

Board Newsletter

Napier Kindergarten Association

February 2016

The joy of teaching, the love of learning

From The President

Welcome to the first Board newsletter for 2016. We hope the year has begun well for you and your whanau and that your children are all happily settled into their kindergartens.



At our 2016 AGM we have one Board member's term coming to an end. The incumbent Board Member is standing for another term however this does not prevent any other person with an interest in standing from doing so. Therefore I invite anyone with an interest to consider being part of the Board and its' vision for the future. You are most welcome to join us at our next Board meeting at 6pm on the 6th April 2016, at 66 Kennedy Rd, Napier.

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

Board Members do not need to have prior governance experience to be on the Board. We have a great induction process, 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 a 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, a Parents as First Teachers programme, just under 100 employees and a gross income in excess of \$5 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 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 at least 6 Board meetings per annum of approximately 2 hours duration, 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, if they wish, 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.

Further information about Board nominations is provided over page.

Jessica Uri, President

Our Board Members are:



Standing left to right: Rhonda Parsons (Vice President), Ingrid Squire, Nicola Eustace, Anna Wairama, Sarah Beckett

Seated: Rob Barzey, Jessica Uri (President), Vanessa Harlow, Kirstie

Association AGM

Our Association AGM is being held at Riversdale Kindergarten, 11 Cooke Place on Wednesday 13 April 2016 at 7pm.

Kindergarten AGM's

Your kindergarten AGM's will be held in March. We encourage you to attend your local kindergarten meeting as they look forward to sharing their 2015 achievements with you as well as their plans for 2016.

Updating Your Contact Details

Do kindergartens have your current address and phone contact details? This information is particularly important in the event of an emergency. Please check with your teachers if you are unsure if we have your correct information.



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Call for Board Nominations

Nominations for the Napier Kindergarten Association Board are now called. Nominations are required to be forwarded to the General Manager no later than **Monday 14 March 2016**.

We have a 3 stage process for electing Board Members:

1. Call for nominations
2. Nominations received must be seconded by a member of the Board
3. Association Members vote at the AGM

Who may be a nominee?

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

Who can make a nomination?

- Any Member of the Association, excluding employees, may make a nomination.

How is a nomination made?

- Nominations are submitted to the General Manager on a form (which can be obtained from your kindergarten, the General Manager or our website).
- The nomination must be agreed to by the nominee and accompanied by a letter of interest, a **brief** resume, references, referee details and a Criminal Disclosure authority (the General Manager can help nominees with this part of the process).
- **Every nomination received must be seconded by a Board Member** (we'll help arrange a meeting with our President for this purpose).

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 interested in joining the Board, that they share the values of the Board and are prepared to be an actively contributing member. We ascertain this by arranging a meeting with the nominee.

What happens after my nomination is submitted and accepted 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 13th April, 2016.
- 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 1 June 2016.

Our General Manager is available to provide assistance to any person interested in being nominated for a Board position. 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.



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, rather than Members, so they have no voting rights at these meetings.

Mobile Phone Application

We have a free phone mobile application available that you can download to iPhones or Smart phones. With the application you can receive phone alerts, reminders and your kindergarten newsletters. Go to the App Store and download Napier Kindergartens.