



30 June 2022

Tēnā koutou e te whānau o Kaipara

Over the next few months the Kaipara College School Board will be seeking input from you to help guide our decision making as we look towards the future. There are a couple of key opportunities for you to be involved:

1. School Board elections in September
2. Creation of the next Strategic Plan to set the vision and mission for Kaipara College from 2023-2026.

School Board Elections

Now is a good time to consider whether you might like to put your hand up for election. At some time or another we were all first time Board members, so experience is certainly advantageous, but not a necessity. It is a challenging but rewarding role. If you have a desire to make Kaipara College the best school it can be for the young people in our community, then please check this link to learn more about what it means to be a school board member.

<https://www.schoolboardelections.org.nz/becoming-a-board-member/>

Nominations open in a fortnight, on **15 July and close 3 August**. If you're interested, please email me on botchair@kaipara.school.nz and we can arrange a session so you can meet some of our current members, ask questions and get a better understanding of the commitment and job involved.

Strategic Planning 2023-2026

We are also in the process of creating our plan to seek community voice and input into the creation of the school's next three-year Strategic Plan.

Your voice is important and we'll let you know how and when you can contribute over the coming months.

Final thoughts

Unfortunately, this term hasn't been as smooth as anyone would have hoped or wanted, as the school had to take the difficult step to revert to online learning for a week and a half earlier in the term. However, it was a necessary choice as an increase in Covid cases amongst our staff meant it was not safe to keep the school open. And, as you will have seen in the news, we haven't been alone with many other schools around the country facing similar challenges.

We thank you for your support in the return to mask-wearing as normal practice at school. This is a small step we can all take to keep each other safe from Covid and keep our classrooms open for kanohi ki te kanohi, face-to-face learning.

Interestingly, this week the school board held its first in-person meeting since July last year. In that time, we've welcomed a new Principal, two new Trustees and a new student representative and it was the first time we've all met each other face to face.

Finally, on behalf of the board I would like to pass on our thanks to our college teachers and support staff who work everyday to grow our young people into successful, independent adults ready to make their mark on the world.

As a parent of a teenager, I know you've probably had conversations like me that go like this:

"What did you learn today?" Teenager: "Um. Nothing much"

Don't take their word for it. Instead go check out the school's [Facebook page](#) for some examples of the inspiring and creative learning that's going on in our classrooms every day, as well as stories of the achievements of students - past and present.

Ngā mihi

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rochelle Gillespie". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rochelle Gillespie
Presiding Member
Kaipara College Board