

Houghton Valley School



BOT Pānui April 2019

Kia ora tatou,

Hard to believe that we are almost at the end of Term 1! This pānui is just to let you know what has been on the agenda for the Board so far this year.

First though, thank you to everyone who has helped welcome new staff and support them as they get to know the school and the Houghton Valley community. While we are thanking people, it has been great to have Angela Williams join the Board to take on the role left vacant by Anya Satyanand.

Charter

After really great engagement from our school community we have finalised the HVS school charter (this is where we set out the strategic direction for the school). We are now just getting some design input to transform it into something that looks nice, but more importantly is accessible for everyone to understand and relate to. In the meantime there is an annual plan for 2019 which sets out how HVS will be putting the Charter into effect.

Board elections

There are elections for the HVS board coming up in June for three spots on the board. We would like to invite any parents who might be interested in putting their hands up to come along to the start of our next Board meeting. This will be an absolutely no obligation opportunity to meet the existing Board members, find out the sorts of issues we cover in meetings, and learn a bit about the role.

Please join us for coffee and cake at 7pm on Monday 29 April. The meeting proper will start at 7.30, and you are welcome to leave then or stay for the remainder of the meeting. To find out more, talk to any board member (<https://houghton.school.nz/board-of-trustees/>), or have a look at <https://www.trustee-election.co.nz/becoming-a-trustee/>.

Kāhui ako

HVS has joined a kāhui ako - a community of learning. This is an initiative by the Ministry of Education to promote collaboration and sharing of good ideas between schools in an area. HVS has joined the Capital City Community of Learning - which also includes Ridgeway, Owhiro Bay, Island Bay, Newtown, Brooklyn, SWIS, and Wellington High. The project is still in its very early stages but one of the first steps is to agree the achievement challenge that will be worked on. The plan is that this will centre on student wellbeing.

Tomorrow's schools review

As you will have heard, the government set up the Tomorrow's Schools independent taskforce to review how the current school system is placed to meet the needs of its students. The report proposes some quite big changes and can be found here: <https://conversation.education.govt.nz/conversations/tomorrows-schools-review/>

As a board we really appreciate it when people take the time to talk to us about anything that you might be concerned about around school governance, think is going really well, or would like more information on. This feedback and ongoing communication helps us to better represent you all. So please do have a chat with us about anything or drop us an email. And we hope to see you on the 29th!