

Board of Trustees News July 2017

Welcome to our new families and to our new staff member Katie Parker who opened Room 2 this week. We hope you all enjoy your time at Coatesville School.

Health and Safety

A number of parents as well as staff have made use of our new health and safety notification system. Several new hazards were identified last term which have now been addressed, for example, a classroom door which was shutting too fast, putting fingers and toes at risk. Six students received treatment for minor injuries. No hazards were identified.

The old playground was closed for a short time as a precautionary measure.

If you notice any health and safety issues around the School please report them via our new system: <http://www.coatesville.school.nz/health--safety.html>

Property

During the holidays a number of school families were involved in refurbishing the old playground. The working bees were coordinated by the Friends of the School and it was great to see so many turning up despite the miserable weather. Over the next few weeks a few smaller alterations will be made and in time it will receive a paint lift and new climbing ropes. The playground is now back open and ready for the children.

A huge thank you to Jason Steele for organising it all, Matt Ellingham for sharing his building expertise, and all the dads, mums and kids who helped at the various working bees. We are extremely grateful.

Student progress and achievement data

The key priority of the Board of Trustees is to monitor and oversee improvements in student achievement. Earlier this month, we reviewed the progress and achievement data for the year to date. Individual student data is used to inform discussions at parent/teacher/student conferences. At a Board level, we analyse this data in a range of ways, for example, by: year level, core curriculum subjects, gender, age and year groups. The results are reviewed against our own targets for National Standards as well as for already identified target groups. We also use this information to identify and inquire about new target groups. The Board is really pleased with the results so far which indicate we are on track to meet our targets for National Standards. Teachers, syndicate leaders and the Senior Leadership Team have already put a huge amount of effort into inquiring into these results and planning next steps for all our students.

Community Information Evening

There will be a community information evening at School later this term to update you on the Coatesville Learning Model, BYOD, and property plans for the School over the next five years. The Board will organise child care at School to enable as many of you as possible to attend.

Finances

Thank you to those families who have paid their school donations in part or in full. These donations help us to provide the children with a range of opportunities not covered by our Ministry of Education funding as well as help us stretch our MoE funding further. For example, the Ministry funds each class for 1-29 students. We use your donations to help keep class numbers well inside these figures, something we know is important to our parent community.

The next Board meeting is on Tuesday 1 August at 6.30pm in the staff room. Anyone is welcome to attend but only Board members have speaking rights. Contact details for Board members can be found at: <http://www.coatesville.school.nz/board-of-trustees.html>