

MINUTES OF MOUNT ASPIRING COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 26 MARCH 2019 AT 6.00 P.M.

Present: Wayne Bosley, Shona Brown, Luke Faed, Ed Nepia, Bronson Toghill, Marty Toomey (Chair);

In Attendance: Maxine Bird (Secretary), Dean Sheppard (late), Vicki Ashton

Apologies: Tracey Gibson, Paul Tamati

Summative Curriculum Report

Vicki talked about the Summative report which had been shared with the Board, which gives an overarching view of the HOLAs annual reports. Junior data information improving as we look to have data for individual progress currently this is limited to literacy and numeracy. The curriculum reports are a good reflective exercise for the HOLAs, but there are areas of the report that could be more streamlined.

NCEA results

- Pass rates including good pass rates are comparatively better than other co-ed Decile 8-10 schools
- Excellence not quite as good compared to other Decile 8-10 schools.
- Merit level endorsements are very high
- UE passes very good.
- Level One cohort last year was outstanding.
- Tracking this year's Level Threes because as a cohort they haven't achieved at the same level as other cohorts, but have maintained their pass rates against their own cohort. We need to ensure that we have the pathways to suit, subject offerings that do not assume that all students want to go to university. This could be a focus for HOLAs to consider.

Focus on internals.

Around 70-80% of schools get most of their credits through internals. Students are good at sustaining hard work over a year, but are they getting burned out? The NCEA review will address this if it focusses on keeping students engaged in learning not just being assessed. Currently there is pressure on teachers as they are criticised if they don't offer enough internal credit options. We have restricted our internal credits.

Excellence endorsements

Staff ensure that students have the resources required to reach the level they want to achieve. As a community our students are busy which may be a factor in the lower excellence endorsements.

Gender gap

Gender gap is still apparent. Boys start at the school in a lower position but their rate of improvement is similar to girls year on year. NCEA suits girls, because of the literacy rich style of assessment. Year 7 & 8 teachers have added more strategies around writing and common writing practices and four staff are about to attend a course on gender learning. HOLAs reviewed international results, with different pedagogies, which showed the same gender gap. MAC have trialled a boys only class at Year 10, but this wasn't notably successful. Should the focus be academic achievement, are we filling the boys needs in other ways? Are they achieving in a way that ensures they get to what they want to go to next? When they're doing what they want to do and they are supported, they are achieving.

Why do we compare ourselves with Decile 8-10?

Are we making the appropriate comparison? Other Decile 8-10 community schools are rare, but we are comparing very well. We pride ourselves on producing well rounded students, do we know how well they achieve when they move on from us? Important to see them having the skills to achieve well whatever pathway they choose. Craig Jefferies is currently looking at ways to measure the well rounded student as this is seen as one of our points of difference, versus measuring against highly academic schools. Can the reports give us some indication of what their goals are? HOLAs will be looking at their individual students' success and will indicate this in their reports.

How do we measure well roundedness?

What constitutes a successful student when you get to the end of their secondary schooling? Is a successful MAC student profile appropriate or should we simply be allowing them to be themselves, and support them to be the best that they can be. The Whanau connections with families is a key aspect of MAC which, over a few years builds up trust with individual students in Whanau.

- Can we track the MAC alumni, are they a functioning citizen, with a good attitude and good communication and leadership skills? If leavers were able to do an exit survey of their goals, is this something that could be followed with a university study? Over time this could give us a picture of a successful MAC leaver.
- We are currently getting data of what students are doing across the four committees, academic, cultural, service and sport headings. We also need to consider that some students may have too many activities.
- Our fortnightly grading system is about engagement and attitude.
- Happiness index survey to measure wellbeing.

Workload

- Free counselling sessions available for staff.
- HOLAs led a discussion with all staff regarding workload, to gather data. This was a stocktake of what they do and prioritising based on the value to learning. Some learning areas felt they had more of a weighting than others.
- Morning tea communications, replace with two briefings per week before school.
- 24 hour communication was one of the issues. Staff been told to not be so available and Wayne has communicated this to the community.

The Board felt the curriculum reports reported positives but were maybe less informative about the challenges being faced. The Board felt that the report could be more streamlined, focussing on celebrating success and highlighting issues (i.e. Start, Stop, Keep).

Board to agenda half an hour for the next meeting to discuss the all-rounded quotient, this could tie in with the RTLB report on Learning Support as there are some key common things.

