

Board Newsletter

Napier Kindergarten Association

May 2019

The joy of teaching, the love of learning

From The President

"The secret of success is constancy to purpose."

Benjamin Disraeli



Kia ora tatou te whānau

To those children starting kindergarten for the first time – welcome!! We hope everyone has a fantastic time, I'm sure your teachers have already been planning some of the fun events and activities you'll be able to enjoy.

As mentioned in our April Newsletter, we're offering an opportunity for interested parents (and employees) to understand more about constitutions and have planned an evening event from 6 to 7pm, on **22nd May**, to deliver some training on this. Venue to be advised depending on numbers attending.

We'll follow this up with a meeting of parents who wish to discuss the proposed changes to our constitution on the **6th June** starting at 6pm, again venue to be advised depending on numbers attending.

On the **19th June** we'll hold a Special Meeting for Members to vote on the proposal to rescind our current constitution and replace it with a new constitution (copies of each can be located on our website www.napierkindergartens.co.nz).

Please email our General Manager gm@napierkindergartens.co.nz if you are interested in attending the meetings on the 22 May and/or the 6 June.

In addition to the above meeting options we'll be putting out more information regarding the proposed constitutional changes, and inviting feedback.

I'm also taking this opportunity to announce my decision not to stand for a further term as President of Napier Kindergartens. As much as I have enjoyed the role for the past 7 years, I feel it is the right time to bring on a new President.

The Board will determine who that person will be at our May meeting. I'm looking forward however to remaining on as a Board member, and to providing support to the new President as needed.

A New Zealand Kindergartens Hui is coming up on the 17th & 18th May, we will have some Board members attending this event in Wellington. The Hon. Chris Hipkins, Minister of Education, will be delivering a keynote speech at the hui which will be of great interest.

Mā te wā

*Jessica Uri,
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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How Kindergartens Are Funded

Our kindergartens are not funded like schools are. Although the bulk of our funding is received from the government it is based on the numbers of children attending, their ages, the hours they attend, regularity of attendance, how many of their 20 Hours ECE hours are attested to us and the number of days we are open for. There is therefore a direct link between the number of children enrolled, and our funding.

Some additional funding is received (Equity Funding and Targeted funding for disadvantage) from the government for certain children, but not every kindergarten receives this. There are also constraints on how it may be spent.

We charge fees and request donations, which provide a small amount of additional income, and we apply for a number of grants to support kindergarten fundraising efforts.

When our kindergartens are closed for term breaks, Statutory holidays and Christmas, we receive no funding at all. We still have to pay staff salaries and wages though, and many other annual costs such as rates and insurance.

In 2010 the funding received for employing 100% fully trained and qualified teachers was cut, and reduced to funding only 80% of our teachers. We lost \$ 600,000 per annum overnight, and after 7 years finally had to pass some of this loss on to parents via fees and donation requests.

Not for profit service

Napier Kindergartens is an incorporated society and a not for profit service. This means our primary objective is not to maximise profits or surpluses (which are available to investors as a rate of return on their investment), but rather to expend all the funds we receive into providing the best educational opportunities we can, at the most affordable price to our families.

Our financial decisions are not therefore purely profit driven although it is still important that we generate sufficient funds to cover our day to day costs, as well as cover future capital or emergency expenditure.

Approximately 80% of our income is spent on salaries and wages, the bulk of which covers teachers' salaries. In 2018 this meant that of our \$ 6.4 million income received, \$ 5.2 million paid the Association's employee salaries and wages.

Every other expense of operating our kindergartens has to be covered by the remaining 20% of income received (in 2018 this was \$1.2 million).

We ended the 2018 year with a \$ 127,601 loss and we are forecasting another loss for 2019.

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.

Bette Christie Kindergarten Extended Hours, Extended Year Kindergarten Service

Bette Christie Kindergarten is now be offering a 7½ hour session for half of their children, as well as the option of children attending for more days in each year (such as during term breaks).

We wish them every success a smooth transition into their new hours (8.30am to 4.00pm) .

