

Minutes of Board meeting – Raphael House Rudolf Steiner School

Monday 24 February 2025

Upper School staff room 6.30pm

Attendance

Karyn Gray (Principal), Tim Angus (staff representative), Matthias Vest (parent representative), Andrea Wakelin (parent representative), Karen Thrumble (parent representative) (from 6.50pm), Janet Molloy (proprietors' representative), Kyle Gibson (Chair) and Ivo Vest (student representative).

Karyn opened the meeting with a verse.

Apologies:

An apology was received from Christine Nicholls.

Conflicts of Interest

There were no conflicts of interest.

Welcome and introductions

Ivo Vest was welcomed to the Board as the new student representative for 2025.

Election of the Chair for 2025

Karyn assumed the Chair and called on nominations for the Board Chair.

As Kyle was the only member willing to be nominated, Karyn put the motion.

Kyle was elected as Chair unopposed for the remainder of the year until elections in July/August 2025.

Matthias agreed to be the Board's Deputy Chair.

Matthias was elected unopposed as Deputy Chair for the remainder of the year until elections in July/August 2025.

Kyle assumed the Chair.

Principal's report

Karyn elaborated on the report. Discussion points were as follows:

- Two term deposit investments (\$100K and \$200K) recently came up for renewal. Gita and Karyn re-invested them for a further six months.
- A few students have been significantly absent from school without good reason and will be monitored closely. Other absentees have mostly been students on pastoral or learning plans. The Ministry of Education has stated that students on these plans need to be back at school within three months.
- The Class 9 camp that was postponed is likely to go ahead towards the end of Term 1.
- The school is expecting around 20 children from the kindergarten for the 2026 year. If numbers are low the school may have to reconsider whether a transition teacher will be necessary for Class 1.
- All students that enrol are interviewed to ensure their families are enrolling them at the school for its special character.

Actions:

- Karyn will investigate why the last rates invoice had increased more than was expected.
- Karyn will include information about the school's special character in the Bush Telegraph this term to improve the community's understanding around it. This will culminate in an explanation of the financial implications of special character so that parents can appreciate the importance of pledging.

Board Delegations to Principal 2025

Karyn advised the 'Board delegations to the Principal' remained the same as the 2024 delegations. Members agreed to the 2025 delegations as attached to the agenda.

Actions: Kyle and Karyn will sign off the delegations.

Trust update

Janet provided an update as follows:

- The 2025 Trust budget is limited due to a reduction in income and higher insurance and other costs. The Trust is therefore focusing on maintenance and essential expenditure for 2025.
- Thomas (Proprietors' Trustee) and Brett Whincup (Property Coordinator) are following up various avenues to recover a deposit paid for the Eurythmy roof after the contractor defaulted on the work. The Trust is working on a new policy to prevent similar issues going forward.

PTFA update

Karen provided an update as follows:

- A community barn dance will be held on 8 March in the Maungaraki Hall.
- The wrap design for the new van is still under debate.
- The 2024 school fair made a profit of \$27,000.
- Feedback from the community on moving the school fair to Term 1, included that preparation work would intrude on summer holidays and there would not be time to make crafts.

Student update

There was no student update.

In Committee business

The meeting moved into Committee at 7.11pm.

The meeting moved out of Committee at 7.24pm.

November 2024 Minutes

The minutes of the Board meeting held on 25 November 2024 were agreed as a true and correct record.

Communication points for the Bush Telegraph

- Welcome families to the 2025 school year.
- 2024 NCEA qualification results.
- Include a statment that the Board is looking forward to seeing improvements in school attendance this year.
- Board elections, including appointment of a Board Secretary: Encourage parents to consider standing for election and to contact current Board members for more information.

Closing verse

Karyn closed the meeting with a karakia.

The meeting closed at 7.32 pm

These minutes were approved at the March 31 meeting



Kyle Gibson, Presiding Member

