



## 2019 Board of Trustees Chairperson Report

Catherine Tafto

As another year quickly draws to a close the board has taken the time to reflect on the year that has been and look forward to 2020.

After the Board of Trustee elections our new board was Natasha McClellan, Mel Dudding, Cojana Spear, Rob Dean, Virginia Craig and myself. This group is dedicated to the educational success and wellbeing of our children, and creating a workplace where our teachers and support staff can thrive and develop their practise. To this end board members have taken advantage of the training offered by NZSTA for board members and will continue to do so to ensure we are following best practice and doing our very best for our school.

Staying on top of new announcements by the government and how this impacts our staff and students is really important, and we all welcomed the announcement earlier this month of a one-off cash injection towards school infrastructure. We look forward to finding out more and communicating to our community how we will work to make the most of this.

We hosted the Education Review Office this year. We received some great feedback, in particular regarding the school's broad and engaging curriculum and flexible and responsive teachers. Where there were areas for improvement we have taken that feedback on board in our plans going forward.

It has been great to see the new Ahi Ha hub building being used to its full potential this year, and seeing the students thrive in the space and embrace the learner agency model. Feedback from families has been overwhelmingly positive.

Our heartfelt thanks to our teachers for their hard work with our students, our wonderful support staff, and to all those parents that put a hand up to help make our school the special place it is.

We wish you a happy and safe holiday.

Catherine Tafto

Pukekawa School Board Chair



2019 has been a rewarding, positive year for Pukekawa School-it's learners and staff. Students have had the opportunity to be involved in a wide range of learning experiences.

To enhance the usual classroom programmes students have made excursions outside of school. The Junior classes visited the rocky shore at Port Waikato and Kelly Tarltons, as part of their environmental focus and the Hamilton Zoo as part of their Science focus on animals.

Our Senior learners visited the Hamilton Gardens and Sculpture Park to investigate culturally influenced environments. During Matariki, Year 3-6 students went on a bus trip to explore local significant landmarks, including Puke o Tahinga to deepen our sense of belonging and understanding of our Maori heritage.

We have also invited external experts in to share with our students- Water Safety & Road practices, safety around dogs, St Johns Ambulance to teach getting help and first aid strategies, the local vet, Ze Bong, a storyteller, the "hands on" World of Maths and our Peace Foundation facilitator for Cool Schools / Peer Mediation.

Programme highlights have included Matariki, where the Ahi Ka students hosted a whanau dinner with entertainment and slept at school "Marae -style ", Book Week with a focus on authors, Whanau rotations where children learn from all the teachers in their cross school groups, a character parade and Bookie morning tea with a Literacy quiz and our annual Calf Club Day when we celebrate our rural heritage, persevere to raise animals and create a project, plus share our artistic flair. The poetry recital was a new initiative this year and we have all just enjoyed our school production of Aladdin.

Pukekawa School gives students a taste of several sporting codes. This year's codes have included netball, swimming, jump jam, basketball, cross country, athletics, orienteering, cricket, hockey, tennis.

We have increased our Maori focus and inclusion of Te reo. Whea Ihia has continued to work with our senior students on Kapa Haka and waiata. Matariki was an authentic context to share our learning with Whanau.

Through these varied learning experiences, students practice the life skills of Self- Management, Participation / contribution, Relating to Others, Thinking and our school's RICHER values. Students also practise these life skills through leadership opportunities and our peer mediation programme. Our Whanau leaders had a team / skill building day playing golf earlier this year. Rachel Maguire achieved the Sir Peter Blake Leadership award for 2019.

All of our learners are special, some excel or show flair in specific areas, others require a little more scaffolding to achieve to their potential. Our teachers, teacher aides and external professionals provide support for these learners. Some students have participated at the wider Franklin level in Mathex, Speech delivery and sports.

One of our key goals for this year has been to build "learner agency". This involves students understanding the learning process, how they learn. We help students understand what they are learning, why it is important and how they will know if they have achieved, plus begin to understand what learning will come next- learning progressions. Students across the school are building on their learning strategies to become increasingly independent. Our Senior hub has enhanced learner agency and our students are taking more responsibility for their learning and presentation choices.

Our Health consultation earlier this year told us that our children are happy to come to school and feel safe, that our teachers are approachable and that parents liked the learning opportunities and general feel of our school. We value parent feedback and affirmation.

The school had an external educational review from ERO in July this year. We were pleased with the positive feedback and suggestions for the future.

