



BOARD OF TRUSTEES UPDATE SEPTEMBER 2022

Kia ora koutou,

The Board of Trustees held its last meeting for the triennium on 22 August 2022. Principal, David Brock expressed his thanks to the Board for their work and commitment to Moanataiari School for the past 3 ¼ years.

Voting for the incoming Board of Trustees **closes at 4.00pm on Wednesday, 7 September**. If you haven't done so already, return your voting papers to the school office before this time.

Good luck to the Board of Trustee nominees who are Ross Ashby, Jaspreet Kaur, Shana Allan, Jessie-Lee Bevan, Chloe George, Ngaio Hodson and Terri-Anne Sands. The five nominees who have the most votes will be the 2022-25 Board of Trustees for Moanataiari School together with Principal, David Brock and teacher representative, Wayne Howes. Current Board Chair, Lisa Donaldson would like to continue to support the Board of Trustees and would do so with the outgoing Board's support. The incoming Board can discuss this at its first meeting. Lisa Dsouza has chosen not to re-stand for the incoming Board and we thank Lisa for her contribution to the Board, in particular, for undertaking the Board communications facilitator role.

Our volunteers – Tony, Val, Caitlin, Lyn and Gail – were also thanked by the Board. We are always extremely grateful to these people who give up their personal time to help our students learn and at our school generally. If anyone else from our school whanau or community wants to volunteer, please contact the school office.

School Van

The Board expressed its sincere gratitude for the recent donation of a school van to Moanataiari School. Owning a school van was a dream made true.

The Board intends that the use of this school van is not only to transport students for school educational and sporting activities, but also to help transport students who may want to attend Moanataiari School and need transport to get there. Please contact the school office and let them know if you are interested in registering a child to attend Moanataiari School and would like to be picked up / dropped off by the school van – email office@moana.school.nz or phone 07 868 6504.

Sustainability Case Study

It is exciting to report that Moanataiari School has become a case study for the Ministry of Education as a leader in the sustainability area. Moanataiari School continue to strive to be kaitiaki of our natural environment by growing and looking after our school garden and our school ngahere, cleaning up local waterways, coastal planting, composting and much more. Through these efforts Moanataiari School is championing sustainability and empowering our students to be kaitiaki of the natural environment.

Students engage in garden based learning by taking complete ownership of garden projects, including what to plant and when to plant it. Our students also get to cook and eat their home grown produce which they love doing. Spring is here so there will be plenty of planting happening in the next few weeks.

Waste minimisation is managed by fortnightly rubbish collections and clean up of rubbish in the local areas as well as running their own compost system.

Well done to all Moanataiari School students for becoming a leader in sustainability.

Write That Essay

It is pleasing to report that every child has made progress using the Write That Essay / Writers Tool Box online programme implemented at the start of this year. Many students have improved by one sub-level or more. The writers tool box is an online programme that provides instant feedback on student's writing. It encourages students to learn and improve their writing as they go. If you haven't looked at your student's writing for a while, ask them to show you a sample of their writing and how the Writer's Tool Box works providing instantaneous feedback. It is an awesome learning tool that we are proud to have implemented this year and delighted to see students enjoying using it and improving from it. Well done students.

Parent Teacher Conferences

School reports will be distributed towards the end of term and parents / caregivers will be encouraged to make a time to meet with the teacher to get an update on how your child is doing at school. This is a fantastic opportunity to connect with teachers if you haven't already done so this year. If you need to connect with them before or after the parent teacher conference, you can do so by emailing them directly – teacher email addresses are on the moana.school.nz website or by phoning the school office to make a time to see them. Otherwise please book a time using SkoolLoop. Connecting with home is very important for our students to enjoy and progress at school.

Moanataiari School 50th Reunion

We are excited to be celebrating Moanataiari School's 50th reunion this month. There is a fantastic programme lined up for the weekend of 23 – 24 September 2022 for all students and whanau past and present to attend plus anyone else wanting to celebrate with us. The 50th reunion committee has worked extremely hard to bring this wonderful event to you and we look forward to commemorating Moanataiari's School's wonderful journey with you all. Students are contributing by working on projects that reflect back over 50 years.

To celebrate our 50 years, a new mural has been designed for the main entrance of the school. It's a wonderful artistic compilation of our rich history.

Lock Downs

Sadly, as you know, at the start of term 3, Thames High School was one of many high schools around New Zealand that was the target of a hoax scam that required the school and students to go into lock down. Thankfully, it was a hoax. Our school had a planned lockdown that was to be held that week which we brought forward. During the term, we also had a second unannounced lock down which occurred during break time to see how our students responded to prepare them for what will hopefully be an unlikely event. Notifications followed on SkoolLoop to alert parents about the practice lockdown. The Board have discussed these lockdowns and have asked the Principal to liaise with the Ministry of Education and NZ Police to seek their input into how best to prepare our students for an event that we hope will never actually happen.

Best Wishes

We wish the incoming Board of Trustees all the best for setting the direction and governing Moanataiari School for the next three years.

We also wish the students and staff at Moanataiari School, best wishes for the remainder of the school year. Keep up the awesome work.

Ngā mihi

Moanataiari Board of Trustees 2019-2022