

# Board Newsletter

Napier Kindergarten Association

August 2019

The joy of teaching, the love of learning

## From The President

"If everyone is moving forward together, then success takes care of itself."

Henry Ford



Kia ora tatou te whānau

Welcome to Term 3 and a special welcome to tamariki starting kindergarten for the very first time this term.

On the 19<sup>th</sup> June, at an Extraordinary General Meeting, a motion to rescind and replace our Constitution with effect from the 14 October 2019 was passed. We thank our members for their time and attention to this matter, and in particular those who attended the Extraordinary General Meeting on such a dark, cold, winter's night.

There are now a number of matters we need to attend to in advance of the new Constitution coming into effect. We will begin by developing resources to inform prospective members of the process by which they may apply to become members, and of the rights and obligations attached to membership. We will be seeking feedback from parents on these resources to ensure we capture your valued views, so keep an eye out for the invitation to participate.

Since our last newsletter the Board has attended two board meetings and is preparing for two members to attend the next New Zealand Kindergartens Annual General Meeting in Wellington on the 6 September.

At each of our board meetings we consider and discuss our aspirations for kindergarten, receive reports from our General, Finance and Education managers and monitor the financial position of the association. Other matters are discussed on an 'as required' basis.

ERO is scheduled to commence reviews of our kindergartens in August and September. They may well be on site as you are arriving with your child, you are most welcome to have a chat with them if you wish.

Bette Christie Kindergarten now offers 7.5 hour sessions and an extended year service. They were open for the first time during the term break. The Board would like to acknowledge and commend the staff for how well this went. We have received really positive feedback from parents and teachers.

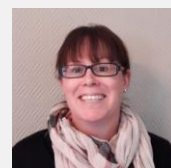
The Ministry of Education and NZEI were able to reach a settlement of the teachers collective agreement after four days of bargaining talks. Although we are not directly involved in these discussions we are pleased that pay parity with primary and secondary teachers has been agreed. Retaining pay parity with the compulsory sector demonstrates the value of kindergarten teachers and the role that they play in the early years of learning and development.

Mā te wā,  
Sarah Nash,  
President

## Our Board Members Are:



Jessica Uri



Ingrid Squire



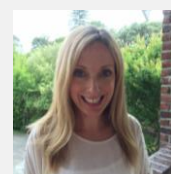
Rachel Murray



Alison Donovan



Rob Barzey



Sarah Nash

## What Our Board Does:

Board members are volunteers elected by our members to 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

Our Board can have up to 9 members in total, one of whom is elected by employees. The employee elected Board member is Rachel Murray and she has the same rights as other Board members.



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## Measles

Measles is a highly contagious disease with potentially life threatening consequences. At least two cases have been reported in Hawkes Bay to date.

A person is infectious 5 days before a rash appears, and 5 days after.

First symptoms include:

- A fever
- A cough
- A runny nose
- Sore and watery 'pink' eyes
- Sometimes small white spots on the back inner cheek of your mouth

Please do not send sick children to kindergarten.

If your child is diagnosed with measles, please let your teachers know as soon as possible.

## Napier Kindergartens – an Incorporated Society

Napier Kindergartens is one of 23,500 Incorporated Societies in New Zealand. We have been an Incorporated Society since December 1951. We operate under the Incorporated Societies Act 1908.

Incorporated societies are membership based organisations that have a separate legal identity from their members. This means that its members are not liable for its financial debts and that the society is able to continue operating, even though its membership may frequently change.

There are a number of rules that apply to Incorporated Societies such as:

- They must have a minimum of 15 registered members
- They must be not for profit organisations
- They cannot distribute profits or financial benefits to their members

A society is allowed to trade and actively seek to generate income for the purpose of its cause however must operate in line with the reasons for which it was set up.

A society is allowed to make a profit as long as its primary purpose for existing is not to make profits. In Napier Kindergartens any profits we make are held against future expenditure such as kindergarten repairs and maintenance, replacement of capital items, unexpected expenditure or emergencies, employee redundancy payments and maintaining low costs for our kindergarten services.

## Who Are Members Of Our Association?



Currently 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 rather than members of the Association, and have no voting rights at these meetings.

From the 14 October, under our new Constitution, people will need to apply to become members.

Before they do so, they need to know what membership entails and how to apply.

We will be providing this information to you soon and inviting people to apply to be members.

We are keen to include member input on the resources we are developing for this purpose and will be inviting interested members to participate in a small forum group to provide us with feedback.

