



Pukekawa School Chairperson report

This has truly been a most interesting year for so many of us, and the education sector is no different. For parents of primary school children, it has been an immensely challenging time.

The board would like to acknowledge everyone in our school community – families and teachers and support staff – who stepped up under extremely trying circumstances to try and minimise disruption to the education and wellbeing of our tamariki. We all had to learn new ways of doing things, and as parents many of us juggled trying to work in different ways while also trying to teach and manage changes to our income or businesses.

When I look over our board minutes for the year, a lot has gone on behind the scenes.

At the end of 2019 the School Investment Package funding was announced. This was a one-off contribution to upgrading school property, and was to be used towards projects which would normally be very challenging for schools to get funding for. We decided to use this funding towards upgrading our school pool, and with the project approved just last week we are excited for this work to begin. As schools around the country are forced to concrete in their pools it is great to have this opportunity to keep ours running.

Pukekawa School has also been selected as part of a rural school improvement programme, which will allow us to make some classroom upgrades over the next two years.

In July we received Karen McCulloch's resignation, and started the process of recruiting a new principal. We were lucky to have a high calibre of applicants to choose from, and are confident we have chosen the right person to lead Pukekawa School into its next chapter.

Karen has been at Pukekawa School for over 12 years, and we thank her for her contribution to our school and wish her well in her next chapter.

As always, thank you to our board - Karen McCulloch, Natasha McClellan, Mel Dudding, Cojana Spear and Virginia Craig and your commitment in such a challenging year.