# Minutes of the Otahuhu College Board of Trustees' Meeting,

### Thursday, 27 February at 5:53pm at Ōtāhuhu College in Principal's Office

### 1 Apologies

Present: Neil Watson, John Pulu, Craig Sionetuato, Susan Afoa, Julie Rogers, Jasmine

Reynolds, Melehifo Niuila and Chrissy Reuelu (minutes)

Apologies: Rae Nield

Absent:

#### 2 Minutes from last meeting

Move that the minutes are a true and accurate record: moved by Neil seconded by Jasmine.

#### To do list

#### **Matters arising**

H Coleman has made an official request for information regarding the lunch programme, asking for all correspondence from 2019. Neil will look into this tomorrow.

## 3.0 | Correspondence – Inward

Nothing to report

### 3.1 | Correspondence – Outward

Nothing to report

### 4 Principal's Report

The school's roll is currently at 1190 and may increase slightly before March 1st. The maximum capacity is 1200 students.

This year's Haka Waiata went well, and congratulations to Grey House for their winning performance.

Polyfest has been moved to a later date this year and will be held towards the end of the term, marking its 50th anniversary. It has been indicated by the promoters that this maybe the final year for Polyfest. Otahuhu College have the following groups performing: Tongan, Samoan, Cool Island, Kapa Haka, Filipino, and Fijian Indian.

Student attendance levels are currently higher compared to this time last year, which is great to see. Neil met with Oranga Tamariki this week to discuss the Government's attendance expectations. The new expectations seem to have made a positive difference with students taking more ownership of their attendance. It has been noticed that students tend to struggle to transition back to their normal longer periods after Haka Waiata. We are currently working on strategies to address this issue for next year.

A plan is being developed for assessment tasks for junior students to help improve their results. The HODs had their first meeting today they went over case studies to help improve their teaching methods.

Staff recruitment continues to remain a major issue across the country. However, the Teacher Intern Programme is going well. The current student class sizes are large. We are currently advertising for the Deputy Principal role and have received

both internal and external applications. We may have a solution for the temporary Nurse position required for Vicky's leave as discussed in the last Board meeting. Neil will have an update soon however, there are a couple of backup options as well.

Work on the new Whare area has started. Neil has decided to put the proposed walkway on hold until the Whare is completed. Regarding the work on M Block, the plan is to do the centre section all in one go using various prefabs for classrooms. The new Whare will be used for staff briefings. Neil is hopeful that work on M Block will start by the end of the year, with an estimated timeline of 18 months to 2 years to complete the work.

The Board of Trustees had allocated funds towards the Whare, but with the Ministry of Education's contributions, these funds may not be needed for all the building costs. However, the allocated funds will be used towards the dressing of the Whare.

The netball trials were held on Wednesday, with a lot of interest from the students. We have gained a scholarship in English. Congratulations to the Head Boy, Andy Nguyen, and Head Girl, Nardia Dawson, as well as the Deputy Head Boy, Nio Soo Choon, and Deputy Head Girl, Alexis Forte.

Regarding results, the Ministry of Education has stated that 49% of Auckland students did not do a full NCEA Level 1 course. University Entrance results have been a lot of hard work, but the results have been positive.

Move that the principals report be accepted moved by Craig and seconded by Juile.

#### 5 Finance and Property

We are currently ending the year with a \$1.23m surplus. This surplus gives the Board the ability to make improvements to the school for the benefit of the students. M Block can get hot during summer weather, but it will have air conditioning once the work is complete. Neil will look at some options for cooling and heating in M Block for the meantime.

Recommendation to approve the credit card payments for November, December and January. (\$4020, \$2879 and \$6845) Moved by John seconded by Jasmine.

Recommendation to approve the statement of financial position Moved by Neil seconded by John.

There is a request for the Dragon Community Trust for \$10k for a trip for Commerce students to go to Wellington.

There is an application to the Manukau Counties Community Facilities Charitable Trust for gym sessions for our Kotuku students \$960. There is an increase in the

price, as there has been an extra student added. Instead of the \$960 that is in this report, it will now cost \$1020.

Recommendation to approve the application for the Dragon Community Trust for \$10k and the Manukau Counties Community Facilities Charitable Trust for gym sessions for \$1020 Moved by Neil seconded by Melehifo.

#### 6 Health & Safety:

The first Health and Safety meeting for the year was held yesterday. During the meeting, it was noted that there were a few sports injuries on Sports Day, and we will look into ways to improve safety measures for next year. A suggestion was made to introduce a "Best Dressed" award for next year's Sports Day, as students put in a lot of effort to dress up for the event. Overall, students had a great time, and the event was successful.

#### 7 In Committee

#### **In Committee Correspondence**

### 8 Any Other Business

The Kahui Ako Stewards meetings are being held at PASS this year. Otahuhu College currently does not have the capacity to participate in the cultural community day. Board members will attend the Kahui Ako Stewards meetings if they are available.

Melehifo reported that more students have gotten involved with the Student Council. She has passed on her fundraiser proposal to Neil, which includes working with the community and Otahuhu Intermediate for a food drive. Additionally, several Student Council members have signed up for the Student MP opportunity with Jenny Salesa and have been proactive in engaging with the community, putting their names forward to be elected onto the local Youth Panel.

Melehifo attended the Auckland Council synopsis, where it was discussed that Otahuhu College students could take part in creating a video about what Auckland Council does. She spoke with Mr Roberts and provided details to arrange a meeting to discuss this further. John requested a brief report from the Student Council for the next Board meeting.

Craig mentioned that the Whanau Ora tender has been delayed, and he believes there will be changes. The school has anticipated these changes, which is why we have ensured surplus funds. It was mentioned that Ramadan is approaching, and students will be fasting.

### Meeting finished at 6.45 pm