

WHENUAPAI SCHOOL

Living is Striving



14 May 2018

NOTICE TO ALL PARENT AND CAREGIVERS OF WHENUAPAI SCHOOL STUDENTS

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

I am pleased to be able to report back to our school community that there has been significant progress made over the last couple of weeks to ensure the school is able to fully resolve concerns and be well placed for the future.

Firstly, as was mentioned in our last letter to families we have been working closely with the Ministry of Education and New Zealand School Trustees Association (NZSTA) to discuss the best way forward for the school. The Board asked for a Limited Statutory Manager (LSM) to be appointed and we are very pleased that this action has now been confirmed by the Ministry. We are therefore very pleased to introduce Alan Curtis to our school community. Alan will work alongside our Board of Trustees in his role as LSM taking on the Board's functions, powers and duties as an employer and around financial operations and communications. The Board retains all other functions, powers and duties.

The Board has met Alan and we are confident that he has the knowledge and skills to help the school at this time. Alan has significant experience in the education sector, particularly around all aspects of governance. We have been reassured by the wide range of issues that he has helped schools resolve over the years and his passion for change that can be easily sustained into the future. It was also very good to hear that Alan's core focus is on ensuring that the students, their wellbeing and their learning remain at the centre of everything we do.

Over the next few weeks Alan will undertake a scoping exercise so that he has a full understanding of the school and the issues that need to be addressed. This process will include reviewing documentation and talking to various people involved in the school including staff and parents. Alan expects to update you further over the coming weeks about his work and opportunities for you to provide feedback to him. If you would like to touch base with him sooner, you are welcome to email him at allscots@gmail.com.

I am also pleased to confirm that the process for Board of Trustees elections for the parent trustees and the staff trustee is underway. While more information on the elections will come from the independent Returning Officer that we have appointed to run the elections, we can confirm the key dates:

Call for nominations: Friday 8 June 2018
Nominations Close: Friday 22 June 2018
Voting: Friday 6 July 2018
Votes counted: Thursday 12 July 2018
New trustees take office: Friday 13 July 2018

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In closing I would also like to take a moment to thank the staff at Whenuapai School who are doing a great job to ensure that the students are not impacted during this time. I would also like to thank our parent community for your support of the school and I hope that this email reassures you that there is the will and expertise to ensure that all concerns can be addressed swiftly and well for the sake of everyone in our school community.

If you have any questions about this letter please don't hesitate to contact the Board (wsbot@whenuapai.school.nz) or to make direct contact with Alan Curtis for matters relating to employment, finance or communications. In the meantime, we also look forward to keeping you updated as we move forward.

Kind regards,

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

Mike Leonard
Chairman of Board of Trustees
Whenuapai School