

*Rātū / Tuesday 7 Ōketopa / October 2025, 8:00pm*

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**Board members:** Nicki Read (tumuaki), Naomi Taylor, Fatima Amin Sheikh, Trey Tanuvasa, Amro Gamal, Abu-Shahab, Rhys Muir (kaiako rep), Sian Smith (Ngāti Kotahitanga rep).

**Also present:** Ash Holwell (minutes), Danielle Te Waiti (Deputy Principal).

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### **Karakia timatanga**

Meeting opened 8:30pm

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### **1. Governance (how we want to govern and what we take forward from the previous board)**

Nicki: Opened the floor for each member to offer what they think is important in terms of governance and co-governance. Nicki had realisation from last hui in relation to how things might be if we didn't have this co-governance model, and what might be lost, along with acknowledging the complexities. Highlighted strengths of shared decisions, clever actions, despite messiness that has what brought shared decisions that are stronger and clearer decisions. Co-governance should be the norm, why would it be the other way? Other schools are looking to us. Co-governance supports what is in the strategic plan, clearly worded in how we want to uphold Te Tiriti. We are an example but a small step to restoring the balance of how things should be. Te Tiriti is a leading introduction to the school for new whānau and co-governance is woven into who we are. We have made mistakes, and we have learned, shared tears and continue to learn. Our staff, our whānau, our community is committed. NR strongly supports continuing the co-governance model.

Nadia: Asked for clarification of what cogov looks like in practice, and what the hopes might be.

Nicki: We have communication channels that the full board doesn't always hear of, as NR support in terms of co-go - particularly in terms of specific incidents and events, and in a public facing role in terms of articulation to the community. Clarified that agenda are co-created between co-chairs, and that Tangata Tiriti co chair is accountable to all of Te-Tiriti.

Naomi: Tangata Whenua group is a collective, there is power in the collective and we have been strong because of that collectivity.

Open discussion around the mix and number of Te-Tiriti and Tangata Whenua mix on the board. Nicki: There is an evolving conversation around this mix that can continue.

Naomi: Co-governance hasn't yet been enshrined in our constitution yet, it is a process. Māori stood for board yet there is not the constitution yet that enables this equal representation. There are proposals with the Ministry that are ready for signoff yet are not the Ministers priority. The constitution will need to be socialised, and signed off by the Minister so needs to go through this process - in the meantime we can enact and practice co-governance in this school and community.

Nicki: Clarified that that there can be a maximum of four co-opted members

Sian: Spoke to the principles of TT and the actions of successive governments to prioritise the principles, suggesting looking at the articles of Te Tiriti as a vehicle for giving light and life to these principles. Article 1 - Governing in good faith, Article 2 - Enshrines Māori Tino Rangatiratanga, Article 3 - Equity, emphasising the Articles are critical to the foundations of co-governance. The articles are re-interpreted over time and what do they mean to us as a board, a school?

Trey: Spoke in support of the idea and processes of co-governance, when they first came into the board space they were unaware of Te Kore, and won't claim to understand the pain, yet can relate to the feelings being Pasifika, in the same context. Te Kore, Te Pō, and Te Marama give guidance to me now, and I want co-governance to work as I believe in people working together. It is our responsibility to bless back to mana whenua. We need balance, yet we also need to ensure that Tangata Whenua have a voice in any space at any time, and the

equilibrium be in the practice of our work. We will get things wrong, it is ok to be in that space. It was wero for me, I had to ask, and through asking I now get it and I believe there is a lot to learn in terms of how we make it effective, always returning to the kawa.

Nadia: When asked to offer Palestinian perspective on Te Tiriti, I see Te Tiriti as the first immigration document in this land. It is purely an act of supremacy to impose government and sovereignty on others, it can only come from a place of supremacy, and this has a basis of racism. I am supportive of what is happening here and part of why I want to be on the board. Part of the wero of this board is to continue this work, to work out how it will work for us, to support it, to socialise it and help people understand it for themselves. People will be challenged by this, as they will not have heard these perspectives before, it is our privilege and responsibility to support this. When it comes to governance people need to understand how decisions are made, and when this doesn't happen trust is eroded and power can be abused. In support of continuing to give effect to what is in place, to deepen it, and to help people feel proud of it. To enable people to be engaged and actively engaged through a co-gov model.

Rhys: As Tangata Tiriti the support we can give is to hold fast into the progress that Tangata Whenua have carved out in this space, and acknowledges and supports that there appears to be consensus in the room around co-go.

Fatima: In support, spoke to their journey of connection to Te Ao Māori through Te Kākano and the efforts of the school.

Amro: In support. Highlighted the understanding that some of the people let down by education in Aotearoa the most is Māori, and if one thing we can do to change this is to practice co-governance, then this is our opportunity and responsibility.

Naomi: Full support and acknowledging all that has been said about bringing the community with us, and adding that for Tangata Whenua it can be exhausting. Acknowledging the community is fluid. There is work that has been done and need to support and celebrate this, honouring the work. We also need to see movement and that we are moving forward.

Amro: It is the journey. We are honouring Te Tiriti, we are doing the right thing, it can be exhausting yet we are not doing this for us we are doing this for the children of the future.

Naomi: We are also in different stages of the journey, and there can be frustrations.

Sian: Acknowledging and honouring the phases and our different places along it, and celebrating that when things are good for others in their journey then it is good for us all.

Rhy: What is proactivity from the Tanagata Whenua caucus to alleviate the burden from the TT caucus to understand what we should do?

Nadia: Acknowledge the exhaustion, and the complexity of conversations around bringing people with us. Drawing it back to children, it cannot be overestimated how important the mahi of the kaiako over the last three decades that have shifted perspectives in this country.

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### **Kawa and code of conduct for Board**

Deferred to next meeting

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### **Appointment of presiding members—led by Principal**

Nicki: Opened the floor to how we might run this section of the establishment of the roles

Naomi: Spoke to how Māori Caucus are selecting their co-chair, and Tangata Tiriti are to select their own.

Nadia: Clarified that at the beginning of 2026 year the board will re-elect roles

Tangata Whenua Co-Chair - Naomi

Tangata Tiriti Co-Chair - Trey

### **Roles and portfolios**

Community Engagement - Nadia, Amro

Policy - Trey, Sian

Finance - Fatima

H&S - vacant

Te Tiriti - Naomi, Sian, Rhys

Property - Naomi

Board will look over the induction document provided by the previous board and will assess their roles before the next meeting.

Discussed other members of the community that we could approach to be involved in board support for particular areas of expertise.

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### **Date for next meetings**

- November 10 2025 - 6:30-9:30pm
  - December 1 2025 - 6:30-9:30pm
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### **Karakia Whakamutunga**

Hui closed at 9:40pm

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### **Actions**

#	Action	Assigned	Status
216	Relevant board members look over the induction role document provided by the previous board and will assess their roles before the next meeting.	Board members in new roles	
217	Discuss with other community members/parents identified if they were available for co-option to the board, and discuss what they might be inspired to work on.	Naomi, Nicki	

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Naomi Taylor', written in a cursive style.

Signed:

Naomi Taylor, Presiding Member