

HOUGHTON VALLEY SCHOOL

Home and School Meeting

Thursday 6 August 2019 7:30pm at Houghton Valley School
Minutes

Present: Kate Mitcalfe, Michael Restieaux Megan Taylor, Dougal Wylie, Luana Carroll, Fiona Crosset, Bret Mckenzie, Susan Hall (Quorum 4+1)

Apologies: Sarah Wylie, Johanna Sanders, Anna Ririnui, Janie

1. Previous Meeting Minutes: Approved by Michael and Dougal

Action: Michael was to test the market for a new run of community t-shirts. He has looked into t-shirt design and Adam has agreed to allow Michael to use his designs should we decide to do another run of school t-shirts.

2. Board Report

The focus has largely been on supporting Luana and the staff on the COVID response. The school did an amazing job. Other than that discussions have been largely on BAU operations and updating the governance manual.

The Board provided information on how last year's 80% donation was used and discussed how this year's could be used on things such as upgrading the entrance, supporting the library and librarian, native planting, bike track and new bikes, and the flying fox.

Susan and Richard's terms are almost up and there will be an election at the end of the year. If you know of anyone who would be interested, tell them to get in touch with a Board member to find out more.

3. Principal Update

Luana noted that the kids are tired post the holidays so the school is monitoring this.

The school is being vigilant should things happen with regards to COVID. They have also realigned the strategic goals due to the shortened year.

The teachers had a good workshop on brain development in the holidays. There is also a focus on maths PLD.

The meeting noted what a wonderful event the Matariki evening was. The meeting also thought it is great the school is doing something for Pride Week.

4. Teacher Talk

Preparation for the production is coming along well. The children have come up with the story and flow, and are working with Bret on an original song.

Fiona gave a great talk on self regulation in the classroom. A zone system was put in place after returning to school following lock-down to address social issues before they arose. It has helped the children identify their feelings and what they can do to help manage these. The teachers have started to notice a difference in behaviour as a result and will continue working on this. The meeting felt this was a positive initiative and appreciated hearing more about it.

5. HVS Events

Bake Sale: This is all going ahead on the 14 August (not the 21 like in the newsletter). We will aim to have the second on in week 8.

Quiz Night: The aim is to make this a fun event.

- Michael will talk to Ian about having a round on Home and School at the Quiz.

Disco: Johanna has agreed to run this again. Carlie is going to help out and learn the ropes. Nearer to the event we will need to find volunteers to help out.

Fair: Caspin is doing a new design for marketing. Aaron has agreed we can continue to use the current signage. We are organising a container for storage. Some thinking is happening on running craft sessions, maybe in the afternoons. Starting to get some interested volunteers.

The zero waste team is looking at reusable tumblers (around 1,000). They are putting in an application to the council but might need some funding from Home and School. The meeting was supportive of this proposal.

Survey: There was a great response to the survey; 70 replies from a school community of about 130 households. As a follow up we should look to get a good topic and speaker. Luana is to see if Catherine Berket could come along. We will also look into a more practical topic like bike maintenance. We will share the results at the Quiz Night.

6. Finances

It was noted that the sausage sizzle at the Matariki school event raised \$393.

We still haven't allocated last year's 20%.

7. AOB:

A question was raised whether the school production provided an opportunity for Home and School to engage the school community beforehand; possibly through a sausage sizzle.

- Kate will talk to Wellington High about whether this could work.

The idea of having an environment parent rep was raised; someone who could organise working bees for the grounds.

8. Next meeting: 10 September 2020

Kate Mitcalfe

Chairperson Houghton Valley Home and School Association