



Western Springs College-Ngā Puna O Waiōrea Board Hui Minutes, 27 May 2024 in WSC Staffroom

This meeting was also available via Google Meet for the public.

Item
The hui commenced at 5.04pm
<p>Present (Board Members): Louise Gardiner (Presiding Member, Co-Chair & Meeting Chairperson) Brent Reihana (NPoW whānau-selected member) Kat Poi (NPoW whānau-selected member) Josie Wall (NPoW whānau-selected member) Julie Debreceeny (Acting Principal) Pā Chris Selwyn (Tumuaki) Jackie Floyd (WSC parent-elected member) Joseph McCready (WSC parent-elected member) Alicia Murray (WSC parent-elected member) Sarah Tizard (WSC parent-elected member) - via Google Meet link Robert Pollock (WSC kaiako/kaimahi tautoko-elected member) Kyra TuiSamoa (NPoW taura-selected member) Hugo Russell (WSC student-elected member)</p> <p>Present (non-Board members): Asha Vaidya (Board Secretary) Gerry Victor (WSC Acting Associate Principal) - supporting the Principal. Laura Bakker (HoD Geography) Anna Witten-Sage (Deputy Principal in charge of Geography Department) Darna Appleyard (Kai Urungi - NPoW Business Operations Manager) Keri Gardner (NPoW whānau)</p> <p>Apologies: Ivan Davis (Principal) - sabbatical during Term 2, 2024. Tamati Patuwai (Te Ohonga Ake member; co-opted Board member; Co-Chair) - whānau tangi. Sailesh Vaidya (School Business Manager) - not presenting today; report linked in.</p> <p>Declaration of interests: None</p> <p>(5:04pm) - Karakia (Robert Pollock)</p>

Mihi whakatau

(5:05pm)

The Board welcomed Kat Poi (NPoW whānau-selected member) to her first meeting, followed by whakawhanaungatanga.

The Board extended their sincere condolences to Tamati Patuwai, whose uncle has passed away. Our thoughts and aroha are with him.

CURRICULUM

Geography

(5:09pm)

(5:09pm - Alicia Murray arrived)

The purpose of this item was for the board to receive a report about this curriculum area.

The Board received a report from Laura Bakker (HoD - Geography).

[Geography Dept report - May 2024](#)

(5:13pm - Pā Chris Selwyn arrived)

The Board thanked Laura for her kōrero, and for the skill and experience that she brings to the Geography Department.

REQUEST TO SPEAK

(5:29pm)

The Board received a request to speak from a member of our WSC whānau to speak about the needs of students with mental health challenges and tools to cope with the impacts of increasing rates of anxiety and neurodivergence.

The board agreed to keep their names confidential due to the sensitivity of the information they shared. [Following the hui, the whānau shared a copy of their speaking notes with the board.]

The whānau whakaaro included the following points:

- Many more teenagers are experiencing anxiety and there is judgement and stigma associated with this - makes it difficult for the child as well as parents/whānau.
- There seems to be a lack of safety nets for these students, and Years 10-12 seem to be difficult ages to navigate. Kari Centre is hard to access and there can be long wait times for other external services. The beginning of Year 10 would be a good time for the school to consider additional support for these students.
- The Waiora team have supported whānau well, and they have had some great deans and teachers who clearly support & validate the students - this should be celebrated.
- The open-plan building has been challenging for some students, particularly those students with sensory difficulties and can very quickly become overwhelmed. Noise-cancelling headphones can be valuable for students with such sensitivities.

- People often make assumptions, including around poor attendance rates. There is a need for balancing these expectations. Physical presence doesn't always correlate to good achievement. Being categorised on an attendance register does not help whānau who are struggling to cope.
- Although WSCW is known for its empathy, the whānau would like the Board to consider how the school can help and support these students. They are happy to help where they can.
- The current country-wide system for coding absences does not offer such flexibility to reflect a students' circumstances and record engagement even when absent from school.

The board thanked the whānau for coming to speak at this meeting; the Board appreciates hearing their story and their concerns

Our new 2024-2025 Strategic Plan includes an action to establish a diversity advisory group.

REGULAR REVIEW

Inclusion and wellbeing

(6:03pm)

The Board received information & analysis about the service provided to students at the WSCW Student Health Centre (Waiora). Sue Poupouare & Anna Witten-Sage attended for this item.

 Notes for Board meeting 27_5_24 from Waiora Dept.pdf

The board discussed with Sue and Anna the services provided through Waiora by the guidance & counselling and nurse team.

