

ANNUAL REPORT FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES CHAIR – 2020

The first quarter of 2020 was, understandably, an anxious and unsettling time for our school and greater community due to the global COVID pandemic. However, our staff ran with the challenges that remote learning posed and set about making the most of the situation. Our post lockdown survey showed that the school responded well to the needs of the learners and their families.

On the staffing front it was another settled year with Edel Kelly leading our senior Kanuka class and Emma Martin at the helm in Tarata. Thanks to Barbara McLean for her continued support in mentoring these two young teachers. Di Officer continues to lead the school in the role of Principal and teach new entrants and juniors in Harakeke. All of whom have done a wonderful job and who have been supported by fantastic teacher aides and support staff throughout the year. Thank you to all on behalf of the Board of Trustees.

Both Miss Kelly and Miss Martin leave us at the end of 2020 to employment closer to their homes – both travel quite a distance each day to Waipara School. We wish them both all the very best for their future endeavours.

We welcome Ms Leigh Jephcott to Kanuka and Ms Maggie Yagmich to Tarata for 2021.

The children of Waipara School are constantly the focus of targeted programmes where needed.

Throughout the year the BOT was supportive of staff involvement in PLD and the school has engaged in the Tipu Maia Community of Learning.

We provide support to our staff in line with Employer responsibility policies.

Professional development is an ongoing work in progress for BOT members.

A huge thank you to the staff, PTA, parents and greater community for their efforts and support over the past year.

Looking forward to the achievements of 2021.

Victoria McGuckin
Board Chair, Waipara School Board of Trustees