



}} **BOARD TALK**

ISSUE 2, 2016

Hi and welcome to the second Board Talk of the Marshland School Board of Trustees. The purpose of this publication is to keep the community informed about some of the things we are working on as a Board of Trustees during the year. We hope to put a board talk out once a term to share some of the things we are working on.

New B.O.T. Member – Brendon Cowles

Hello and Season's Greetings, my name is Brendon Cowles and I am one of the new faces on the Board, elected earlier in the year. I have a few different roles that fill in my time - Deputy Chair, Personnel Committee, H&S Committee and the Property Committee. I have found my short time on the Board immensely rewarding. Coming from a background in the private sector, I have found it fascinating to witness all the work that each hub undertakes to ensure they act as a team of teachers rather than four individuals sharing a common space. A real eye opener for me has been the level of detail that they put into their planning and preparation to make sure they are all on the same page. I think there are a lot of lessons that could be learnt by other industries about successful change management through engaging staff and utilising each other's strengths to get successful results.

Being part of the property team means I have had some involvement with the later part of the stage 2 build. As you will have seen, the build is progressing well and should be ready for us on schedule when the children come back in the New Year.

I was privileged to be able to sit in on a number of interviews for our teaching vacancies and I am very excited by the new staff appointments for next year. I know that they will all be wonderful additions to our Marshland community and help continue the success of the school.

Wow, what a fantastic first year it has been in our new school. Experiencing first hand all the hard work and planning that has gone into developing our modern learning environment has been amazing. As a parent, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Jacqui, the previous Board and the team at Marshland for making the transition so successful. I hope you and your families all have a happy and safe time over the holidays –
Brendon

Major Fundraising Events

We have had 2 major fundraising events over the last term with the Fun run and the King of the Ring. These events have taken a large amount of time to organise and we thank everyone who has been involved in running them.

First Year

It's hard to believe but we have been on the new site for almost a year now. The school has a real buzz about it and with Stage 2 ready to open next year the place looks pretty impressive. We have had lots of positive feedback from visiting teachers and the public looking at the way things are done in the collaborative spaces.

Roll Increase

We enrolled 160 new children over the course of 2016, which is impressive and the roll continues to grow. As part of this growth 6 new teachers were employed for 2016. We are looking to close the year with 378 children.

Welcoming Ferndale

There will be a powhiri to welcome Ferndale Satellite unit early in term 1 as part of the development of Stage 2. We have had an assembly with students from Ferndale and children have had opportunities to visit and acquaint themselves with Marshland. We look forward to having them join us.

Stage 2 on Schedule

Everything is on track with the completion of Stage 2. Completion date is 14th January 2017. We are currently looking at landscaping options for the areas around the new Building.

Crossing Consultation

After consultation with Marshland School the Council proposes to create a 40 kph speed zone around the school. Electronic and static signs will inform motorists of this restriction before school (35 minutes) and after School (20 minutes). The electronic signs can also be used during the day when groups of children are crossing.

A Kea crossing (operated by children and supervised by Adults) is also proposed. This will enable traffic to be stopped when there is a suitable gap for people to cross. When the patrol is not operating road crossings may happen when it is safe to do so.

ERO Visit Next Year

We will be visited by The Education Review Office early next year as part of their annual review cycle. They will be at school the week of the 13th of February for 3 days. We are confident that this visit will go well and are looking forward to showing them our School.

We wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy new year. Our next edition will be towards the end of term 1 2017.

Marshland School Board of Trustees.