*The school's curriculum is broad and engaging. Authentic, real-life contexts and opportunities for learning are promoted. Students demonstrate a high level of self-management in class and are engaged and focused on learning. Teachers are flexible and responsive to students needs and interests. There are a wide range of resources used in class that are appropriate to all learner levels.*

*Visual displays and prompts in all classrooms are literacy rich, with deliberate value placed on students' work. Curriculum themes include the school values, and key competencies are woven throughout all areas of learning. The promotion of leadership opportunities for students across the curriculum and school events promotes effective tuakana teina relationships.*

*Students learn in an inclusive and supportive environment. Teachers are approachable, and interactions are positive and affirming. Classrooms are calm and settled and teachers are responsive to students. Target students are identified by teachers and grouped to promote a culture of learning that is well supported.*

*Transition into and through the school has supported children and their families to settle well in class.*

*There is regular sharing of learning, which is promoted through a digital platform in the senior hub, and formal reporting to parents twice a year. Parents are encouraged to participate in class and school activities and feel well supported by the school and the wider community.*

*Teachers use a wide range of strategies and resources to support learners, including teacher aides in class and appropriate processes for supporting students with additional needs. These include a family/whanau approach to working alongside children and support for liaison with external agencies.*

*Professional learning and development opportunities undertaken support teachers and leaders to cater for students with additional needs. ERO 2019*

The core business of any school is academic progress and achievement. Below is a grid of our data results in reading, writing, mathematics. All students have made progress, with many making marked improvements. Our results are "well up there" in comparison with other local schools. Well Done learners!

<b>Academic Achievement</b>	<b>Mathematics</b>		<b>Reading</b>		<b>Writing</b>	
Above Expectation	19/112	17%	28/112	25%	12/112	11%
At Expectation	80/112	71%	72/112	64%	80/112	71%
Below Expectation	13 /112	12%	12/112	11%	20/112	18%

These positive learning outcomes would not be possible without our dedicated, knowledgeable and passionate team. Teachers and teacher aides work hard to cater for our learners' needs, often going above and beyond" to plan and implement programmes and events. School visitors are welcomed by our friendly Office Administrator. We farewelled our caretaker, Tim Foote earlier this year and welcomed Ramin and Allice Turner on to our team.

Parents and Whanau have continued to play an integral role at our school by working hard on the Board of Trustees, PTA or Calf Club Committee or helping with school trips/events, plus working alongside our learners in the classrooms.

Thank you everyone- staff, parents and students for another year of support, commitment and enthusiasm. I feel proud to be part of our great school. Have a good Christmas and happy holiday spending valuable time with your children and making special memories with your families.

2020 highlights will include our biennial school camp at Whangaparoa in March and our school's 125<sup>th</sup> Reunion in October.

Karen McCulloch  
Principal

2019 AGM brought a change in all 3 main roles with Gemma Shorter becoming president and Rheannon Bates taking on both Treasurer and Secretary roles. We have a group of committed members who are always willing to help out, Many thanks to Rheannon Bates, Aimee Peterken, Carolyn Walker, Tracey Cathcart, Maria Morgan, Margaret McCarrick, Sarah McLean, Toni Harris and Vicky Payet, your work this year has been much appreciated.

This year has been an eventful year for our PTA holding fundraising events such as a school disco, movie night, a trailer of firewood raffle, oxford pies, sausage sizzles for our production nights, first aid kits, the food tent at our annual Agricultural Day, Friday pie's and many school lunch days.

These events enable us to provide beneficial advantages not only to our children but all families as without funds from the PTA to support our school these costs could be passed on to families or we would be unable to be run some of the amazing things we are able to offer.

This year we have been able to help or cover costs for 3 bus trips (For Juniors to attend a school visit to Kelly Tarltons, for Seniors to attend a school outing to research Matariki and for all students to attend a production dress rehearsal at OSPA in Onewhero. For our children to experience a maths expo brought to us by World of Maths, \$500 towards teacher consumables across all classrooms, a portable gazebo for external events such as River Athletics, Netball equipment for both our 2019 school netball teams, a Vacuum / Wet Mop to ensure our children have a nice clean learning environment and \$2000 towards the Senior 2020 Camp.

Over the 2019/2020 Christmas break PTA also plans to upgrade the sandpit area making this a more usable and friendly environment.

All of these would not be possible without the hard work from our PTA and the support from the whole school community, we thank you immensely, please continue to support our events and initiatives so we can continue to offer these amazing opportunities to our children and support our current and future families.

We also wish to thank Vivien Anderson for all your hard work collecting orders and money throughout 2019, to our PTA families past and present – as some of you move on to new chapters in your lives, a huge thanks for all the hard work you have put in over the years, to all our leaving students and families – Thank you for your ongoing support throughout the years and we wish you the best as you also move on to new chapters in your lives. To our Principal, Teachers and support staff, thank you for the many experiences, opportunities and your dedication to learning and growth of our children this year, your hard work is much appreciated.

As we farewell our leaving families in 2019, we also welcome all new families who joined us in 2019 and invite any families to join our PTA to contribute to new ideas and initiatives going into 2020 so we can continue to offer this amazing support to our small yet amazing school.

Gemma Shorter  
President  
Pukekawa School PTA 2019

