

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES REPORT

23rd February 2010

I am just recovering from watching the area swimming sports, what a great turn out from both the children and parents. If this isn't an indicator that we need an improved swimming complex I don't know what is! Wanaka Primary was in charge of the organisation of the swimming sports so a big thank you to all involved and special thanks to Jennie Croxford for taking the lead on these projects.

Wendy has already mentioned that this is a triennial Board of Trustees election year and that all but one of the Board members is planning to stand again. Specifically we are looking for a replacement who has some accounting skills to sit on the finance subcommittee. If you think this might be you and wish to discuss what this might involve, please feel free to get in touch with Wendy or myself (I can be contacted on 443-1833).

The Wanaka Primary School Future Trust who do a tremendous amount of work behind the scenes raising funds, in conjunction with other groups such as our Parent Forum, have been able to make their first donation of \$5,000 to the school board. The idea behind the trust is that it is an accumulating capital fund with a portion of the interest reinvested in the fund and the remainder is available for the trustees to distribute. To receive \$5000 from a start-up trust in only their second year of operation is outstanding and the Board of Trustees is very grateful for the efforts and the donation.

I don't think you can have a comment from the board without mentioning the new school. The project overall is looking great. With any multimillion dollar venture there are going to be daily issues of varying degree, but these are part and parcel of large scale building and we have a great team handling these issues. We are still ahead of schedule and putting in place the planning for our actual relocation. This means considerable more work from our trustees than in a normal year so if they seemed stressed, please be nice to them. POD 6 of the new school is going to be open to the House Tour being run by our parent forum on 27th March, so if you would like a sneak preview please buy a ticket. I'll be on POD 6 duty most of the day and would love to show you through.

Pete Bullen, Chairman.

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## PRINCIPAL'S and CHAIRPERSON'S END OF YEAR REPORT FOR 2009

This year has seen a lot of activity for Wanaka Primary School. The three relocatables, one for storage and two for roll growth were ready to use early in the year. These have proven to be invaluable and have been fully utilised over the year. Despite a larger number of year 6 students moving to college at the end of last year (89 instead of 60) the roll has finished up at 405, similar to 2008 and up on other years. Some staffing and class organisation changes occurred at the beginning of term 3 as the new arrivals and new entrant numbers didn't increase earlier on in the year as we had predicted, but tended to arrive later in term 3 and in term 4.

Curriculum development focused on further development of our learning model with integration of Habits of Mind and a new look Curriculum Overview that focused in on Learning Areas' Essence Statements and main Achievement Objectives with retrospective review of coverage. We were involved in the second year of the NZCER (New Zealand Council of Educational Research) study of the new NZC, (new Curriculum) implementation and our school's journey has been written about online and as part of the report presented for the Ministry on early implementation schools. Physed, Physical Activity and Sport documentation for the C.I.P. (Curriculum Implementation Plan) has been totally reviewed, redesigned and updated. The Arts curriculum outline plan has been updated as well but is still in draft form ready for finalising in term 1, 2010. The I.L.P.O (Information Skills) programme has been reviewed and been further refined and improved as part of our Focus Library Contract developments. We have also focused on using assessment tools and sharing the assessment results with students and giving focused feedback back and feed forward as further ways to empower students to self manage their learning. This will continue as a focus in 2010 and will be further developed to include National Standards.

Professional Learning also underwent a number of changes this year with the introduction of the Ariki Reflective Groups (Quality Learning Circles), professional learning breakouts teachers could opt into, professional learning workshops for all staff based on school goals and also a professional learning section within syndicate meetings. Teachers also attended local and regional courses including literacy, numeracy, assessment, implementation of NZC, Autism, P.E./Active Schools and Enviroschools. Teachers were able to pass on learning to others in their teaching teams and also presented at staff workshops.

Leeanne Fairbairn was on study leave for terms 1 and 2 and completed her Bachelor of Teaching and Learning qualification. Lisa Moore worked as a teacher administrator for N.E.M.P. (National Educational Monitoring Project) in term 3. Wendy and Kerry presented at local and national conferences with Wendy also presenting at the International Principals' Conference in Singapore. Wendy, Kerry, Annie and Kit presented the Wanaka Learning Model at the NZCER national conference series in Christchurch, with an article also appearing on the Ministry website. Annie has acted as a regional tutor for interactive whiteboards and has worked with teachers in other schools. As in other years we have also had a number of other schools come and observe our classrooms and teachers in action.

Jennie Croxford, in her role as sports co-ordinator, has organised some excellent school and local events including the Upper Clutha Swimming Sports, the Upper Clutha Athletics and for the first time we held our own school triathlon which was hugely successful. Our sports groups and individual athletes had many opportunities to represent the school at Central Otago and Otago levels, including for the first time Rippa Rugby where one of our teams got to the semi finals and competed before an Otago rugby crowd in a prematch at Carisbrook.

This year featured a successful junior school production as well as the end of year senior school pantomime. The Kapahaka group under the guidance of Mary Anne Tamati and Jo Bridge has worked hard all year and performed at a number of powhiris as well as at the Rhys Darby fundraiser, the Snowboard Champs and the Assistive Snowboard Cup. The Kapahaka group spent a day at the Karitane Marae in Dunedin as well as travelling to The Terrace School in Alexandra for a sharing day.

Staffing has remained fairly stable over the year. Laetitia de Vries had a term off on sick leave as she was struck with a mysterious virus that left her most unwell. Debra McLennan relieved during this time. A new librarian, Pip Lowther, was appointed in term 4 after we received Sally Jackways' resignation as she was moving to Auckland. Jo Roberts joined the staff as a classroom teacher taking up a roll growth position in Term 2. Jo and Jenny Vaughan job shared a position in term 3 and 4, upon Leanne Fairbairn's return to school.

Lisa Moore resigned from her position to teach overseas and pursue further study options in December and Sarah Stewart was appointed for the 2010 year. Raewyn Hanson has opted for a year's leave to travel overseas. We have taken on a number of new teacher aides to fill the ORRS (Ongoing, Reviewable Resourcing Scheme) and SEG (Special Education Grant) teacher aide roles.

The Board of Trustees has had another busy and productive year. The new school building development is well underway and looking good for a term 4 opening date in 2010. The amount of planning, review and budgeting that the Board has put into preparation for the move to the new school has been time consuming and challenging, but they have achieved this with great success. Pete Bullen, Mike Scurr and Wendy Bamford continue to take part in the PCG meetings for the new school and their continued involvement has meant that the Board has been able to ensure that good decisions are made with regard to the build and landscaping. The sale of a school house, leasing of the Board-owned classrooms, prudent budgeting and fundraising has meant that the Board has the school in a healthy financial position for the move to the new site in 2010.

Despite a growing number of failures with plumbing pipes and a few leaks the old school is holding together and is a tribute to John Gwilliam, the caretaker, who always has the grounds and buildings looking well maintained, clean and attractive.

The Parent Forum still relies on a passionate few who undertake some innovative and successful fundraisers for the school. Furniture for our new library, year 6 leavers calculators, sports uniforms and new school equipment were targeted as goals for fundraising.

Thanks to all members of our learning community who have worked hard to sustain innovative developments, a focus on student learning and a stimulating, positive school culture. We are well set up for another busy and successful year as we look towards our move to our new campus in September 2010, where we will be able to continue our journey towards our quest to continually '*empower our community of learners*'.

Wendy Bamford  
PRINCIPAL

Pete Bullen  
BOARD CHAIR