

Board Update August 2025

Tēnā Koe

We have several items to report back to you on from our last meeting.

We would like to start by thanking the 3 departing board members: Deborah, Judith, and Jono.

We would like to thank Deborah for her contribution on the Board over the past 9 months. Deborah has shown considerable commitment and service to the policy and health and safety portfolios, ensuring our students safety by making sure that the school and school camps are following proper health and safety procedures. Thank you for your service to the school community this year and we wish you well.

We would like to thank Judith for her contribution on the Board over the last 3 years. As staff representative, Judith has provided invaluable insight for the Board into the classroom environment and teacher development. Thank you for your service to the school community over many years and we look forward to still working with you in your role as Deputy Principal.

We would like to thank Jono for his contribution on the Board over the years. As the Presiding Member for the past 3 years, Jono has led our meetings with skill, ensured our discussions remain on track, and provided clarity on our actions and resolutions. His guidance in welcoming new Board members and imparting his knowledge of the role of the Board has been invaluable. Thank you for your service to the school community over many years and we wish you well.

We are excited to introduce our new board members: Ross Lucas and Helena de Kok, and our new staff representative Emma Chapman. Their fresh perspectives and enthusiasm will undoubtedly bring positive changes to our school community.

Attendance & holidays

The Board of Trustees would like to emphasise the importance of regular school attendance for all students. Regular school attendance is vital for your child's learning, wellbeing, and sense of belonging.

Being present each day helps students stay connected with their peers, build strong relationships with teachers, and keep up with the curriculum. Even short absences can impact progress, especially in key learning areas. Consistent attendance also contributes to a positive school culture and ensures that every child has the opportunity to thrive.

We understand that families may occasionally need to travel during term time. If you are planning a holiday or extended absence, please notify Andrea in an email in advance. This helps us maintain accurate records and allows teachers to support your child's learning before and after their time away.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us create a positive and consistent learning environment for all our tamariki.

Mid-year student progress and achievement 2025

Andrea provided a comprehensive report to the Board on the 2025 mid-year progress and achievement data. Overall, we're pleased with the progress students at Northland School are making at mid-year, despite this being a transition year for English and Maths teaching and assessment, and we're on track with our school-wide goal for student learning.

The updated English and Maths curricula have given us a new baseline for assessing students. For English (reading and writing), this applies to students in Years 1-6. For Maths, it's for Years 1-8. Our Year 7-8 writing and reading moderation is still based on the previous English curriculum, as the revised curriculum for Years 7-13 is still in its draft phase and is currently being finalised with the education sector.

Our mid-year data indicates that students at Northland School are largely maintaining a steady level of achievement at the expected phase in the revised curriculum for writing, reading, and maths. This mid-year data helps us understand how students are progressing towards their end-of-year expectations. Looking ahead, by 2026, all students will be assessed using the new phases of the revised curriculum for both Maths and English.

Speed awareness and road crossing etiquette near our school

As part of our ongoing commitment to student safety, we are reminding all drivers to adhere strictly to reduced speed limits around school zones, particularly during busy drop-off and pick-up times. Driving slowly not only protects pedestrians but also sets a positive example for students. We ask all parents to park safely and avoid double-parking, which can obstruct visibility and increase risk.

We also encourage staff, students, and caregivers to model proper road crossing etiquette — using the designated crossings (the pedestrian crossing on Northland road, or the red stripe on Harbourview Road), waiting for vehicles to stop completely, and avoiding distractions like mobile phones. Practising and modelling these behaviours consistently helps build lifelong road safety habits and ensures a safer environment for everyone.

Ngā mihi nui

Katie and Andrea on behalf of the Board