



Western Springs College-Ngā Puna O Waiōrea
Board Hui Minutes, 30 March 2026
in WSC Staffroom
PUBLIC MINUTES

Item

The hui commenced at 5:05pm.

Mihi & Karakia tīmatanga - Brent Reihana

(5:08pm)

- Alicia welcomed everyone to today's hui.
- Ivan noted that he had one item each of general business and Public-Excluded Business to raise tonight.

Present (Board Members):

Alicia Murray (Presiding Member; WSC parent-elected member)

Ivan Davis (Principal)

Josie Wall (NPoW whānau-selected member)

Brent Reihana (NPoW whānau-selected member)

Linnae Pohatu (NPoW whānau-selected member)

Bryony West (WSC staff-elected member)

Andrew Beuth (WSC parent-elected member)

Gordon Harcourt (WSC parent-elected member)

Jojo Lewis (WSC taura-elected member)

Daniel Haines (WSC parent-elected member) - *arrived 5:12pm*

Present (non-Board members):

Asha Vaidya (Board Secretary)

Julie Debreceeny (Associate Principal)

Sailesh Vaidya (School Business Manager)

Jessica Sinclair (HOD Learning Centre)

Shirley Tolai (English teacher & lead Pasifika teacher)

Apologies:

Pā Chris Selwyn (Tumuaki) - *Polyfest 2026; Māori stage host*

Tamati Patuwai (Co-Chair; co-opted Board member) - *mahi emergency*

Milan Moala (NPoW taura-selected member) - *whānau tangi*

Richard Anderson (NPoW kaimahi tautoko-selected member) - *sick*

Josie Wall (present) - *needs to leave tonight's hui at approximately 6:15pm*

Declaration of interests: None
REQUEST TO SPEAK
There have been no requests to speak, as at 23 March 2026.
STRATEGIC REVIEW
Draft Annual Implementation Plan for final adoption (5:38pm) The Board received the draft Annual Implementation Plan for 2026, for adoption. The Annual Implementation Plan is the management plan that sets out how our Strategic Plan will be delivered in 2026. Draft Annual Implementation Plan 2026 • This is a pared back version of the previous Annual Implementation Plan, which focuses on goals that align with the work we have done so far. This needs to go up on the website tomorrow. • The Annual Implementation Plan has never been translated into Te Reo Māori before. Having a user-friendly version is a good start. The previous Strategic Plan was based on a NZSBA template that no longer exists. • MOTION: To accept the 2026 Annual Implementation (Daniel Haines/seconded Linnae Pohatu; no objections & passed). • Great work Julie, Alicia and Daniel. • ACTION - Asha to upload the 2026 Annual Implementation Plan onto the website on 31 March 2026.
REGULAR REVIEW
Student progress & achievement (5:10pm) The Board received the following reports: MEM report - this report has been prepared by Jessica Sinclair (HOD - Learning Centre), who attended for this item. MEM 2025 report for Board Pacific Student report - this report has been prepared by Shirley Tolai (English teacher & lead Pasifika teacher), who attended for this item. 2025 WSCW Pasifika Student Achievement report for Board Main Discussion Points: • The Board thanked Shirley & Jessica for their respective reports, and for taking the time to attend tonight's hui given they both have young families. Shirley Tolai is now taking over from Tupe Tai.

- Jessica presented first. For Literacy/Numeracy, the gap between MEM and WSC students is quite significant from Y11, but then is similar by the time they reach Y13.
- Five MEM/Pasifika students will get their literacy credits by the end of this term.
- We will run workshops for Y11 students with Level 2 standards.
- A Numeracy Coordinator has now been appointed.
- Our pass rates are good for students who stay in school. However, there can be other reasons why some students do not achieve their literacy/numeracy credits (e.g. they attend NHS, or might have mental health struggles, etc). Some students leave with only a NCEA L2 qualification.
- Jessica has taken some students & their whānau out to help get them enrolled in another course.
- It can be hard for students who leave without a NCEA L1 qualification. The pathway and criteria might need to change, as more schools are opting not to offer NCEA L1. However, these students haven't failed.
- It is important to remember that many of our MEM/Pasifika students are the first person in their whānau to finish school.
- There are whānau and students who are receptive to help.
- The MEM WHW whānau class has been really successful. WHW currently has around 60 students, with 40 of these being juniors. It is a choice that the student and whānau make when they are enrolled.
- Whaea Pania Grey looks after the TRM programme in WSC; there are currently 17 students enrolled in this class. Whaea Pania is doing an amazing job, and she also runs the Māori Studies programme. We can invite the Board to see their mahi in the near future.

