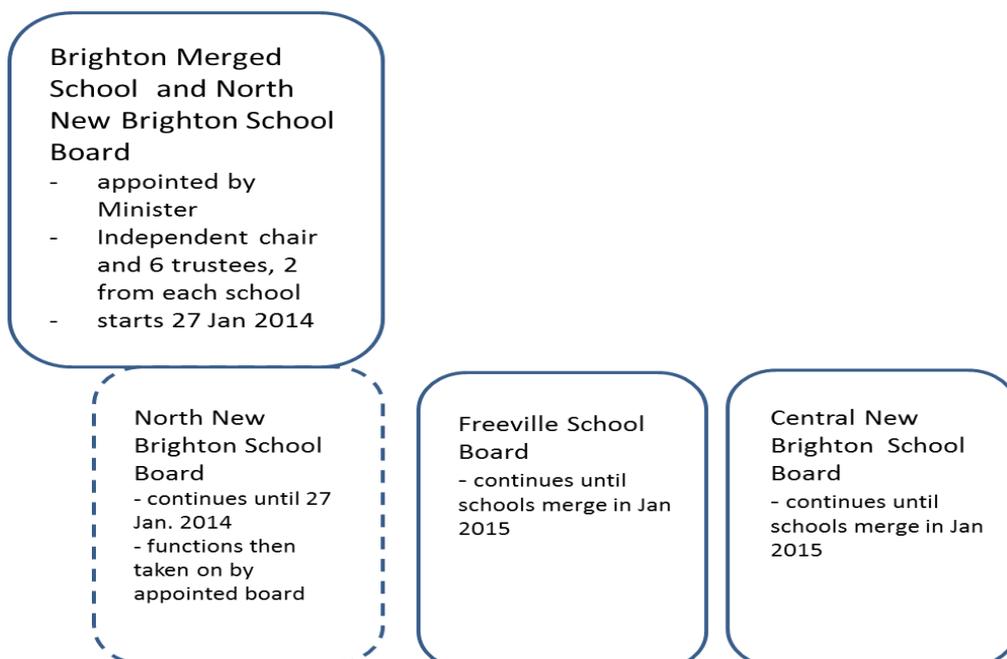
School name: The interim name chosen by the Ministry of Education for our school is Brighton Merged School. A new name will be chosen in 2014 by the school community.

School development and new buildings: The new school will be completely rebuilt on the North New Brighton site, due for completion in January 2016. This will involve the preparation of a master plan, detailed design and construction.

In 2015 the merged school will operate from two sites at Freeville and North New Brighton. A decision will be made during 2014 how the school will be organised between the two sites.

Structure:

In 2014 the Boards of Trustees (BoT) of Freeville and Central New Brighton Schools will continue governing their schools. North New Brighton School BoT will not continue once the Appointed Board is in place on 27 January 2014. While discussion is still required, it is likely that a subcommittee of the Appointed Board comprising current BoT members, the Principal, and a staff representative will undertake the immediate operation of North New Brighton School. The subcommittee would report and make recommendations to the Appointed Board for decision making.



Introducing the Appointed Board

We are a board appointed by the Minister of Education and comprise an independent chair and two members from each of the three schools.

The appointment of a second trustee from Central New Brighton School is pending.

Chrissie Williams Independent Chair



Tēnā koutou katoa. Formerly a Christchurch City Councillor representing the Burwood Pegasus ward, I am now based at Environment Canterbury as programme leader for the Natural Environment Recovery Programme. When I left Council in 2011 I had a year as science advisor at Te Rūnanga o Ngai Tahu. Previously I have been a secondary school teacher and sports administrator. I have been in education governance roles as a parent at New Brighton Community Preschool and Nursery and South New Brighton School, and had four years on Lincoln University Council. My children also attended Mairehau, Aranui and Avonside Girls High Schools. My other governance experience has been in the voluntary sector, on council companies and state owned enterprises. I look forward to working with the three school communities to ensure a positive transition to the merged school.

Karen Brandon



I have four children that have all attended Freeville School; two of them are there at present. I have previous board experience of almost six years on the Freeville board and served as board chair for 3½ years. For five years during this time I oversaw the finances of the school. I have 27 years banking experience. At present I am choosing not to work to commit more time to my family. I believe we have a great opportunity to create a brand new school which brings together the best of all three schools. It is my hope that the new school becomes a beacon for the East that is known for its innovation, diversity, modern learning practices and community strength. The community is an important part of any school and I look forward to working with the community in this process

Janet Carson



I have two children at North New Brighton School. Freya is in year 4 and Milly is in year 2. I have previously been on the North Beach Community Childcare Centre governance committee for four years and this is my first term on the board of trustees at North New Brighton. I have also been part of the school PTA for three years. When I'm not at work or attending school meetings I enjoy catching up with friends and spending time with my family. I am really looking forward to the opportunity to help build not only a new school but a new school community with shared goals and cultures.

Jonny Langley



I have three children at North New Brighton School; Kieran and Zoe are in Year 3, and Clara is in Year 1. In my day job, I am Assistant Principal at Kingslea School/Te Oranga in Burwood where I have taught for the past 11 years. As well as being a father, my interests include surfing, playing music, soccer, snowboarding, cycling and tramping. I am very excited about the opportunities ahead for our new school, and look forward to working with the Appointed Board and the whole community to help create something really special for our children.

Irihāpetā Mahuika



Tēnā tātou katoa. Ko Irihāpeti Mahuika tōku ingoa. Ko Kāi Tahu tōku iwi. My name is Iri and I have two daughters at Freeville School. Maia, 5, and Kayla, 10, will both be in Tū Kahikatea, the bi-lingual unit in 2014. I am a secondary Te Reo Māori teacher and will be teaching at Avonside Girls' High School from the beginning of 2014. My passion is education, especially Māori education. I am very excited with the possibilities that are ahead of us and look forward to working with the whānau of the new merged school to create something amazing for all of our tamariki.

Kylee O'Kane



I have two children aged 11 and 14, and have been part of the Central New Brighton school community for 10 years now. I have spent many years on the Home and School committee and this is my ninth year on the Board of Trustees. During my time on the BoT I have been involved in various roles of governance and thoroughly enjoy it. I am currently employed at North New Brighton school as a teacher aide and am completing my teacher aide certificate. I am really excited and committed about this journey we are about to take and feel privileged to be part of it.