Sue, Anna and the board discussed the following:

- We have four Guidance Counsellors working in Waiora, but have been short-staffed lately (one counsellor has been on extended medical leave). Counselling staff issue students with individualised plans. Sue aims to remove barriers to their learning and get them back into class as soon as possible.
- Physiotherapist is available from 12:30pm-4pm for staff and students.
- Nurses can access the Westmere Medical Centre - thanks to them for being available to the school/kura. This is also beneficial to NPoW taura, many of whom cannot travel to their local doctor due to the distance they live from kura. The nurses are seeing more mental health symptoms (e.g. stomach aches, headaches), and they are still testing for Covid.
- There has been an exponential rise in anxiety in our students.
- Sue attends fortnightly meetings with HoHs, HoDs, Learning Centre, wrap meetings, etc to discuss how we can support students who require Waiora services; they don't work in isolation.
- Waiora visits Year 9 Health classes at the beginning of the year. An online survey (Travellers, which is run in most high schools) is completed. Waiora can pick up students needing help from this survey. Waiora plans to carry out this survey with NPoW taura in Term 3.
- Waiora has seen 437 students since the start of the 2024 school year, who required 1807 interventions. A large number of students are seen once, and then more who are followed up

once-daily or once-weekly. Many students self-refer to Waiora via email. Other referrals can come from wrap meetings, or individual teachers/kaiaako.

POINTS TO CONSIDER

- For NPoW, how can we look to canvas the 21 feeder schools? This is something that Sue is trying to find solutions to address.
- Disaggregated Waiora data for NPoW was requested. However, Sue noted that currently it is hard to split data, which is based on ethnicity not Springs/NPoW split.
- In order to provide more support for NPoW, the Waiora team would need more relief staffing. Our Head Nurse (Jo Harris) is aware of the issues for our NPoW taura and is looking at ways to address these - particularly after the switch to the Equity Index for WSC-NPoW as "School 48". Discussions have been had with the Tumuaki, but there are currently no simple answers.
- 90% of Sue's workload is with NPoW taura - does this indicate a specific need for more resources/health workers for NPoW? Do we need to consider a more equitable allocation across the two kura?

ACTIONS:

- Add work plan item for Waiora services, and invite Sue Poupouare back for further discussions.
- Investigate options for engaging a counsellor who is Māori and can speak te reo.
- The HEADS assessment was discussed, which is a framework for a semi-structured interview conducted during a consultation. It involves asking adolescents about their Home, Education and Employment, Eating and Exercise, Activities and peers, Drugs and Alcohol, Depression and suicide, Sexual health, Safety and Strengths. This assessment is evidence-based and has been adapted for Māori. However, there is currently no funding for HEADS assessments, but Sue is happy to look further into this.

The Board thanked Sue for her whakaaro.

(6:50pm) - Dinner Break

Karakia mo te kai - Kyra TuiSamoa

(7:18pm) - Meeting resumed

REGULAR REVIEW (continued)

Final NCEA results for 2023

(7:18pm - after kai)

The Board received the final NCEA results for 2023. The Board has previously received data and analysis relating to NCEA 2023 results at its hui on 26 February and 8 April, so this is not a substantive item at this hui.

[Final NCEA Results - 2023](#)

ACTION- The Analysis of Variance (AoV) can now be submitted to the MoE, now that the Board has received the final NCEA results for 2023.

STRATEGIC REVIEW

Incident rapid review

(7:31pm)

Louise (Co-Chair) updated the Board on progress on the incident rapid review following the evacuation in March 2024.

The co-chairs have received a final DRAFT report from *MartinJenkins*, and will share this with board members. Alicia Murray has taken the lead on this piece of work.

The Board needs to hold a sense-making workshop, and then communicate the review findings to the school community. The ideal time for this workshop is in the week beginning Monday 10th June; a time will be decided soon.

REGULAR REVIEW

Health and Safety

(7:21pm)

[H&S Board Report - May 2024](#)

The Board received the April/May H&S report. Taken as read.

ACTION - Gerry Victor to pass on feedback to Sailesh to a column to the register to note what (if anything) has changed as a result of the incident, hazard or near miss.

Regular reports

(7:23pm)

Tumuaki Report

It is a busy time for NPoW - getting ready for Kapa Haka Nationals. Fifty students travelling down to Nelson for this week-long campaign.

ACTION - Pā Chris has asked for the daysheet to be amended so that everyone can see the extra hours that NPoW is putting in at the moment.

Principal's Report

(7:24pm)

[Acting Principal's Report - May 2024](#)

The Board received the Acting Principal's Report for May 2024. Taken as read.

Julie acknowledged the recent passing of two wahine toa of our community - Mama Iriia Tepaki and Yvonne Maea-Brown. Yvonne started the homework centres in the 1990s for Pacifica students. Iriia has contributed to Pō Fiafia and many other cultural contributions over the many years.

Our Learning Support students have written a book, and the book launch is taking place this week (30th May). Proceeds from the book sale will be given to Starship Hospital.

