

Brighton Merged School Appointed Board – Newsletter #2

18 February 2014

website: <https://sites.google.com/site/brightonmergedschool/>

Dear whānau, parents and caregivers,

Welcome to the first newsletter of 2014 from the Appointed Board of Trustees for the Brighton Merged School.

The Appointed Board of Trustees for the Brighton Merged School and North New Brighton School was formally in place on 27 January 2014. We will be holding fortnightly Board meetings, and most of what we discuss is in the open part of the meeting, but deliberations about the Principal appointment are held in-committee and are confidential to the Board.

Seventh Board of Trustees member

The Minister of Education has appointed Kahurangi Shelford from Central New Brighton School as the seventh member of the Board. We welcome Kahu, and are pleased to start the year with a full Board.



Kia ora, my name is Kahurangi Shelford. I moved to Christchurch from the small town of Moerewa in the Bay of Islands, at the end of 2011. Since then my one and only child has attended Central New Brighton School. She and I have built positive relationships within the school community which led to my sitting on the CNB Board of Trustees. I am privileged to see the merger process through to the end, at Board level. The venture ahead presents an opportunity to embrace “Modern Learning Practices” nurtured by good old fashioned school community spirit.

Governance Facilitator and Change Managers

The Ministry has appointed Tom Scollard as the Governance Facilitator to advise the Board. Tom is also the Change Manager for North New Brighton School, and Trevor Beaton is the Change Manager for both Freeville School and Central New Brighton School. In each school the Change Manager supports the principal and the school’s board through the year leading to the merger.

Structure

In 2014 the Boards of Trustees (BoT) of Freeville and Central New Brighton Schools continue governing their schools. The immediate operation of North New Brighton School will be overseen by a subcommittee of the Appointed Board comprising 2013 BoT members, the Principal, and a staff representative. The subcommittee will have some delegations, and will report and make recommendations to the Appointed Board for decision making.

Appointed Board meetings

Meetings have been held on 30 January and 13 February. The minutes of these meetings will be available on the website (see below). The meetings for the rest of term 1 are:

Date	Venue
27 February 2014	Central New Brighton School
13 March 2014	North New Brighton School
27 March 2014	Freeville School
10 April 2014	Central New Brighton School

Consultation with the school communities

During February we will be seeking your input on:

- the school vision, values and priorities
- the master plan for the new school to be built on the North New Brighton site
- the attributes and skills of the Principal for the merged school

We will endeavor to combine consultation as much as possible. We will hold meetings and use feedback forms, email and other media to engage with the school and wider communities.

Communication

We will be putting out these newsletters regularly, which will be delivered to all families through their schools. They will also be available by email and will be published on the Brighton Merged School website: <https://sites.google.com/site/brightonmergedschool/>

School Vision

Early this term we need to engage with the school communities to define a vision for the merged school and develop a charter and policies. As background to this we will be collating the vision, values and priorities of each of the three schools from their charters. This will show us what is common to all three charters, and where there are difference and gaps. Please start thinking about what you would want the merged school to be like.

School development and new buildings

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

A master plan will be prepared by GHD, on contract to the Ministry of Education. The master plan shows how the North New Brighton School site will be used and how the buildings will be located on the site. At this first stage it does not get down to the detail of what is inside the buildings – that is the next step. The master plan is due to be completed in April, and GHD want to meet with the school communities to gain your input.

Principal appointment

We are aiming to advertise for the Principal of the merged school in March and have the Principal appointed by May 2014. Before that we want feedback from the school communities on what attributes and skills you consider important for the Principal.

The Principal designate will then be responsible for developing a staffing plan for the merged school and appointing staff. They will be on secondment to the merged school for Terms 3 and 4 this year.

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.

Uniform

We are aware that parents and caregivers will want to plan for 2015 regarding the uniform the children will be wearing. This decision will be made after consultation and in a timely manner so that whānau can be prepared for the new school year in 2015.

Site sharing

For the 2015 school year, the merged school will operate from two sites: at Freeville and North New Brighton. A decision will be made later this year on how the school will be organised between the two sites.