(5:19pm - Q&A from the Board)

- Alternative pathways will end at the end of 2027. After that, students will have to pass the exams.
- The Board appreciated the granularity in the reports presented, and that the school knew where every student had gone to.
- Is it possible to get students into the Learning Centre at earlier stages in their schooling? The Learning Centre does keep nagging. One-on-one tutoring works really well. Structured literacy in Y9 and Y10 is now running (4 classes; Y10 x1, Y9 x3); the students are loving it, and the sense of success and the wrap-around care. NPoW is also considering this kind of programme. The PALS programme is starting next term.
- There was a good turnout at the MEM & Pasifika BBQ. There are also a couple of students who have joined Kapa Haka.
- The WHW whānau class has 3 teachers assigned to it. Jessica can only look after the seniors; she focuses on the students who aren't getting the help they need. We might need to assign another teacher to track the juniors; Jessica agrees that this would be valuable.
- Julie noted that the school ran a group with Jordan Leota (WSC Attendance Officer) last year. A couple have left, but early intervention has helped. There are good attendance rates for the Y9s.

- There is a lot of crossover between MEM and Pasifika. Many Pasifika whānau have a long history with WSCW.
- The Board thanked Jessica for her report; it was positive to read.

(5:28pm - Shirley Tolai spoke to her report for Pasifika students)

- Shirley is an English teacher and is new to this Pasifika role.
- There is a correction to the report - we have 35 Y13 students.
- We want early intervention for our Pasifika Y9 & Y10 students, as this helps improve the pass rates in later years. Shirley will work with Jessica to work out a plan.
- Given the small cohort size, there can be a 4.5% (or more) difference in pass rates for Pasifika students.
- What was the highlight for Pasifika students from Term 1? Seeing the Y13s.
- What can the Board do to better support you? Shirley would like more clarity on her role, and advice on how she can do this role to the best of her ability.
- Alternative CAA pathway - there are some good standards that Pasifika students can take, but they need to go through Te Kura for this.
- We have gained more students than normal as they have shifted within Auckland.
- One student has achieved an Excellence endorsement in Tongan.
- What is the engagement like with our Pasifika whānau? We have the MEM & Pasifika BBQ; trip to Pt Erin; NCEA Information Evening (there was a large number of junior whānau; whānau are also keen to learn more about the new curriculum standards); Pō Fiafia; Pasifika Prize-Giving.
- The Board thanked Shirley for her report.

(5:36pm - Jessica Sinclair & Shirley Tolai left the meeting)

- Gordon offered congratulations to both the Girls and Boys First XI Football teams on their results last week (3-0 win for the girls; 2-2 draw in the first relegation match for the boys, with their next game on Wednesday this week).
- No NPoW report was presented at today's meeting. Whaea Kiri Piahana will present data for the next Board meeting (25 May 2026).

2025 Final NCEA results for WSCW

(5:42pm)

The Board received the Final 2025 NCEA results for WSC-NPoW.

[Final 2025 NCEA results](#)

Main Discussion Points:

- These final results are very similar to the previous results presented. These are really good results.

- A brief explanation of participation-based versus roll-based figures was given. Participation-based are results based on students who are entered into standards (note - NHS kids do not come into this). National averages are roll-based. Figures have been readjusted to reflect participation-based data.
- Why is the EQI for Y11s worse than those for Y12s and Y13s? Only NPoW offers L1 standards, therefore, this makes the result skewed.
- Our EQI index for WSC-NPoW (School 0048) is 418, which is in the green zone (we also lost approximately \$25k in funding with this index). The MOE was adamant that EQI data couldn't split out data for NPoW; this has had a big impact for NPoW. EQI is meant to be based on individual students. It would also be useful to know if a change in EQI for WSC-NPoW would make a difference to our school/kura.
- Under the old decile system for 5 or less, the appropriate school(s) would be entitled to a HEADS assessment. We don't get that for WSC-NPoW. If we did, we might be able to get an extra Guidance Counsellor.
- **ACTION** - Board to access our MOE person or group (Ivan might be able to provide this contact) that looks at EQI to pursue if we can extract the EQI for NPoW alone.

