



## The Ngaio School Board of Trustees Update

March 2022

Kia ora koutou,

We hope that everyone had an enjoyable summer break, spending time in the sunshine with friends and whānau. The Board of Trustees would also like to warmly welcome all new families who have joined Ngaio School for 2022 - it's wonderful to have you as a part of our school community.

There are now an increasing number of families affected by COVID-19 in our school community. Thank you for continuing to contact the school if your child tests positive or is isolating as a household contact. The Board continues to support the school with the COVID-19 policies and procedures that are in place and to prioritise the health and safety of the children and staff at school. We would also like to thank the staff and children for all they are doing each day to mitigate risk at school, while also balancing the importance of being together for learning, psychosocial development and wellbeing.

The Board is made up of five elected parent representatives, the school Principal and a staff representative. We meet monthly and also communicate regularly regarding school governance plans and issues.

The current Ngaio School Board of Trustees:

Estelle Jaine (Presiding Member) [botestelle@ngaio.school.nz](mailto:botestelle@ngaio.school.nz)  
Raewyn Watson (School Principal) [principal@ngaio.school.nz](mailto:principal@ngaio.school.nz)  
Clinton Geeves (Parent Representative) [botclinton@ngaio.school.nz](mailto:botclinton@ngaio.school.nz)  
Sarah Sims (Parent Representative) [botsarah@ngaio.school.nz](mailto:botsarah@ngaio.school.nz)  
Mark Palmer (Parent Representative) [botmark@ngaio.school.nz](mailto:botmark@ngaio.school.nz)  
Christian Hawkesby (Parent Representative) [botchristian@ngaio.school.nz](mailto:botchristian@ngaio.school.nz)  
Dan Byrne (Staff Representative) [d.byrne@ngaio.school.nz](mailto:d.byrne@ngaio.school.nz)

A Board of Trustees has the ability to co-opt additional members for a number of reasons, including to cover issues of equity, to reflect the character of the community, or to ensure that the Board has the right skills and experience available to it. Co-opted Board members need to meet the same eligibility requirements as parent representatives. They have the same rights and responsibilities as other individual Board members, on the condition that there should always be more parent representatives than co-opted Board members.

The Ngaio School Board has reflected on the governance workload ahead, especially in another year of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the skills and experience required, and has agreed to (i) co-opt *Helen Musson* until the next Board election in September 2022, to assist the Board in the area of legal and policy matters relevant to the responsibilities of the Board and (ii) to co-opt *Joe Winton* until the next Board election in September 2022, to assist the Board in the area of student achievement and wellbeing data, analysis and interpretation.

*Helen Musson* has three children: Isabel, Will and Grace, two of whom are at Ngaio School. Her eldest is now at Rāroa Intermediate. Helen and her husband Rhys moved to Ngaio in 2009. She currently works as a lawyer for the Ministry of Justice, but has previous experience working in the private sector in resource management and employment law. She has previously served on the Grace Kindergarten Board. In winter she coaches a school hockey team. On Friday afternoons you will find her helping with road patrol on Abbott Street.

*Joe Winton* moved to New Zealand in 2016 and shortly after his eldest child started at Ngaio school, so the school and the community have always been part of his family's life here in Wellington. He has two children already at Ngaio School (in year 6 and year 2) and also a preschooler. When he isn't enjoying the outdoors - at the beach, in the bush or camping with his family - he is playing with data. Originally from South Wales and having previously worked in various government agencies in the UK and NZ, he currently manages the production of housing statistics for Te Tuapapa Kura Kāinga - Ministry of Housing and Urban Development.

### RECENT EVENTS/INITIATIVES:

- ★ The Board of Trustees have expanded on from last year's annual plan, used feedback from the senior leadership team and school staff, and also considered comments from the 2021 community survey to complete the **2022 Ngaio School Annual Plan**. This plan highlights specific areas the school will focus on this year and is linked here as part of the [Ngaio School Charter](#).
- ★ The Analysis of Variance for last year's annual plan has been sent to the Ministry of Education along with this year's plan. The AoV forms part of the **Annual Report** and will be available on the school website later in the year.
- ★ **School Docs** reviews of the school's policies and procedures happen termly for the Board and school staff. These are also often open to the wider school community. If you would like to view these reviews and make comments, they are available on the School Docs website, these can be accessed from the policy page on the Ngaio School website. [Policies - Ngaio School](#).
- ★ The next **Parent Representative Board of Trustee Elections** will be held this year in September 2022. Nominations will be due in mid-July. We welcome anyone interested in finding out more about what the role involves to contact any of us, or to come along to one of our meetings. Currently these are being held online and our next meeting is Thursday March 31st, 6:30pm.

Info on school Board elections: <https://www.schoolboardelections.org.nz/becoming-a-board-member/>

### CONTACT:

We are always happy to hear feedback from the community - parents/whānau, children, staff - regarding the governance of Ngaio School. Please feel free to attend our monthly meetings advertised in the school newsletter and on the website, or you can contact us directly via the Presiding Member at: [botestelle@ngaio.school.nz](mailto:botestelle@ngaio.school.nz)

Ngā mihi nui

Estelle Jaine, Clinton Geeves, Mark Palmer, Sarah Sims, Christian Hawkesby, Dan Byrne, Joe Winton, Helen Musson and Raewyn Watson.