

Brighton Merged School Appointed Board of Trustees Newsletter #5 - May 2014

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

Dear whānau, parents and caregivers

New Principal appointed: Liz Weir

The Board is delighted to announce the appointment of our new Principal, Liz Weir. We believe that Liz will bring sensitive and sound leadership to the merged school, and has the ability to unite our three school communities under a clear vision that guides all that we do. In the selection process the Board used the information from the community to create a position description for our Principal and have found someone who fits this well.



Message from Liz:

Tēnā koutou katoa

I am delighted to have been appointed Principal Designate for the Brighton Merged School. The east side of Christchurch has been through much over the past three years and I am looking forward to being part of the exciting times that lie ahead for the wider New Brighton community – especially the establishment of a new school.

I am currently employed as Principal at Springston School, a rural primary school on the outskirts of Christchurch, and am proud to be part of this growing, thriving community. However I am no stranger to the New Brighton area having taught at Freeville School for seven years.

My career in education spans 29 years in the primary and intermediate sectors, both here and in the UK, and I am motivated by the changing face of education. I am passionate about teaching and learning and enjoy the challenge of thinking outside the square in order to improve student achievement, motivation and engagement. I am fortunate to have been able to participate in a host of cutting edge professional learning opportunities that have developed my own understandings of learning for the 21st Century and will put this knowledge and experience to good use in developing our new school.

We all want children to have high expectations of themselves as learners, to feel confident about their capacity to learn, to set high goals for their learning and to construct enjoyable, challenging learning pathways to their futures. I look forward to working with you all to achieve great things for our children.

Ngā mihi nui

Liz Weir

Liz will be the 'Principal Designate' from the beginning of Term 3 2014 working full-time with the merged school. She will become the 'Principal' of our new school at the beginning of the 2015 school year. We will formally welcome Liz in Term 3 but there will be opportunities this term for you to meet her as her time allows.

Site sharing in 2015

In our last newsletter we explained the Board had approached the Ministry of Education about the two sites for the new school in 2015 being Freeville and Central New Brighton Schools – rather than Freeville and North New Brighton as in the original proposal.

The main reason for this was so that students and teachers would not be on North New Brighton site during the construction of the new school with all the noise, dust, vibration and heavy vehicle movements that would involve. And the whole school would arrive at the new school in Leaver Terrace site together at the start of 2016.

We received both positive and negative feedback about this idea. Some of that feedback was based on the incorrect assumption that your child would remain on their current site in 2015. That is NOT necessarily the case.

Whichever sites are used in 2015 there is no guarantee that students will remain on their current 2014 school site. Where the classes, students and teachers will be in 2015 is a decision to be made in term three.

The Board will provide the Ministry of Education with a preferred option for which sites are used later in Term 2.

If you have any further feedback, comments or questions about this please feed this back through your principal.

Naming our school

We all need to think about the name of our new school. We would like your ideas.

We encourage you fill in the form online here: (this link is also available on our website)

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1L5vRAwyD2b01dR9vKfiFAUwpxJ04EXbHIUL9Cqsv7Z8/viewform>

The Board will collate the suggested names and come up with a list of names for further discussion. The final name choice will have to be accepted by the Ministry of Education.



If you do not have internet access you can complete the following form and hand it into your school office by Monday 19 May

I think our new school should be called: _____

Please give some information behind the meaning of this name and why you have chosen it: (use more paper if you need to)

Add your name and contact details (optional) in case we need more information about your idea: