Board Pānui

May 2026

Kia ora te whānau

FROM THE BOARDROOM

We had a full agenda at our recent board hui/meeting. As always, there are many administrative responsibilities for the Board, including approving funding applications to support EOTC (Education Outside the Classroom) trips, updating ourselves on policies such as copyright, privacy and cyber security, and reviewing achievement data.

WHAT WE'RE HEARING ACROSS OUR KURA

We receive reports from departments across the kura/school, and we appreciate the time staff take to keep us informed so we can meet our governance responsibilities. This month we received excellent updates in literacy, pastoral care and recognition, and health and safety.

REVIEWING OUR UNIFORM POLICY

This term we are committed to reviewing our uniform policy. We want to engage with students and whānau/families to better understand not only the functionality of the uniform, but whether the policy itself is still fit for purpose.

One of our strategic goals is "barrier free access to education", so we are reflecting on whether our current expectations align with that commitment. You can expect to hear more from us on this kaupapa/topic.

LOOKING AHEAD: STRATEGIC PLAN 2027–2030

We are also beginning work on our new strategic plan for 2027-2030. This plan should guide our kura and reflect the voices of our staff, students and wider community.

A key part of this process is understanding what makes Lakes High unique and special. We are excited to take the time to get this right, and we look forward to sharing more next term

CELEBRATING OPPORTUNITIES BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

One thing that continually impresses us is the wide range of opportunities available to our rangatahi/young people and the way staff support students to pursue their passions despite limited budgets and resources.

Recently we have celebrated incredible feedback about our production of Grease, outdoor education and sporting successes, and educational experiences such as the Year 12 Wellington trip, which helps build civic understanding and engagement.

We are also proud to see our students leading social awareness initiatives through events like the Pink Ribbon Breakfast. These opportunities go well beyond the classroom, and we thank our staff for helping make Lakes High such a diverse and inclusive community.

POLICY REVIEWS

Each term the Board reviews policies to ensure they remain fit for purpose. Our community can also review policies at any time through the 'About' section of the school website under 'Policies'.

This term we are reviewing swimming off-site, EOTC governance roles and responsibilities, EOTC risk assessment and management, and legislative updates relating to the Privacy Act.

BOARD HUI & HOW TO CONNECT

Whānau are welcome to attend board hui/meetings as observers. Our next hui/meeting will be held on 15 June at 5.15pm in the Boardroom.

If you would like to attend, please RSVP to Board Secretary Linda at board@rotorualakes.school.nz at least 24 hours beforehand. Board minutes are also available on the RLHS website.

ACKNOWLEDGING TONY WAITES

Lastly, it is with sadness that we announce Tony Waites has had to step back from the Board. Tony was co-opted part way through the last Board term and jumped straight in with dedication.

He brought a strong background in property and maintenance and a community focus which meant he was always willing to give up his time when the school required it. We want to thank Tony for his enormous contribution to our kura.

The Board will discuss the best approach for replacing him at our next hui.

Ngā manaakitanga,

The Rotorua Lakes High School Board
board@rotorualakes.school.nz

Annamarie, Ben, Bruce, Divjot, Gwyneth, Tāmati, Te Ao, Tony & Vernon