



Stratford High School Board Minutes of Board of Trustees Meeting

Tuesday 26 May 2026 at 6.30 pm in Staffroom, Stratford High School

Present:	Jason Loveridge - Chair, Carl Triggs, Brent Watkins, Greg Topless, Kate Machen Cameron Stone (Principal), Lily Single (Student Rep)
Late:	
In Attendance:	Ian Anglesey – Tech Curriculum Coordinator, Denise Kay – HOD PE, Susan Terry – Finance Officer, Joe Mack – Board Secretary
Apologies:	Jane Tobin, Riejanne Campbell (Staff Rep)

Declarations of Conflicts of Interest

Member	

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

1. Ian Anglesey – Tech Curriculum Coordinator

Mr Anglesey tabled his board report and a PowerPoint of a summary of the NCEA results, which included the 2 digital and 3 materials technology classes. He explained he is the woodwork teacher. Materials technology results are at or above the national average, and overall students did very well at all levels. Digital Technology was either below or well below national averages. A new teacher has just begun, and it is taking time to bring the classes up to speed. He showed results of the two Year 11 wood classes and where the national averages were.

One of the areas of focus this year is the year 12 results, even though reasonably good, they could be a lot better. It has been previously noted that students get to the end of the year with just enough credits and do not finish the course or go for the easy credits throughout the year. Technology credits are very hard, compared to turning up for the easy credits. Therefore, the goal is to finish those credits earlier before they get to that point. This year there is a small group of Year 13s who are very motivated and are often mixed in with year 11 or year 12 classes.

Digital technology – previously the students weren't really prepared, and the scaffolding hadn't been undertaken. Next year they will be better prepared, it will take a few years to imbed this. Some seniors are also working through Te Kura doing a correspondence course – our Digital Tech teacher is doing her PhD, and we have a fill-in teacher. That teacher has commented that she thinks they are tracking well. Fabric Tech results were very strong this year and the classes aren't that large. Overall, the new standards have thrown everyone but so far they are very happy with how they are tracking and have a plan in place.

New achievement standards and changes – eventually level 1 will disappear completely and grand parented out when moving over to new qualification. To date there hasn't been much information around the technology unit standards – but will hopefully stay similar.

The departments second goal aligns with the school goals – last year the focus was on UDL, this year the focus is on improving literacy in the juniors and incorporating this into tech. The last goal is regarding the CNC router in the Junior Tech area, but to date he hasn't had time to get down there to utilise this big piece of equipment. The Junior Tech tutor uses this equipment, but it is a very impressive, sophisticated machine.

What we want as a department – most requests fall under the \$5000 budget. Digital Tech doesn't really have anything major. Fabric Technology – wish for a printing nehoc misreen education package which would supplement the course – a formal application will be applied for. The existing equipment is good in the department. Engineering definitely needs a plasma cutter, and it is important to get a good quality machine, and also a mig welder. The workshop is becoming dated. Woodwork room main machinery is aging but is well maintained and still has life in it, although the smaller joinery tools are nearing end of life and need updating and replacing. The wood lathes are very old and possibly a new suite of 4 would be ideal. There could be potential to sell the old lathes to offset costs. The extractor was being fixed but on inspection it needed more work, hopefully it will return in the next couple of weeks. It hasn't had any major work for over 20 years.

Long term bigger picture, with the increase in the school roll, he is now teaching four senior classes and two junior classes meaning the workshops are at full capacity. A junior technology room would be a great addition to the department. Also, a DVC or graphics/tech drawing type teacher is also a nice wish, but finding these teachers is tough. Class numbers were also discussed. With the pending new curriculum changes hours of teaching may change and there is uncertainty in the air, but we will know more hopefully soon.

Mr Anglesey was thanked for his presentation and left the meeting at 6.56pm.

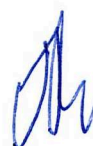
2. Denise Kay – HOD PE and Susan Terry – Finance Officer – revised Australia Netball Trip application

Background – there were two applications for overseas sport trips, the People & Policy Sub-Committee has previously considered these applications and had requested a revision of the policy and revised figures from both codes had been requested.

The HOD PE had supplied a PowerPoint which was circulated prior to the meeting and explained the presentation. Key points consisted of comparison to the recent Australia hockey trip and highlighted differences with regard to travel for the netball trip was within school holidays therefore the cost for flights and accommodation would be higher. The INF netball tournament organisers arrange the tour and do all the bookings, including accommodation, so they have a set price and cannot seek alternative arrangements. She noted that there is no extra expense to the student on the trip from start to finish. Adult to student ratio was raised by the Board, being 12 students and 8 adults. Ms Kay explained this composition was based on what happened last trip – the extra adults pay their way but are considered part of the tour – there is no extra cost to players, but they are part of the trip and adhere and follow the school values. Van hire/fuel costs are therefore spread over more people, and they help contribute to less stress on the officials and staff – assisting with help with supermarket shopping, cooking, swimming supervision – everyone has a job and extra hands-on deck to help with gazebo set up and the like.

