

# Board Newsletter

Napier Kindergarten Association

June 2020

The joy of teaching, the love of learning

## From The President

This year we are presenting at our Annual General Meeting (AGM) a number of nominees for positions on our Board.

The Board is made up of up to 9 people who are:

- A person who is an employee and has been elected by employees
- Up to 8 other Board members, elected by Voting members

The following nominees are standing for election at our AGM:

Sarah Nash	standing for re election
Alison Donovan	standing for re election
Karl Wairama	co-opted, standing for election
Casey Hucker	co-opted, standing for election
Kelly O'Leary	first time nominee

Although elected Board Members will join Ingrid Squire (term due to end next year) and the employee elected by staff on the 28<sup>th</sup> June 2020, we anticipate additional vacancies will remain after the AGM, and may consider co-opting further Board members following the AGM.

Each nominee is an Ordinary Member and each has provided information regarding their interest in a position on the Board (see over page).

The nominees will be introduced to our Members at our AGM, prior to voting. Members will have the opportunity to ask them any questions they might have regarding their standing for a Board position at the AGM.

### Voting

Although we have fewer members standing for election than positions available, we are still required to conduct a vote for each nominee. Each nominee must receive a simple majority of votes in their favour to be elected (ie 51%).

Voting will be conducted by way of written ballot, the results announced the following day.

### Who can vote at an AGM

A Voting member is any person present at the AGM who is:

- A kindergarten appointed Voting member (or their proxy)(Napier based kindergartens)
- An appointed Board Voting Member to vote on behalf of the Board
- A Board Member who has been selected to cast a proxy vote on behalf of Wairoa based kindergarten communities



## Role of Our Board

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

## Association AGM

Our Association AGM is being held at:

Marewa Kindergarten,  
2 Bedford Rd, Marewa

Tuesday 30 June 2020  
7pm

## AGM Agenda

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

## AGM Quorum

We need a minimum of 50% of Voting members or their proxies to be present.

If a quorum of Voting Members is not present, a quorum can be achieved if we have 10 people present who are Voting Members, Ordinary Members or Life Members.

**Sarah Nash**  
President



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## Proxy votes

If a Voting Member is unable to attend an AGM they may assign their voting power to another Member (proxy) to cast votes on their behalf. The original, written authority assigning the voting power to another Member must be received by the General Manager before the commencement of the AGM. A copy of the authority or an email version is not accepted.

## Board Nominees:



**Sarah Nash**

I was elected to the Board in April 2016 and re-elected in 2018. I was subsequently elected as President by the Board in May 2019 and am seeking re-election to my final term on the Board.

I have worked in Public Relations (PR) for over 20 years (including six years in London) and for the past 15 years have run my own business. 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.



**Alison Donovan**

I am seeking re-election as a Board member of Napier Kindergarten Association (NKA).

I was co-opted onto the Board in August 2017 and have greatly enjoyed my time in the role thus far. I have learnt a lot about early childhood education and the many challenges kindergartens face operating in a heavily competitive industry. I would love to continue to help shape NKA to ensure it remains accessible to all tamariki in the Napier & Wairoa communities into the future.

I work as Group Administration Manager at Turfrey (a plumbing and roofing company), where I am responsible for HR, payroll, recruitment, technology, vehicles and finding efficiencies across the company. My business management and financial management skills, along with my pragmatic approach, are the strengths I believe I bring which complement my fellow NKA Board members' skill sets.

All three of my tamariki have attended Taradale Kindergarten, and they all have fond memories of its wonderful learning environment.

I continue to see the opportunity of being a NKA Board member as a privilege and as a chance to give something back to the organisation that has helped positively shape and teach my tamariki.



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**Karl Wairama**

Ko Kahuranaki te maunga  
Kahuranaki is the mountain  
Ko Kahuranaki te marae  
Kahuranaki is the marae  
Ko Tukituki, ko Ngaru-roro, ko Tutae-kuri nga awa  
Tukituki, Ngaru-roro and Tutae-kuri are the rivers  
Ko Ngati Kahungunu te iwi  
Kahungunu is the tribe

I am of Ngati Kahungunu descent and I have lived most of my life in Hawke's Bay. I am a father of four who have all attended Onekawa Kindergarten, which my youngest child currently attends. During this time, I have developed a strong passion for children and education. I was co opted onto the Board in November 2019.

I have a background in child and adolescent mental health with a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and Criminology. I have worked in both community organisations and for government to ensure the needs of younger persons were being met. I am passionate about ensuring our tamariki flourish in our ongoing climate and believe that communities are best placed to have the solutions for the difficult problems we face.

I enjoy serving on the board and using my experience to ensuring our kindergartens thrive.



**Casey Hucker**

I was co opted onto the Board February 2020. My twins attended Pirimai Kindergarten and now after moving to Taradale my youngest son attends Taradale Kindergarten.

I am a lawyer in a local Napier law firm and have a mix of skills and experience to help make well-informed decisions on a range of matters faced by the board.

I am excited to be part of a diverse board with each member contributing something unique that adds to the overall culture and vision of the board and the wider Kindergarten community.

I am passionate about Kindergarten and the education and development of our local children and value the importance of the board's role to ensure that the Kindergarten evolves to meet the demands of our changing society without losing the true value of the Kindergarten experience and culture.



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**Kelly O'Leary**

I am blessed to be a mum of two amazing tamariki – Daniel (nearly four years old) and Anna (two years old). I feel privileged to be part of the Eskview Kindergarten whanau for nearly a year.

I am in awe at the māhī all kiako and staff undertake with our tamariki every day. I am impressed at the highly effective practices I observe, the way the learning is based on tamariki's interests, the respectful and genuine day to day interactions which leads to positive learning relationships and most importantly (to me!) is the kindness shown to whānau and tamariki. This environment means my son loves kindergarten, is highly engaged in his learning and I feel confident to leave him in the very capable hands of his teachers.

I am incredibly passionate about all things education. I have had a fulfilling teaching and leadership career thus far and I am looking for a position that will allow me to explore new challenges and continue to develop my areas of interest. I have a genuine interest in children and their education and wish to further this on the Board. I believe that quality governance has a positive impact on staff, students, whānau and wider community and I believe I have knowledge, experience and skills to contribute to the abundant skills already on the Board.

I am committed to providing all learners with the best standard of education possible. Therefore I believe it is important to undertake personal and professional development. In 2011 I completed my Masters of Education which was predominantly focused on effective leadership practices, supporting Māori students to be successful in schools and effective literacy practices in the classroom. I believe it is important to keep myself up to date with current research around best practice which helps me to make informed decisions to improve outcomes for learners. As a new board member I will ensure I undertake professional learning to ensure I am working to do the best for our Napier community.

I am considered a fair, reasonable and calm person. I bring these attributes with me when supporting people to resolve conflict. It has been a deliberate development in my leadership over the past several years. This has been developed through learning conversations with my colleagues, extensive reading and several courses to understand the theory and pedagogy behind "open to learning" conversations whilst keep a positive working relationship with staff.

I have a proven ability to connect and engage with staff, tamariki, whānau and wider community from a respectful and strength-based perspective. Most of all, I want to make a positive difference in our community and ensure tamariki are at the heart of decision making.

