

Board Newsletter

Napier Kindergarten Association

March 2016

The joy of teaching, the love of learning

From The President

It is my pleasure to announce that we have three nominees for the one Board position currently available.

The nominees are:

- Vanessa Harlow
- Sarah Nash
- Kelly Richards

Information provided by each of the nominees regarding their interest in a position on the Board is included in this newsletter.

The nominees will be introduced to our Members at our AGM, prior to voting. They will be given an opportunity to answer any questions Members may have for them regarding their standing for a Board position.

Voting

Voting will be undertaken by way of paper ballot. Votes will be counted by scrutinisers appointed on the night.

The nominee with the most votes will be declared at the AGM as being elected as a Board Member for a 2 year term.

In the event of a tie, the Chair will have a casting vote.

Voting papers will be destroyed after the voting result has been declared.

Who can vote

Members who may vote at an AGM are any persons attending the meeting who are:

- A parent, guardian or parental caregiver of a child either attending kindergarten or on the waiting list to attend kindergarten (unless that person is an Association employee)
- A Board Member
- A Life Member



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 Osgood

Association AGM

Our Association AGM is being held at:

Riversdale Kindergarten,
11 Cooke Place

Wednesday 13 April 2016
7pm

AGM Agenda

An AGM agenda will be distributed to kindergartens prior to the meeting.

Quorum

We need a minimum of 25 Members to attend the meeting (that is parent, Board and Life members)



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Napier Kindergartens' Board is responsible for the governance of the Association and its role includes:

- Development of the Association's Strategic Plan
- Employment of the General Manager
- Monitoring of strategic outcomes
- Management of risk
- Monitoring of legal compliance
- Setting policies

Board Members have an obligation to attend meetings and be active participants in discussions and decision making.

Each of the nominees has been endorsed by the Board as being suitable candidates for a Board position.

Jessica Uri, President

Nominee: Vanessa Harlow.

My name is Vanessa Harlow and I have been a board member for the past two years. During that time the Board has had many issues to address as societal needs for early childhood education changes. I have attended conferences in other centers, sessions around strategic planning for the future and our usual Board meetings.

As a primary school teacher I am well aware of the importance of the kindergarten movement throughout New Zealand in setting children up to become lifelong learners. I have been a primary school teacher for 12 years and prior to that was a newspaper journalist. I have sound communication skills and a thorough understanding of the New Zealand education system.

I am passionate about education and am a strong supporter of the New Zealand Kindergarten Association. I was a kindergarten kid myself (quite a few years ago now) and both my sons have been through Wharerangi Kindergarten in Tamatea. Their time here ensured they were well set up for learning at school and had inquisitive minds with lots of questions about the world around them.

I am keen to continue my role on the Board. The first two years has given me a really good grounding and I have learned so much about the governance role and the New Zealand Kindergarten Association as a whole. I would love to continue in this role as the Board faces many challenges and follow through to completion some of the projects and ideas already in place.



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Nominee: Sarah Nash

I would like to join the Napier Kindergarten Association (NKA) board to help develop the strategic direction the Association takes in engaging with the community.

I believe I have the competencies and skill set to really enhance the board.

I have worked in Public Relations (PR) for over 18 years (including six years in London) and for the past 10 years have run my own business so I understand the fundamentals of operating a business.

As a highly skilled PR consultant I pride myself on devising and implementing effective communication strategies and these skills I feel are fundamental to the success of any business or organisation.

With four children (two of whom are step-children) I am very aware of the importance of nurturing inquisitive and enquiring minds and the important role early childcare plays.

Many studies show that our children are 'shaped' between the ages of 2-5 years of age so therefore quality pre-school education is paramount to us forming self-assured, happy kids which then leads to vibrant and successful communities. I am excited about the opportunity to channel my passion for children, education and our community together with my professional competencies into helping make a positive difference on the NKA board.

I am currently on the Carlyle Kindergarten PTA and have assisted with a number of successful fundraising initiatives. In addition to my paid work I have a pro bona account RAW (Reclaim Another Charity) which I have had great success in gaining media exposure for, and I have also helped work on my husband's successful election campaign.

Nominee: Kelly Richards

I wish to express my interest as the board member for Napier Kindergarten Association.

I am currently working as a Population Health Advisor for the Hawke's Bay District Health Board (HBDHB). My role is to promote population health by planning and implementing evidence based health promotion strategies with a focus on oral health. I work across the region with a strategic focus on building the capacity and capability of promoters and educators working in oral health. I am currently project manager for the Improving access to community dental clinic for tamaki maori and support other projects within the HBDHB.

My biggest and proudest role starts at 2.30pm when I pick up Charlie for Greenmeadows kindy. Charlie is my youngest of 3 boys; Lachlan and Hadley are at Greenmeadows school. Greenmeadows Kindergarten was my kindy 40 years ago and I love that my boys are growing up in the same community.

I am a practical and strategic thinker and enjoy working as part of a team.

