



Western Springs College-Ngā Puna O Waiōrea Board Hui Minutes, 15 September 2025 in WSC Staffroom

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

Item
The hui commenced at 5.05pm.
<p>Present (Board Members): Louise Gardiner (Presiding Member, Co-Chair, WSC parent-elected member) Tamati Patuwai (Co-Chair; co-opted Board member) Ivan Davis (Principal) Pā Chris Selwyn (Tumuaki) - remotely - left at 6:13pm; re-joined at 8:20pm, left at 8:45pm Jojo Lewis (WSC tauira-elected member) Joseph McCready (WSC parent-elected member) Sarah Tizard (WSC parent-elected member) Robert Pollock (WSC kaiako/kaimahi tautoko-elected member) Josie Wall (NPoW whānau-selected member) Kat Poi (NPoW whānau-selected member) Alicia Murray (WSC parent-elected member) Jackie Floyd (WSC parent-elected member) Brent Reihana (NPoW whānau-selected member) Richard Anderson (NPoW kaimahi tautoko-selected member) Kyra TuiSamoa (NPoW tauira-elected member) - arrived 5:30pm</p> <p>Present (non-Board members): Phil Douglas (Deputy Principal; English Teacher) Anna Witten-Sage (Deputy Principal; English Teacher) Francine Cameron (Board Secretary Support; Minute Secretary) Rewa Worley (Outgoing NPoW kaimahi tautoko-selected member)</p> <p>Apologies: None received</p> <p>Declaration of interests: None</p>
Karakia tīmatanga & mihi - Tamati Patuwai

Welcome to new board member, Matua Rihari Anderson - new kaiako/kaimahi tautoko representative for Ngā Puna o Wāiōrea.

Farewell and thank you to those who are finishing their board terms and this is their last meeting as board members:

- Rewa Worley - kaiako/kaimahi tautoko – Ngā Puna o Wāiōrea.
- Jackie Floyd - parent-elected member - Western Springs College
- Sarah Tizard - parent-elected member - Western Springs College
- Joseph McCready - parent-elected member - Western Springs College
- Rob Pollock - kaiako/kaimahi tautoko-elected member - Western Springs College

Item (17:15)

PunaFEST crew - presentation

The team organising PunaFEST spoke to the board about their initiative, taking place in Term 4, 2025.

'PunaFest 2025 is a one-day festival celebration of live music, haka, art, food and market stalls, activities, and speakers; and experience to share an indigenous Māori and Pacific world with our community. Taking place Saturday 18 October 2025, it is led by rangatahi of Ngā Puna o Waiōrea and friends, and guided by whānau, in a celebration of Kotahitanga (Unity in Community), Whakapapa (History & Heritage), and Taurikura (Legacy & Prosperity). PunaFest not only provides an occasion to reconnect Seddon High, Springs, and Waiōrea alumni back into the fold, but also inspiring and enabling rich creative teaching and learning contexts for our tamariki mokopuna, to equip them well for unfolding futures.'

The PunaFEST Crew asked the board to approve PunaFest 2025 to proceed subject to the risk mitigation measures outlined. In particular the four-week out review to realign scale of event if required.

This year is the 30th anniversary of Ngā Puna o Waiōrea.

The board thanked the PunaFEST crew for their vision to bring this initiative to life and could see it becoming a regular fixture in the campus calendar in future years. The board would look at what it could do to support that vision.

DECISION: The board supports, in principle, PunaFEST taking place.

ACTION: Louise and Tamati to work with the PunaFEST crew to review the H&S and risk management plan, funding plan etc, to give certainty to the organisers ASAP.

STRATEGIC REVIEW

Formalising tangata whenua representation on our school board and potential partnership with Ngāti Whātua Ōrakei

Purpose: For the board to consider a proposal to formalise Ngāti Whatua Ōrakei representation on our school board.

Tamati Patuwai spoke to this item.

Request to:

- Create a Ngāti Whātua Ōrakei seat as a permanent position on the Board, with all the rights and responsibilities of an elected Board member. A positive and productive advancement toward Te Tiriti partnership.
- That the Board adopt the term “Tangata Whenua” for Ngāti Whātua Ōrakei in place of “Mana Whenua” across its documents.

Noting:

- “Mana Whenua” is commonly used but from the perspective of Ngāti Whātua it is not the most appropriate expression. “Tangata Whenua” more accurately and respectfully reflects the identity and authority of Ngāti Whātua Ōrakei.
- The Tangata Whenua and co-chair positions are not necessarily in a seat together but at the moment Tamati is holding both.

Questions:

- *Are there Maori who will be impacted by the change?* - Yes, potentially. The board will work through this. Will need a lot of kōrero. It is a wider piece of work to fully effect the change.
- *What is the reason for having the Tangata Whenua seat on the board?* Tiriti and co-governance - a way to better embed the partnership element ie a specific place at the table for Tangata Whenua. This will reinforce that.
- Need to continue to use co-option for now because that is all we have until changes to our constitution are formalised.