Meet with HOLAs 8 April at 3pm in Room 3, which aligns with the HOLAs fortnightly meeting. Suggested questions to Marty by Wednesday 10 April to ensure the HOLAs have the questions a reasonable time ahead of the meeting.

RTLB report on Learning Support Programmes.

The RTLB role is to help teachers to help students with needs, employed by Special Education across the country, MAC is in the Wanaka cluster within Central Otago. Reviewing learning support programmes is part of the RTLB remit which is why they performed the review. The RTLB interviewed students and staff as part of their fact finding process, including research over terms 2 - 4 last year. The report was shared with the Board and raised a number of questions not dissimilar to the curriculum reports.

Numeracy and Literacy support has increased particularly at Years 7-9 because of changes in timetable. Not as far down the track on recommendations, made some good change to junior option timetable,

Main thing was for some holistic leadership, having an understanding of what the support really is, so that it could be shared with the whole staff. The support available is currently too separated and needs to be better communicated. We need to make better use of resources.

The Board questioned the quality of the report, its readability and the time taken to complete the review. The Board requested that it have input into the terms of reference of such reviews in future. Wayne was asked to come back with a summary of the main issues at the next meeting so the Board can consider whether there is anything it can do to help create positive change.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes of the previous meeting on 19 February 2019 had been circulated prior to the meeting.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 19 February 2019 were a true and accurate record.

M. Toomey/E. Nepia
Carried

UNIFORM COMMITTEE UPDATE

Shona shared the uniform colour survey results. 1096 responses.

- Students preferred A & B, younger students more towards A and older B.
- Parents preferred A & C
- Staff not conclusive.

Historically MAC has not changed their school colours since the school opened.

The survey showed no clear mandate for change.

Any change in uniform needs to ensure that there is competitive tendering to ensure the school is securing best pricing for their community and the design process can/should be separate.

Should future MAC families be surveyed?

The research company will provide support when communicating the survey. Share results with the uniform committee.

CORRESPONDENCE

The correspondence schedule was included with the agenda.

RESOLVED: To accept inwards and outwards correspondence

M. Toomey/P. Tamati
Carried

Health and Safety

Evacuation and Lockdown Procedures – defer further changes until after Christchurch review

Cybersafety Procedures

Resolved: to approve the cybersafety procedures subject to changes noted.

M. Toomey/B. Toghill
Carried

Is school adequately resourced for IT staff? One IT manager and support of IT marketing person and fallback of Tim Harper.

SELF REVIEW:

NAG6 Legislation

Maxine to talk to Queens High School, Dunedin, who have recently done this audit.

NAG 4 Property and Finance, ongoing.

REPORTS:

Principal's Report

Wayne's written report which was circulated prior to the meeting.

At this point the Board moved that the public be excluded from the Board meeting to discuss a student discipline issue. This resolution was made in reliance on Section 48(1)(a) of the LGOIM Act 1987.

M. Toomey/E. Nepia
Carried

At this point the Board resolved to move out of committee.

M. Toomey/ E. Nepia
Carried

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Board Elections:

The Board was asked to appoint a returning officer (either CES, who we have used before or Education Plus Auckland). Both assure us they will provide the service within the budget provided by the MOE.

Resolved: To appoint CES as returning officer for the Board elections.

M. Toomey/L. Faed
Carried

The current Board need to indicate who is standing for this election including those who are choosing to stand for the 18 month term option.

Meeting Evaluation:

There was candid feedback and trustees felt comfortable about speaking their mind.

Consensus was that the meeting flowed well but was too long. The curriculum reporting was long but was very important and sparked robust discussions.

Need to find someone in the NZSTA Dunedin office to help us with our agenda and review our governance policies to ensure we are on track to carry out board responsibilities in a growing school community.

Tomorrow's school's review,

The next meeting will be too late, so suggested that Trustees do this individually, noting that parts can be skipped.

DATES

Next Board meeting: **Tuesday 14 May 2019, 5.30pm**

Next Meeting Agenda:

Learning Area:

Self Review:

Strategic Aim:

Special Topics:

Discussion Topics:

General Business

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Meeting closed at 9.40pm

Signed as a true copy of the minutes:

Chairperson **Date**

Action Plan

Contact Queens about NAG6	Maxine
NZSTA Dunedin who could support our workplan and agenda	Maxine
Nibbles for HOLAs meeting 8 April	Maxine
Check out legalities of auditing personal student devices	Maxine