

## **Board of Trustees News**

### **Board of Trustees 2018 Community Survey**

*In 2018 Northland School parents and caregivers were asked to complete a biennial survey about Northland School. The Board of Trustees thanks the more than 100 families that contributed to the survey. Here is a summary of the key findings:*

#### ***Communication***

- Majority of respondents find the twice yearly written reports and parent-teacher interviews provide useful information about their child's progress against the NZ national curriculum.
- Weekly emailed or printed newsletters are the preferred way to be advised about upcoming school events.

#### ***Opportunities:***

- To strengthen awareness of Northland School's health and safety processes and procedures. Some respondents were not aware of initiatives underway including the student-led committee, nor the availability of the health and safety policies on the school website or the existence of a hazard register.
- To ensure any behavioural concerns are highlighted in a timely manner, rather than waiting until parent teacher interviews or reports.
- To highlight, more regularly, how parents, guardians and caregivers can support learning at home
- To highlight on the school calendar the expected timing of the development of the school curriculum, charter and any policies to enable the Northland School community to provide input if appropriate.

#### ***Northland Park***

Respondents provided views on opportunities to improve Northland Park both in terms of its use by the Northland community and Northland School. For example, social seating areas, trees for shelter and climbing, fencing to prevent balls disappearing, play equipment and new football nets. These have been shared with Wellington City Council.

#### ***Community Involvement***

Some respondents identified ways in which Northland School students could actively contribute to the local community. These included various environmental initiatives eg tree planting, rubbish collection and general tidy ups as well as 'good neighbour' initiatives eg visits to elderly, Christmas carols at the Community Centre, visits to local early learning centres/kindergarten as well as relationship with St Anne's.

#### ***Cultural Identity***

While the majority of respondents felt that language, culture and identity of the Northland School community are appropriately acknowledged some respondents felt there could be opportunities to teach more Te Reo and to celebrate diversity more.

### ***Teaching and learning priorities, resources and digital technology programme***

The majority of respondents felt that the resources available for students are suitable and sufficient to support learning and are satisfied that the teaching and learning priorities meet the needs of students, families and whanau.

Opportunity and future practice improvements:

- To continue to improve the way children with special learning needs are supported at Northland School.
- To improve the playground experience for students, particularly during the build project.
- Ensure the learning programme covers the full range of the NZ curriculum including the arts.
- Ensure the digital technology programme addresses privacy and security matters appropriately, and does not assume all households have easy access to computers at home.
- To look for ways to use the Kāhui Ako achievement challenge learnings around wellbeing to improve resilience of Northland School students.

### ***Health and Safety***

The Board separately considered the Health and Safety responses and took action as appropriate.

***Geoff Davenport, Gillian Blythe, Jeremy Seed, Fraser Clark, Tim Ng, Fiona Valentine, Jeremy Edwards – Northland School Board of Trustees.***