DECISIONS:

1. That the Board adopt the term “Tangata Whenua” for Ngāti Whātua Ōrakei in place of “Mana Whenua” and amend all its documents accordingly. This replacement of kupu would happen over time. (ACTION)
2. The board welcomes the opportunity for partnership with Ngāti Whātua Ōrakei - we will work together with Ngāti Whātua Ōrakei on what steps are needed to formalise that partnership (some discovery and kōrero to be had for this to occur) but in the meantime use co-option.

Acknowledgment that work needs to be done on our constitution - but meanwhile we celebrate this opportunity today.

REQUEST TO SPEAK (17:45)

Margaret Tukerangi presented kōrero on behalf of Waiōrea whānau about the alternative constitution.

The board received a report and presentation.

Following the presentation, the board commented:

- This is a good time to review the alternative constitution, being 5+ years since it was gazetted in 2019. Some interpretations also need tidying up.

- The current constitution is light on giving effect to Te Titiri in governance and operations. This is an opportunity to ensure our constitution brings better effect to this. Equity and intention is important.
- Thought has been given regarding the size of the board and equal representation (from both Springs and Waiōrea). This requires consideration and consultation. Possible Taumata board approach but with broader approach when necessary to pull in expertise of others.
- Need to ensure it will work well for both NPoW and WSC.
- Margaret can offer previous experience re bringing in an alternative constitution through her experience on the board at Newton Central.
- Will need to consider timing of putting a proposed change to our current alternative constitution to the Minister of Education to obtain best outcome.
- Mindful that board will change as at Tuesday 16 September therefore existing/outgoing members not wishing to bind new board to a decision now. New board members should be involved in that kōrero.
- Kōrero can include MOE, they will want to be involved.

OUTCOME:

1. **DECISION:** That the board supports, in principle, the proposal to bring equal representation in the make up of the board and to carry out a review of the alternative constitution to include engagement and consultation with whānau. Details to be worked through with incoming board.
2. **ACTION:** The board creates a subcommittee at the next board Hui (ie new board) to lead this process on behalf of the board.

STRATEGIC REVIEW (18:59)

Strategic Plan deep dive - Just - Ākonga and kaimahi wellbeing

Purpose: to review progress in implementing the actions in the annual plan relating to Ākonga and kaimahi wellbeing.

The board received reports regarding:

- Ākonga and kaimahi wellbeing
- Inclusion and diversity.

Anna Witten-Sage, Deputy Principal, presented this item.

Noting:

- Waiora has reached capacity. Service requirements means the department has outgrown the building.
- The number of students with complex needs is increasing - both as our role grows and also as a percentage of the roll. Many reasons for increased needs.
- Students are sometimes placed in positions that aren't ideal. Alternative education, youth mentoring programmes utilised. Waiora staff are sometimes the key oversee-er of support when the clinical needs are greater than what a school guidance counselor would normally be involved in. Other schools are experiencing similar.

- *Who are the groups who are particularly supporting Maori?* IRF funding can assist with supporting some students.
- A lot of mahi with our main feeder intermediate schools regarding students coming in as year 9s. However, concern that for Waiōrea Y9 intakes we have students coming to us from 21 feeder schools, without this sharing.
- The “Managed Moves” (multi-school, multi-agency approach to placing students in our cluster who have been excluded or need to move to another school for other reasons) works well.
- Te Rito as a platform may answer some of the challenges - ie where info can be easily shared from previous schools. Will only work where feeder schools use the same platform.
- 80% of directed enrolments in our cluster are coming to WSCW. This presents some real challenges.
- The mahi of the support services within the school are great (led by Anna Witten-Sage). They are areas of significant and increasing need.

DECISION:

The board received the reports.

ACTION:

1. SLT to scope options for future proofing a property plan to meet Waiora’s increased service requirements.
1. To consider budgetary implications of employing additional counselling and nursing staff in Waiora and include this in the budget drivers paper to come to the board at the next meeting.

(7:15pm) - Dinner break

Karakia mō te kai - Matua Rihari Anderson

(7:40pm) - Meeting resumed

CURRICULUM

English for Speakers of Other languages (ESOL)

Purpose: to receive a report regarding the ESOL curriculum area.

Ben Hinton, HoD ESOL, Social Studies Kaiako, Te Kahui Ako o Waitematā WSL, University Liaison, presented this item.

Noting:

- Integrated learning and a work room is a huge advantage.
- AKA “English as an Additional Language” - will be a subject under the Minister’s new approved subject list. Therefore they will receive curriculum documents (not had previously).
- These students are a great contribution to our kura, ie diversity and culture etc but there are language barriers for these learners to integrate fully in our campus.
- Changes and challenges - eg students whose English is not good and not fee paying students due to zoning and migration.
- The co-requisite for NCEA literacy, meant to be proficient users - ie ELEM Stages 3-4. However about 50% are arriving with level of 0 and it can take learners 18-24 months per stage to achieve. * This is a significant barrier to achieving the required level.
- The future direction of NCEA may create additional barriers for ESOL students.

