

Te Kura o Ngā Puna Waiora

Newtown School

Board of Trustees Hui Minutes

Rātū / Monday 11 - Mei / May 2026, 6:30pm / Staffroom

Board members: Naomi Taylor, Trey Tanuvasa, Fatima Amin Sheikh, Nadia Abu-Shahab, Jahnelle Wright (Ngāti Kotahitanga rep), Rhys Muir (kaiako rep), Sian Smith (Ngāti Kotahitanga rep), Debbie Purves, Nicki Read (Tumuaki)

Also present: Danielle Te Waiti (Deputy Principal), Ash Holwell (minute taker)

Apologies: Amro Gamal

Waiata me Karakia timatanga

Meeting opened 6:36pm

Ko Hina i te marama, me kore au e ngaro i te hinapōuri.

I will never be lost as Hina will provide me with clarity and guidance.

Conflicts of Interest None

Previous minutes

Motion: The board accepts previous minutes as true and accurate.

Moved: Sian

Seconded: Nicki

All: Approve

1. Whanaungatanga – Hina i te marama – Reflections of actions and learning

- Sian – Sian + Naomi submitted on the hearings process in regards removal of Section 127 on behalf of us all. Acknowledging the powerful kōrero from the other submitters and the opportunity to learn from others.
 - Nicki – listened to the hearings and reflected that these aren't just small changes of kupu – these changes they are trying to make are important. She reiterated the inspiration that the work on this from many gave amongst a reminder that this work is important and constant.
 - Nadia – called to the weather events and the impact it has had on so many, and the season shift bringing hardship to some in our community.
Jahnelle – Acknowledged the kotahitanga across the hāpori that emerge in the pouri state after events like this, and the resilience and care of the community for each other – sharing their pride in the support the community has for each other.
 - Danielle – Reflection on the need for people for safety in times when they are speaking up on one side, and acknowledgment on the success of the Phoenix Wāhine
 - Nicki – acknowledging and thanks for the letter and care from the board to staff and the power of that in the aftermath of the weather events. It was appreciated.
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2. Leadership Report + Assessment and Reporting Update

Danielle, Nicki and Debbie gave overview of reporting and assessment processes, so that the board has a clear understanding of:

- Overview of the educational landscape
- Government strategy
- What we are doing and why

Discussion around the understanding that there are many assessment points in a classroom every day, with multiple feedback loops being held by teachers, along with official assessments – and all of this matters in understanding learning progress and teaching processes.

Currently the school is using a mix of PAT and SMART assessments, phonics checks, Reading Skills record and JAM, GLoSS – all based on their most suitable current application.

All of the above contributes to Overall Teacher Judgement – a combination of all touchpoints on a child's learning development made in consultation with fellow teachers.

Whakamōhio is a critical part of the process around sharing and celebrating educational progress, contextualising the assessment included in the Learning Report to give a full picture of children's learning.

Discussion around the current ministry policy of punitive measures for low attendance and the school's care and support for those who might be struggling to get to school.

Leadership report tabled by Nicki.

The board acknowledges the incredible contribution to the school and the long service leave for Sam.

Congratulations to Mary for her Fulbright Scholarship and endorsing her leave period.

Acknowledging the work that goes into the sports kaupapa lead by Mitchell and Rhys, and a huge community of parents.

Thanks to Lily Lo who is project managing some aspects of our building upgrades with competency and strength.

Motion: Accept application for leave – Venise Clark

Moved: Nicki

Seconded: Sian

All: Approve

Motion: Accept application for extending leave – Lauren

Moved: Nicki

Seconded: Nadia

All: Approve

Fatima tabled the finance report.

Nicki outlined one item of significance of increased vandalism which has increased costs.

Motion: Delegation of operational authority and accountability to the Principal

Moved: Sian

Seconded: Naomi

All: Approve

Action: Board decision to review the audited annual financial statements before 30 May and approve remotely in writing via email.

3. Tohu Update

Nicki updated the board on the journey the tohu work has been on over the last six months, and proposed the board be part of a process of revealing and understanding similar to how the kaiako have had.

Action: Find a time that suits kaiako for the board to experience the story and understanding of the new tohu.

4. Board Co-Option

Tangata Tiriti acknowledged the time and care spent on the recommendation made by the Tangata Whenua caucus. They endorsed the recommendation to approach a person who will help support a Māori voice outside of Ngāti Kotahitanga.

Action: Tangata Whenua caucus will report back in regards co-option timelines.

5. Portfolios

Updates from:

- Policy
 - Policies are currently under review, intention is to report back at the next meeting on advised policy changes.
 - Mihi from the board to Sian and Trey who are leading this work.
 - Discussion around the community of support and expertise we have around the school.

 - Community Engagement
 - The resilience we have in our local network and community;
 - Our role as a Civil Defense Centre
 - Acknowledging both the need and the support within the community and our critical role as kura in both.
 - Exploring the possibility of extending our water reservoir capacity
 - Exploring the idea of kai provision on Fridays
 - The idea of an emergency wānanga with community members about needs

 - Property
 - Naomi + Nicki reported of a hui in Houghton Valley re Lifting the Creek - privileged to hear about the journey and the discussions between all of those contributing to the collective work. Considering how this might help us vision for the future of Newtown.
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6. Other Business

Sian indicated that she would like to stand down as co-chair in Term 3 / Matariki - she has been honoured to be in the role. Acknowledgement from the board for all of her contributions in the role.

Date for next meetings

Monday 8th June (2nd Monday) - *dress up for World Ocean Day*

Monday 20th July (3rd Monday)

Monday 17th August

Monday 14th September

Monday 12th October

Monday 9th November

Tuesday 8th December

Karakia Whakamutunga

Actions

#	Action	Assigned	Status
26.01	Ensure the various portfolios are covered.	Collective	Completed
	Invite Josephine to board hui	Noami, Sian	Completed
26.03	Investigate ways to report categories relating to ethnicity and/or origin that are better represented - aim to approve and align with kura values	Naomi + Danielle	In Progress
26.04	Submit on Education and Training Bill (System Reform) Amendment Bill - 14 January 2025	Noami + Collective	Completed
26.05	Review co option regulations and respond to those who are interested in being on the Board.	Collective	Completed
26.05	Continue to find parents interested in fundraising.	Collective	In progress

26.06	Add actions to the Strategic Plan especially for the Hapori - June Meeting	Danielle + Collective	In progress
26.07	Implement four recommendations from Community Survey	Nicki	In progress
26.08	Co-option recommendations from each caucus	Collective	Completed
26.09	Te Tiriti portfolio will bring recommendations back to the board for constitution development	Te Tiriti portfolio	In progress
26.10	Review and approve audited financial reports + updated Asset Register	Nicki	In progress
26.11	Find a time for the board to experience the story of the new tohu/logo	Nicki	In progress
26.12	Tangata Whenua caucus will report back in regards co-option timelines	Naomi + Sian	In progress
26.13	Policy Wānanga within board hui at the first hui of next term - July	Sian + Trey	In progress
26.14	All board members will provide bio and photo to the school by 15 May	All	In progress



Signed:

Naomi Taylor, Presiding Member