



WELLINGTON HIGH SCHOOL – BOARD MINUTES

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Minutes of a meeting held on **Monday 11 November at 6.20pm**

**Present:** Wyatt Page (Chair), Dominic Killalea (Principal), Giovanni Tiso, David Cooling, Evžen Novak, Fiona Nichols, Richard Ngatai, Jorah Ramlan-Pointon, Nicky Birch (online), Geronimo La Hood, Nick Tramoundanas

**Apologies:** None received

**Visitors:** Fern Ashby, Aidan Gillespie, Rebecca Rāpira-Davies (EOTC - Year 9 Camp), Jed Shepherd (EOTC - Year 9 Camp)

**In attendance:** Alison Jeffery (Board Secretary)

The meeting opened with the karakia.

*Geronimo MOVED: that the visitors be granted speaking rights.*

CARRIED  
David

**Visitor reports**

**EOTC - Year 9 camp 2025**

- Rebecca Rāpira-Davies and Jed Shepherd spoke to the Year 9 Camp EOTC planning for 2025. Camps have run for this year group in the past and are being reintroduced in 2025. Three two-night camps, each for two herengatahi will run at El Rancho. Staffing will be eight teachers plus additional support that will be determined based on the needs of the group.
- El Rancho staff will run activities at the camp. These will be confirmed in December
- Peer support involvement for the first day is being considered
- Financial support for whānau is in place if needed.
- The Board and the EOTC committee noted their support for the Year 9 camp

*Rebecca and Jed were thanked for their contribution and left the meeting at 6.35pm.*

**Minutes of last meeting**

*Nick MOVED that the minutes of the meeting on 21 October be received as a true and accurate record.*

CARRIED  
Fiona

**Matters arising from the minutes**

- Triennial election period is confirmed between 3 - 19 September 2025, recommended date being 17 September
- Concerns and complaints process has been reviewed by SLT and is fit for purpose.

**ACTION:** Create a document that lists complaints to the Principal / Board as per the terms of the policy.

**Reports**

**Principal's report**

- Dominic called on the Board to take action re: cessation of Te Ahu o Te Reo funding and asked to consider writing an open letter that could be shared with other boards and school communities. The school's active partnership with and obligations to Te Tiriti necessitate a strong statement in the light of the Treaty Principles Bill and changes to Section 127 of the Education and Training Act 2020.
- This action is supported by both students and Te Whānau a Taraika rōpū and will be timed to coincide with Hīkoi mō te Tiriti

*Giovanni MOVED that the Board contribute to an open letter to other schools, opposing the Treaty Principles Bill, supporting the Hīkoi and expressing outrage at the cessation of funding for Te Ahu o Te Reo*

CARRIED

Nick

**ACTION:** Richard and Wyatt to draft a letter to be sent to the Boards of other schools.

- Regarding recent statements from The ACT Party regarding removing term time Teacher Only Days, it was noted that the statement of concern has been retracted.
- International expenditure - clarification that the main expenses were on staffing, not marketing, was provided. It is important to understand the needs of marketing for the International Department. This is crucial in terms of succession planning and the programme's continued success in generating income for the school. Visits are important in terms of agent retention and ensuring continuing relationships with the school.

*Evžen MOVED that the Board fund \$3000 towards the staff Christmas function*

CARRIED

David

- Property - The redevelopment of the Tasman Street tennis courts into parking spaces is due to go out to tender.  
**ACTION:** WSP and the MoE to be invited to lead a property walk round for the December meeting

*Nick MOVED that the Principal's report be accepted by the Board.*

CARRIED

David

#### **Te Whānau a Taraika report**

- The planned whānau hui did not take place
- Whakanuia provided a true celebration and enabled junior ākonga to understand what they can achieve at our kura.

#### **Students' report**

- Radio proposal - a group of students who have completed courses e.g. through Gateway, plus experienced teachers. Looking at podcast style digital broadcasts so frequency ownership is not an issue.
- List of projects shared with the board to demonstrate ambition and aspiration for the year. Permissions and support will be sought as the year progresses.
- Proposal to unblock websites e.g. social media at breaks and lunchtimes to be followed up with Dominic outside this meeting.
- Other areas to be explored include the need for warm spaces at breaks e.g. when the Library is needed for other events. It was noted that there are accessibility requirements that mean doors should not be closed.

*Giovanni MOVED that the students' report be accepted by the Board.*

CARRIED

Evžen

*Evžen left the meeting at 8.02pm*

*Nick MOVED that the meeting be extended by 30 minutes*

CARRIED

David

#### **Finance reporting**

- It was noted that the CEC TEC income is reported separately so this area is not in deficit
- Three pay periods in October led to a variation
- Staffing overuse is complex. Funding may come from different areas (e.g. ESOL), be a consequence of the international programme (18 internationals is equivalent to 1 teacher), study awards, refreshment leave etc contribute to fixed-term staffing.
- ESOL, international, guidance and learning support staffing has all been agreed and supported by previous boards.
- The picture for 2025 is looking promising.

**ACTION** Dominic to continue to provide staffing detail to the Board

*Richard MOVED that the Finance reporting be accepted by the Board.*

CARRIED

Nick

Strategic Business

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Functional business

## Annual Plan

- This will form a focus for the December meeting.  
**ACTION** - Dominic to provide context for the annual plan discussion and send relevant data to the Board in advance.

## EOTC

*Giovanni MOVED that the summary of EOTC approved by the Board since the 21 October meeting be received by the Board.*

CARRIED  
Geronimo

- Fiona will be the back-up to the committee should a committee member be absent
- It was noted that the process continues to be reviewed and streamlined and that the meeting with Rebecca Rāpira-Davies was beneficial.

## Provisional dates for 2025 Board meetings

*Jorah MOVED that the provisional dates for Board meetings 2025 be accepted by the Board.*

CARRIED  
David

Correspondence received by the Chair and actions taken:

Date	From	Concerning	Action
<b>Magazines, Newsletters, Promotional</b>			
29.10.2024	Ministry of Education	Education Gazette, vol 103, no 14	
<b>Letters</b>			
12.10.2024	Kirsty Michel	Feedback on WHS staff members - JYPT	
25.10.2024	PPTA	Notification of a Paid Union Meeting	
25.10.2024	NZSBA	Apply for our Study Awards today	
5.11.2024	PPTA	PPTA National Executive appointment	
6.11.2024	SchoolEd	Triennial elections	

*David MOVED that SchoolEd be appointed to run the triennial elections*

CARRIED  
Nick

*Nick MOVED that the correspondence be accepted by the Board.*

CARRIED  
Richard

## AOB - None

*The meeting moved to in committee at 8.33pm  
The meeting moved out of in committee at 8.44pm  
The meeting closed with the Karakia at 8.44pm*

**For future agendas:** (see also the [Board's annual plan](#))

December 2024 - Property update, annual planning, update on Rarotonga EOTC  
February 2025 - Staggered board elections info to the community  
March 2025 - Final approval for Nepal trip  
April 2025 - Final approval for Rarotonga EOTC