Regular reports

(8:24pm)

The Board received management reports, and optional updates from kaimahi and ākonga members. The reports were taken as read.

Management Report

[Management Report for Board - Mar 2026](#)

Tumuaki Report

[Tumuaki Report - March 2026](#)

[Tumuaki Report attachment #1 - Chris Selwyn - NPoW - an extract from the Book "Polyfest: Many Cultures, One Community"](#)

[NPoW Budget 2026 summary](#)

Ākonga reports - optional

[Student report \(Jojo Lewis\) - Mar 2026](#)

[Student report \(Milan Moala\) - Mar 2026](#)

Main Discussion Points:

- **Management Report** - Ivan thanked the wider SLT team for helping put together the data for the report.
- Our roll numbers are down 26 students (approximately one class). Ivan plans to bring a suggested modification to the out-of-zone (OOZ) enrolments for the 2027 school year to the next board

meeting. Last year, we had 51 applications for Y9 enrolments and we limited it to 30 places. We are staffed for more students than we have. With a sensible plan, we can manage this. This needs to be in place by September, at the latest.

- Is there data to show a drop-off in junior school? Yes - the demographic in this area has changed quite rapidly. Other factors include affordability & a downward trend in babies born. Primary school enrolments are all down, and they are taking OoZ. Pasadena Intermediate takes OoZ now. These things all affect us. Private school enrolments are stable.
- We are very full in our senior school. We are getting lots of people coming from further away now. Students from Waterview have been affected, which was another driver for the OoZ places. All of these things are impacting us at the same time.
- Distance to kura is a big factor for NPoW; turning up on time can be an issue. NPoW acknowledges the challenges and the kura is looking to do some work on this; two kaiako have volunteered to help. How does it affect their schooling? There are some outliers. NPoW plans to launch its programme, come back and then track/monitor. Ivan acknowledged the passion of NPoW to keep their taura in school & learning.
- In addition, we need to keep an eye on the townhouses that are being built (or planned) for our school zone. MAGS has been affected. Our enrolments from Pasadena Intermediate are stable, Ponsonby Intermediate enrolments are slightly down (normally 70-90 students), and we've had more enrolments from Kowhai Intermediate than before.
- Julie is still enrolling in-zone students every week.
- Our attendance rates are not great at the moment.
- The unprecedented number of suspensions has been a big concern.
- The student wellbeing numbers are higher than normal. We have 5 Guidance Counsellors. Student anxiety, the state of the world, etc are all having an impact.
- We have a high number of Y9s with complex needs (supervision, directed enrolments, etc).
- NPoW has had a difficult term, with so many taura needing support. Out-of-school incidents have had an impact. Ivan noted that this highlights the need for a Māori Guidance Counsellor - we should try advertising again.
- There is a lot of low-level anxiety about the future that we have not seen before. Our Guidance team is seeing this, and they are worried about it. Do we need to do some work in this space? Some students are affected by the current war situation. Can we support whānau?
- Josie reported that a Strategic Planning hui was held 2 weeks ago; thanks to Gordon and Linnae for assisting with this mahi. We want a "plan on a page", to simplify the Strategic Plan and make it user-friendly, and highlight the priorities. For example, Mana Ōrite and wellbeing needs to be at the top. We want to honour previous contributions to the Strategic Plan, but going forward, we will need to focus on what will make the most difference to help us achieve our goals.
- We also need to consider how we will engage with our school community. Options include using incentives, a QR code to log in, etc. The subcommittee plans to meet in the holidays. Gordon is looking at creating a video, with assistance from a media team (or students who could earn credits?); more details will be discussed offline.

