

# Board Newsletter

Napier Kindergarten Association

October 2019

The joy of teaching, the love of learning

## From The President

"Summertime is always the best of what might be"

*Charles Bowden*



Kia ora tatou te whānau

Welcome to all new kindergarten families. What an awesome time to be joining us! I'm sure we're all looking forward to the summer season, sunny days, salads and barbeques! We hope you all enjoy Term 4 as we head towards the end of the year.

### Association membership

Our new Constitution came into effect on the 14<sup>th</sup> October.

We've developed some draft resources to inform people what Membership of Napier Kindergartens entails and to support recruitment of Members.

We invite interested parents and employees to participate in a small working group meeting to review the resources prepared and provide feedback.

You have two meeting options to choose from:

Date & time: 19 November 9.00 – 10.00am OR  
20 November 6.00 – 7.00pm

Venue: Napier Kindergarten Association, 66 Kennedy Rd

Ahead of the meeting participants will be sent a draft Membership booklet (9 pages) and Membership Application form.

Please contact Helen to advise if you would like to participate in either of these meetings via [gm@napierkindergartens.co.nz](mailto:gm@napierkindergartens.co.nz).

### Kindergarten Open Day

Our kindergartens will be open from 9.30 – 12.30 on Saturday 2 November.

This would be a great opportunity to support your kindergarten – bring along anyone you know who may be interested in enrolling, or whānau members who may not ordinarily get the chance to visit kindergarten during the week

Mā te wā,  
Sarah Nash,  
President

## Our Board Members Are:



Sarah Nash



Ingrid Squire



Rachel Murray



Alison Donovan



Rob Barzey

## 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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## Session times

We're only licenced to have children at kindergarten during the times stipulated on their licences. Our teachers greatly appreciate it if you arrive to drop off or collect your child as close as possible to the session times.

## ERO reviews

All kindergarten ERO reviews have been completed. ERO is in the process of finalising their reports, which will be available from their website in due course. We'd like to thank parents who took the opportunity to share their views and support of their kindergarten with the ERO reviewers.

## Women's Lifestyle Expo

We will have a kindergarten stand at the Women's Lifestyle expo 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> November, Pettigrew Green arena, 10am – 5pm. They'd love you to stop by and say hi!

## Frequent absences

We know that from time to time children will be absent from kindergarten for a variety of reasons. Usually we continue to receive funding when they are absent.

Did you know however that if children are regularly absent for a period of 3 months or more our funding for them is removed every time they are absent?

From January to 31 August of this year we have lost \$83,069 of income due to frequent absences.

All it takes to stop this funding being removed is for the child to attend sessions as enrolled for 2 consecutive weeks.

Your teachers will tell you if we are about to lose funding due to irregular attendance of your child.

## Fees and donations

The government funding we receive is still less than it was in 2008, despite rising costs. We have maintained our commitment to employ fully trained and registered teachers, although we are not fully funded to do this.

We rely on parent fees and donations to enable us to continue to provide the kindergarten services that we do, to the standard that we do, and at the lowest cost possible.

We are immensely grateful for the payments we receive – thank you!!

## Who Are Members Of Our Association?



Association Members are:

- Ordinary Members
- Voting Members
- Board Members
- Life Members

People interested in Membership will need to apply to the Napier Kindergartens Board to be accepted as Members.

We've developed draft resources to support people to decide if they wish to become Members. These resources will be trialed with two working groups in November, after which we'll begin recruitment of Members.

Other than the Staff elected Board Member, employees of Napier Kindergartens are unable to be Members.

## 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