ACTION - The link will be shared with Board members so they can purchase the book.

The Board discussed the current status of the MoE proposal to situate a CASS satellite at WSCW. The most recent plans received from the MoE still show loss of amenity for WSCW. The Acting principal and co-chair have requested further information from the MoE. Until the MoE position is confirmed, the Board will not make a decision relating to CASS.

The Board discussed connections with Ngāti Whātua Ōrakei and how a closer relationship would be mutually beneficial.

Staff report

[Staff Rep - Kura Auraki report](#)

The Board received a written report from Robert Pollock.

Student report

[Student Report \(Hugo\) - Mtg 3, 2024](#)

[Kyra TuiSamoa Mtg 3 2024 report](#)

The Board received the written reports from Hugo Russell & Kyra TuiSamoa.

Board committee work

(7:43pm)

[Finance Report - May 2024 \(v2\)](#)

[PRC Board Report - T2, 2024](#)

The Board received the May 2024 WSCW Finance Report; the Term 2 Principal assurances to the Board from the Policy Review Committee (PRC); and the updated WSCW Property Subcommittee Tracking Sheet (see 12/03/2024 tab). Accepted as read.

A Pacifica Students Subcommittee has been established, which includes Joseph McCready (convener), Sarah Tizard, Josie Wall and Kyra TuiSamoa.

Te Whakarōputunga NZSBA has upcoming training for Board members on the Student Behaviour Management; all members are encouraged to undertake this training. A virtual training session is scheduled for the end of June 2024.

A Property Subcommittee Meeting was planned for the 15th May, but this was deferred until Jeff Maddren & Peter Jaine could be available.

There has been no Master Plan Subcommittee meeting since February 2024.

DECISION - The Master Plan Committee should continue to meet, with or without MoE representatives attending, to keep momentum going to address growth pressures.

ADMINISTRATION

Confirmation of minutes of meeting on 8 April 2024

(7:49pm)

[Draft v2 Minutes - Mtg 2, 8 Apr 2024](#)

[OPEN Board Decisions & Actions Register](#) - (updated 25 May 2024)

The Board confirmed the minutes of the meeting held on 8 April 2024.

(Accepted by consensus)

MATTERS ARISING

ACTION - The Ngā Oho property issue is missing from the spreadsheet. Add to tracking sheet.

ACTION - Asha to correct the link for the Property Subcommittee tracking sheet.

The smells issue in Waioteao has been related to the construction of the building, but the MoE doesn't know what the exact problem is. The MoE is withholding the retentions to Downer until this can be resolved. This is a health & safety issue for our students - some have smell sensitivities, some are getting sick and can not learn, some are getting headaches.

ACTION - Further discussion on the smells issue in Waioteao should be had outside of this meeting, and we need to work out a new pathway forward (including taking it to a higher level, and possible legal options).

Board casual vacancies (x1)

(7:57pm)

The Board received an update on filling the Waiōrea kaiako/kaimahi tautoko member x 1 casual vacancy. This position is still vacant.

ACTION - Louise and Josie will progress actions to fill the vacant kaiako/kaimahi tautoko position.

Board committees for 2024

(7:58pm)

Thank you to all the Board members who have signed up for the 2024 subcommittees.

Auckland Secondary Schools Centre (ASSC) property plan

(7:58pm)

ACTION - Add to workplan - item about WSCW Board governance role for ASSC.

DECISION - The Board delegates to the Co-Chair (Louise Gardiner), Acting Principal (Julie Debreceeny) and Joseph McCready the authority to approve the ASSC 10-year property plan, and for this to happen prior to funding being released in July.

Te Whakarōputunga - NZ School Board Association (NZSBA; formerly NZSTA) AGM

(8:00pm)

DECISION - That Board confirms our delegate for the NZSBA AGM as the Auckland Regional Executive Chair (proxy vote).

DECISION - The Board supports the three remits in the AGM booklet.

The Board noted there are no specific remits this year that address staff shortages for Auckland schools.

Correspondence

(8:02pm)

The Board received correspondence sent to or from the Board since the last meeting (8 April 2024).

PUBLIC EXCLUDED BUSINESS (PEB)
In accordance with Section 48 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, the public were excluded from this part of the meeting between 8.03pm and 9.10pm to discuss confidential matters. The resolution was passed by consensus.
Resumed public business - 9:11pm
<i>(9:11pm)</i> Karakia whakamutunga - Pā Chris Selwyn
CLOSE
Meeting closed - 9:11pm Run time - approx. 4 hours 10 minutes

These minutes were confirmed by the Board at its meeting on Monday 1 July 2024 (Mtg 4).

These minutes are a true and accurate record of the meeting held on Monday 27 May 2024.

_____ Louise Gardiner (Presiding Member)