- Thanks to all who have contributed to these reports.
- It would be valuable to have a Board member join the school team (Deputy Principals - Phil Douglas & Anna Witten-Sage) to assist with the management of the Auckland Secondary Schools' Centre (ASSC). Members from other contributing schools are also part of the management team. ASSC Management meetings are infrequent; they look at operational matters, their funding model, staffing needs, where the challenges lie, timetable, etc. How is funding allocated? What do they do with the students? What are the return-to-school rates?
- There has been unprecedented demand on ASSC, which takes students from 30 schools, and offers the enrolled students some basic skills to hopefully allow them to transition back into a mainstream school.
- It would be good for ASSC to present to the Board in the near future. The Board could consider holding a meeting at ASSC, to see how the centre operates. If there are any Board members who may wish to join the ASSC Management team, please let Alicia know.
- **ACTION - Ivan** will check with Anna Witten-Sage about the ASSC meeting dates.
- Ivan noted that TAPAC wants another member from our WSCW Board to join Ivan, Julie and Robert Pollock. There are some big decisions coming up, including ownership of the building. A TAPAC Board meeting is held every 2 months.
- The Property portfolio is in need of some attention. Sailesh has suggested that it would be good to consider co-opting a Board member with property expertise to assist with our complex site, and hopefully look at things with fresh eyes & bring new ideas. There are things that can be done by the Board and the school, but we just need to regain some momentum.
- **DECISION** - Sailesh & the Board agreed that given that we do not currently have an established Property Subcommittee, we will combine property matters into the Finance Subcommittee for now.
- **Tumuaki Report** - Alicia acknowledged the huge effort from NPoW. The start of the report will be discussed in Public-Excluded Business (PEB).
- **Student Report (Jojo Lewis)** - Alicia thanked Jojo for his report. Jojo highlighted the new Sports Directors (for Basketball, Football & Netball) have already driven a positive cultural shift, raising standards and increasing student aspiration in high-level sport at WSCW. However, we want to make sure the jump is not too extreme and we do not "leave kids behind".
- Morale amongst students has dropped a bit; this is reflected in their attendance. Also, the weather is cooling down.
- Thank you to both Jojo and Milan Moala for setting up the form to assist in getting the student voice.
- **ACTION - Jojo** to send the student voice form to Asha to link into the minutes.
- Broken doors outside tuckshop - Ivan has looked into this & they should be fixed.
- Students parking in the Zoo carpark was briefly discussed; Julie noted that a lot less students are bringing cars to school. Free parking is available on one side of Motions Road if students come in early or on-time.

Board committee work

(6:35pm)

The Board **received** and **noted** the minutes of Board committee hui that have taken place since our last Board meeting. Taken as read.

Finance and Business Services Subcommittee - The last meeting was held on Tuesday 18 March 2026.

Another Finance report will be presented in PEB as it contains commercially sensitive information.

[Finance Report for Board - March 2026](#)

[Feb 2026 Summary Report](#)

[Feb 2026 Detailed Report](#)

[Draft Finance Committee Minutes - 18 March 2026](#)

Main Discussion Points:

- Details regarding the cleaning contract tender process will be discussed in PEB.
- Sailesh noted that we have had quotes from four cleaning companies to date, which have ranged from \$280k to \$770k. We have also had assurance from these companies that the Living Wage will be paid to our cleaners.
- Our contract with Dimeo has been extended while we complete our tender process.
- Work is continuing for the costs related to the NPoW Budget.
- What is the plan for the term deposit funds? Ivan indicated that we had a \$3.2 million budget for furniture, fittings & equipment (FFE); \$1.1 million of this was for IT equipment that has a depreciation of about 5 years. The school will be spending more than \$1 million this time around. Building maintenance costs are yet to come. We do not have a capital expenditure plan at the moment. External painting is yet to be done. The WSC Admin Block needs some work now that the Stage 2 plan has been put on hold/stopped.
- We have our 10YPP in place. Major components of this relate to refurbishment of the gym, drainage of the fields, and replacement of the turf. In addition, subsidence needs addressing as there are issues occurring all over the site - where do we start? The MOE does provide funding, but it is not enough to cover our requirements.

Property Subcommittee - No meeting held since last board meeting.

Policy Review Subcommittee - This is managed by Alicia Murray and Julie Debreceeny (Associate Principal) via email.

(6:44pm)

[Policies for review T1 2026](#) (also listed on page 20 of the Management Report)

- Alicia and Julie have made a suggestion to SchoolDocs, which is a company that we pay for our policies and procedures. SchoolDocs helps us stay up-to-date with legislative changes; we have to follow their review cycle. SchoolDocs got through the comments, then they will follow this up.
- Our suggested change arose from the suspensions that we had at the time, and it was to do with “Association”.

