

Board Newsletter

Napier Kindergarten Association

February 2019

The joy of teaching, the love of learning

From The President

Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world

Nelson Mandela



At our upcoming 2019 Annual General Meeting (AGM) we have seven Board Member positions up for election. Of those seven, four current Board Members intend standing for another term, but this does not prevent more than three other nominees from standing.

Anyone with an interest in standing for a Board position is most welcome to join us at our next Board meeting, 6pm on the 27 March 2019, at 66 Kennedy Rd, Napier. This will give you an opportunity to meet other Board Members and to observe the Board in its governance role.

Being a Board Member is a fantastic opportunity to:

- Learn about governance
- Influence policy and decision making
- Meet and work with new people
- Gain an understanding of how the Association runs
- Learn about issues facing early childhood education and Napier Kindergartens

Board Members do not need to have prior governance experience to be on the Board. We have a great induction process with information and support available to guide new Board Members into their roles. We are looking for people who are enthusiastic, committed and willing to contribute their views for their 2 year term.

Board membership is great preparation for those considering joining school Boards of Trustees. We are much larger than most schools, with 16 kindergartens, just under 100 employees and a gross income in excess of \$6 million per annum.

Board Members are not required to actually run the Association – that responsibility has been delegated to the General Manager. We do decide however what we want to see happening in our kindergartens and what we want our children, staff and families to experience from their time at kindergarten.

Although Board Members are volunteers we are paid fees for attending meetings and any participation on the Appointments or Staffing Committees.

We ask Board Members to be prepared to attend up to 11 Board meetings per annum of approximately 2 hours duration, as well as the Association AGM, some of the Kindergarten AGM's and a Strategic Planning Day of approximately 6 hours duration.

Board Members are given the opportunity to attend conferences. The cost of attendance is covered by the Association. An attendance fee is payable to the Board Member for their participation. These conferences are thought provoking, informative and fun.

We are looking for Board members willing and able to think about issues strategically, are able make courageous decisions, and who truly value kindergarten. Further information about Board nominations is provided over page.

Jessica Uri, President



Our Board Members Are:



Standing left to right: Sarah Beckett, Sarah Nash (Vice President), Jo Coffin, Janelle Hutchings, Jessica Uri (President)

Seated: Ingrid Squire, Rachel Murray

and below are :



Rob Barzey



Alison Donovan

Association AGM

Our Association AGM is being held on Wednesday 3rd April 2019 at 7pm, venue to be advised.

Kindergarten AGM's

Kindergarten AGM's will be held in March. We warmly invite you to support your kindergarten by attending their AGM.

What our Board does:

Board members govern the Association and our primary responsibilities are:

- * Development of the Association's Strategic Plan (our visions & long term plans for the Association)
- * Employment & monitoring of the General Manager
- * Monitoring of strategic outcomes
- * Management of risk
- * Monitoring of legal compliance
- * Setting and reviewing of policies

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Call for Board Nominations

Nominations for the Napier Kindergarten Association Board are now called. Nomination forms are required to be forwarded to the General Manager no later than Thursday 7th March 2019.

We have a 3 stage process for electing Board Members:

1. Nominations are received by the Board
2. Nominations received must be seconded by a member of the Board
3. Association Members vote at the Association's Annual General Meeting to elect nominees to the Board

Who may be a nominee?

Any person, excluding Association employees, may be a nominee as long as they have consented to being nominated. Another person has to nominate you. Nominees can be people who are not Members of our Association.

Who can make a nomination?

Any Member of the Association, excluding employees, may make a nomination. (eg a kindergarten parent or Life Member may make a nomination). You should nominate a person you think would make a great Board Member, and ask them if they would be happy to be nominated. Alternatively a person wanting to be nominated may ask a Member to nominate them.

How is a nomination made?

Nominations are submitted to the General Manager on a **nomination form** (which can be obtained from your kindergarten, the General Manager or our website).

The nominee must agree to being nominated and attach a letter to the nomination form stating why they are interested in being a Board member. Also include a brief resume, references, referee details and a completed Criminal Disclosure authority form (the General Manager can help nominees with this part of the process).

Why do nominees need to have their nomination seconded by a Board Member?

Our constitution requires nominations to be seconded by a Board Member. Before deciding if a nomination should be supported the Board is keen to know that the nominee understands what the role involves, that they are genuinely committed and available to participate, that they share the values of the Board and are prepared to be an actively contributing member. We will ascertain this by arranging a meeting for you with a Board Member at your convenience prior to the 22nd March 2019.

What happens after my nomination is submitted and seconded by the Board?

Your letter of interest will be distributed to Association Members at least a week before the AGM, which will be held on the 3rd April, 2019.

At the AGM nominees will be introduced to the Members present, who are given the opportunity to ask nominees any questions they may have about their standing for a Board position.

Voting will occur at the meeting. Nominees must receive 50% or more of the votes of those Members in attendance to be elected to the Board for a 2 year term. Nominees who are elected to the Board will commence an induction process and will attend the next Board meeting on 29th May 2019.

Our General Manager is available to provide any assistance required to prospective nominees (ph 027 442 3163). She will be available to discuss what the role involves, help you to complete the forms needed and arrange a meeting with a Board Member.

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Who Are Members Of Our Association?



Our Association Members are:

- Parents and caregivers with children enrolled in our services or on our waiting lists
- Board Members
- Life Members

Members have voting rights at all General Meetings.

Our staff are employees of the Association and have no voting rights at these meetings.

Changing our Constitution

We are working our way through proposed changes to our Constitution in anticipation of new requirements which are to be introduced to the Incorporated Societies Act 1908 later this year.

Some of the key changes will be about:

- Membership – who can be a Member, how to become a Member and who can vote at a General Meeting
- Obligation to maintain a register of members
- Introducing a process for addressing concerns or complaints about a member