- ESOL dept offers **first language support** in Japanese, Arabic, Mandarin, Bahasa, Thai and Malaysian. The more of this we can offer the better. Likened to trainer wheels on a bike. It's necessary initially, but best once the trainer wheels are removed.
- Numbers are back up post covid - domestic and international students across all year levels:
 - 127 students in ESOL
 - 185 in Kura Auraki (English medium)

Questions:

- *Are the students having a positive experience?* ESOL is very diverse - believes it's a really positive experience for those students (and the kura).
- *What is ESOL attrition rate (ie of students leaving)?* It is very positive when students move from ESOL to mainstream English. Otherwise the attrition rate is low.
- *What else can we do to support the department?* Smaller class sizes would bring a great opportunity for greater success. Class sizes of 12-15 are ideal for English Language learning - this better provides the support they need.
- Current yr 13 ESOL class is 23 - this is tough. Resourcing for smaller classes would be optimal.
- Hard to guess upcoming numbers. This is an additional challenge with mid year enrolments.

The Board received the report.

REGULAR REVIEW (20:01)

Student Achievement - Extension, enrichment and pathways

Purpose: To receive a report about extension, enrichment and pathways offered to taurira.

The Board received the report.

Student Achievement - Student leadership (20:02)

The purpose of this item is to receive a report about leadership opportunities for taurira.

Phil Douglas, Deputy Principal, presented this item.

Noting:

- Last year, changes to selection process based on service and values.
- Focus on making a difference in your school and beyond - taking those skills out into the world - and become contributing citizens. This creates a positive habit - hopefully they continue this for the rest of their lives.
- Participation increase (103 this year) - greater numbers of students putting their hands up for leadership roles.
- Gets students involved in voting. New voting system works better.
- There has been conversation re the leadership model - NPoW and WSC. Possible kaikōrero leadership role? Considering this via new HoH (Matua Thomas and Whaea Anahera).

The Board received the report.

Regular reports (20:22)

Purpose: To receive management reports and optional updates from kaimahi and ākonga members.

Noting:

Management report

- *Query - Low number of WSC Level 3 students close to the 60 credit requirement v NPoW*
 - WSC - reflects a number of portfolio subjects (large credits not yet assessed), derived grade exams and internal work - not a concern, this is a timing factor.
 - NPoW students - Difference due to timing of different assessments incl other co-curricular activities eg Kapa haka (up to 40 credits available for these).
- NCEA changes consultation - Deadline for MOE submissions has now passed - lots of staff members put submissions in. Next step - 2 Oct MOE meet to discuss. They will be swamped with submissions - disheartening that decisions will be made within that timeframe. A lot of anxiety around this together with wage negotiations causing concern for staff wellbeing - worried teachers may reconsider their careers.

Ākonga reports:

- Future consideration of using a Google form to gather student voice to bring issues to the board.
- Busy time for students - derived grades and CAAs - cohort quite exhausted.
- Highlight: use of support services at WSCW and the Learning Centre.

The Board received the reports.

Board committee work

Purpose: To **receive** and **note** the minutes of board committee hui taken place since our last board meeting.

The Board received the following reports:

- Finance report - Jul 2025
- DRAFT Finance Subcommittee Mtg Minutes - 9 Sep 2025
- H&S Report - Sep 2025

Delegations Scheme

Purpose of this item:

- consider proposed terms of reference for the Delegations Subcommittee;
- receive a report back from the subcommittee about progress and next steps.

Recommendation: That the board adopt the terms of reference for the Delegations Subcommittee

Noting:

- This is a moving piece of work. We now have a draft which sets out some first steps.
- However, progressing further on delegations work in isolation is difficult without considering alternative constitution and other current issues.
- Need a broader view of work on co-governance and broader roles of Tumuaki and Principal.
- Once broader work completed and issues resolved (as the detail to come is important), can progress mahi on Principal and Tumuaki roles. This process will be a lot of mahi.

DECISION: The board will pause further work on the delegation scheme until more mahi has been completed on the alternative constitution and other outstanding issues.

ACTION: Alicia to share draft/progress report and recommendation for the board.

ADMINISTRATION

Confirmation of minutes of meetings on 23 June 2025, 4 and 15 August 2025

DECISIONS:

- The Board adopted the minutes of the meeting held on 23 June 2025.
- The Board adopted the minutes of the extraordinary meeting held on 15 August 2025.

ACTION: Draft minutes of the meeting held on 4 August to be presented for approval at the next hui as the link to the draft in the agenda was incorrect and board members were unable to review the draft.

Correspondence

Taken as read

The correspondence was accepted by the board.

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 8.51pm and 8.58pm to discuss confidential matters. The resolution was passed by consensus.

Resumed public business - 8:59pm

(8:59pm)

Karakia whakamutunga - Tamati Patuwai

CLOSE

Meeting closed - 8:59pm

These minutes were confirmed by the Board at its meeting on Monday 20 October 2025 (Mtg 7, 2025).

These minutes are a true and accurate record of the meeting held on Monday 15 September 2025.

Louise Gardiner (Presiding Member)