Alternative Constitution Committee - The first scheduled meeting on 18 March 2026 was cancelled. Another date is yet to be rescheduled.

(6:47pm)

- This subcommittee has had email exchanges. They will hopefully meet in early April. A lot of discussion will be needed in this subcommittee; the group will continue work on this.
- Brent expressed his appreciation for the Terms of Reference (TOR). He wants to make sure that we are following a process. How does this subcommittee work? Is it able to go out and get resources and external support? We should firm the TOR up to keep the school safe from any criticism. We don’t want to lose sight of where we’re going. We want everyone at the table to know about what we’re doing and why. He is supportive of going fast and with the MOE. No one should be left behind. Alicia commented that we shouldn’t move too quickly; it’s important to get this process right.

Student Behaviour Management Subcommittee

(6:51pm)

[Student Behaviour Management Subcommittee report for Board - Mar 2026](#)

- More details will be discussed in PEB.

(6:52pm) - Dinner

Karakia mō te kai - Linnae Pohatu.

The Board agreed to have a quick dinner & then continue the meeting.

(7:16pm) - Meeting resumed

Board committee work - *continued*

(7:16pm)

H&S Committee - The Board received the March 2026 H&S Report. The last H&S meeting took place on Thursday 19 March 2026, and the next meeting is on Thursday 18 June 2026.

[H&S Report for Board - Mar 2026](#)

- Daniel and Bryony both missed the last H&S meeting as they weren't invited.
ACTION - Daniel and/or Bryony will advise Paula Marx to include them in the next H&S Committee meeting invitation.

ADMINISTRATION

Confirmation of minutes of meeting on 1 December 2025 (Mtg 8, 2025) and 23 February 2026 (Mtg 1, 2026)

(7:17pm)

The Board received the 1 December 2025 and 23 February 2026 minutes.

Note: the 1 December 2025 minutes were not approved at the 23 February 2026 meeting as they were presented late.

[Draft PUBLIC minutes - Mtg 8, 1 Dec 2025](#)

[Draft PUBLIC minutes - Mtg 1, 23 Feb 2026](#)

- Has written assurance from Dimeo been sought about the Living Wage?

Recommendation:

- That the Board adopts the minutes of the meeting held on 1 December 2025 (Mtg 8, 2025) and 23 February 2026 (Mtg 1, 2026).

(Agreed & accepted by consensus)

ADMINISTRATION

Correspondence

(7:20pm)

[Correspondence for 20260330 \(Mtg 2\)](#)

The Board received the correspondence sent to, or from, the Board since the last meeting on Monday 23 February 2026 (Mtg 1). Taken as read.

(Accepted by consensus)

- Regarding the invitation to the 2026 NZSBA Members conference (Grow. Connect. Thrive. 17-19 July Aotea Centre, Auckland), getting four members to attend could be tricky.
- It is great for the mana of the school that our unique co-governance constitution has been acknowledged.
- **ACTION - Alicia, Ivan, Brent and Pā Chris** will need to discuss the invitation to the 2026 NZSBA Members conference.

BOARD PROCESS REQUIREMENTS

Board member - Code of Conduct, interests/conflict declarations, and Board member register

(7:25pm)

The purpose of this item was for Board members to:

- update their annual declaration of interests - **please review attached register and add or amend details.**
- confirm annual agreement to the Board member code of conduct.

- update the 2026 Board member register - please review attached register and add or amend details

Board Member Code of Conduct ([Māori](#) and [English](#) versions).

[DRAFT WSC-NPoW Code of Behaviour for Board members](#)

[Draft Feb 2026 Board Contact Details](#)

- Alicia has reviewed the above documents and is happy with them in their current form.
- **DECISION** - The Board will agree to abide by the Code of Conduct. We will alert those who are not here today at the next hui (25 May 2026).

(7:27pm - Sailesh Vaidya left the meeting)

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 7.27pm and 8.33pm to discuss confidential matters. The resolution was passed by consensus.

Resumed public business - 8:33pm

(8:34pm)

Karakia whakamutunga - Linnae Pohatu

CLOSE

Meeting closed - 8:34pm

These minutes were confirmed by the Board at its meeting on Monday 29 June 2026 (Mtg 4).

These minutes are a true and accurate record of the meeting held on Monday 30 March 2026 (Mtg 2).

Alicia Murray (Presiding Member)