

Update from the Commissioner

5 March 2018

Student Achievement

The 2018 school year has got off to a great start and I wish to acknowledge the work of our staff for their preparations over the holiday period. In particular I would like to acknowledge the work of Mrs Fraser in having the School Charter and Analysis of Variation ready well in advance of the 1 March 2018 filing date. The NCEA results were very pleasing and our students are to be congratulated on their achievements.

Property Project

The refurbishment of the Junior Block is nearly complete and I would like to recognise the work of Mr Laurenson in managing the school's responsibilities for this project in a very professional and effective manner. I'm sure our junior room teachers will be looking forward to moving into the renovated spaces with their classes and we look forward to celebrating the opening of the refreshed classroom block with them.

Reporting on Student Progress

Baseline achievement data for all students in Years 7 – 10 has been analysed and tailored learning programmes to accelerate student progress are being implemented. Although National Standards are no longer required to be reported on, parents and caregivers will still receive reports detailing how students are progressing in relation to curriculum levels. The difference will be that the emphasis will be on a student's individual progress rather than on comparing students.

Induction of New Principal

In preparation for taking on the role of Principal of Aparima College next term, Mr Cameron Davis attended the governance meeting on 21 February 2018. Mr Davis has also visited the College several times to meet staff informally and to meet with the Senior Leadership Team. The process for setting up Mr Cameron's Performance Management Agreement and Appraisal is well underway and Mr Cameron has enrolled with the Beginning Principal's programme.

Review of Statutory Intervention

A review of the statutory intervention by the Ministry of Education has commenced and it is anticipated that permission to set an election date will be granted by early next term. Nominations will be sought for five parent representatives. The nominees do not need to be parents of students, they just need to be nominated by a parent. We will also be seeking nominations for a staff representative and a student representative. Once a new board takes office, my appointment as commissioner will immediately cease.

To ensure the new board is well supported, the New Zealand School Trustees Association will be providing training and assistance tailored to any particular needs the new board identifies. The Education Review Office will be visiting the College again later in the year to review progress.

The next governance meeting is at 7.00 pm on Wednesday the 21st of March 2018 in the Graphics Room and all are welcome to attend and participate.

Nicola Hornsey