The Board questioned, “do the students take any responsibility of helping which is part of the trip”? Ms Kay responded – no they are there for a netball tournament and are very tired usually at the end of the day. The Principal commented on the price comparison with the recent hockey trip but noted that hockey took 25 students and netball is only planned to take 12 students. The overall cost of the trip is quite significant but the numbers getting the experience were different. Ms Kay replied she would be happy to take 25 but there are not the numbers. Discussion between the difference of accommodation in the previous hockey trip and this application was raised. Ms Kay replied the netball tournament organisers have a relationship with certain hotels and there isn't another choice offered. She also commented that all apparel, meet and greet, meals out, and experiences are all part of the tour for everyone. The number of parents hasn't been capped before – it's not about ratios its about who wants to come and is ok with more being involved in the trip.

Fundraising costs in the community was raised, and the more people you take will they all receive everything? Ms Kay responded that apparel is usually sponsored so no cost to the team.



Ms Kay had sought feedback from previous adults who had toured and as part of that positive feedback she asked why now the cap in fundraising? She believed the community can only give what they can give or afford. This application was submitted in March under the old overseas policy so asked why should the cap apply? The Principal replied that recent feedback from the hockey tour raised the difficulties of continually asking the community and businesses for support, especially closely following the previous netball overseas trip. Ms Kay noted that an application for tours and fundraising is a requirement, but there isn't a requirement to apply to approach businesses for sponsorship. Pub charities was also discussed whether this was a legitimate source for funding/grant? She commented that putting a cap on fundraising in the community puts a further financial burden on some families. From her experience with 9 previous tours, they just had to fundraise more – but if there is a cap and costs go up and it will cost the family more, with no ability for low-income families to finance the whole trip. She also gave an example of the Irene Van Dyk fundraiser which raised more than the allowable cap. What happens to that extra money?

The Principal asked why there weren't two teams taken last trip and there had been players pulling out before the trip. Mr Kay responded that the approval process took so long which impacted on the ability to fundraise and spread the costs over the remaining months, which financially impacted some family's affordability. The Principal questioned as there were 3 or 4 students pulled out late for the South Island tour and others that came in late - was it for financial reasons? She said no it was because that particular tour the families decided as it was individual games not a tournament that it didn't suit.

The Principal commented that there are two windows throughout the year to apply for trips so why did you not put it in earlier. Ms Kay agreed – yes, the next application will be in September to give more time. She stated time is running out – at the time of application it was 13 months away from trip and there is much to organize asap. The more fundraising we do is surely better advertising for the school, she sees fundraising as not only raising money but together building a team and showing our HEART values in the community and playing for the school.

She also asked a further question around fundraising – why is the overseas trip fundraising policy different to the rest of the schools fundraising policy – ie. group fundraising vs individual fundraising. Why can't the tour party be the decider on how the fundraising money is apportioned? Also, within the policy it clearly states what happens with those not engaging in fundraising. She commented about the damage this potentially causes with family/school relationships.

The Board commented that it would be great to have 50 students given the opportunity to go overseas – so the exposure with only 12 players is not the same. Could the trip be opened up to Year 11, not just Year 12 and 13. Ms Kay explained this is because the players go in their last two years of school, so the younger students will get the opportunity next time at Year 13, and previously there has always been enough numbers for a team.

The Board advised that a decision will be reached tonight and thanked Messrs Kay and Terry. They left the meeting at 7.45pm

The Board discussed the financial implications of fundraising versus costs of the trips and affordability. Discussion ensued around the tournament logistics and organization of the trip versus the opportunity of giving our students an overseas experience. Discussion around what year levels are eligible to participate and whether other sports are given the same opportunities as netball. The fundraising policy and cap were discussed at length and the ability to give more than one team the opportunity to fundraise for this type of event. A survey of the community sponsors was suggested.



The Board asked the Principal as to the status of the proposed overseas rugby application. He advised that the initial proposal to Japan was not sustainable due to both timing of the trip and costs. He had sought an alternative package to Fiji, but again the financial expense was very high. It was discussed the ability to support both trips would not have been viable to the school or community.

The Board commented on the passion shown by Ms Kay and her experience of these trips.

Resolution:

That the Board approves the application for an overseas netball trip to Australia in 2027 as submitted under the current overseas policy (no fundraising cap). A letter approving this trip be written by the Principal, with an assurance of careful ongoing monitoring of costs as planning progresses.

Moved: Brent Watkins

Seconded: Carl Triggs

Carried: ALL

3. TPU 6 monthly Report – attached in the agenda.
Accepted.

ADMINISTRATION - Minutes

Matters Arising from previous meeting:

Board : No further discussion took place.

People & Policy Sub-Committee:

The Sub-Committee Chair gave a brief summary of the minutes as attached in the agenda.

A careers advisor has been appointed, and interviews have been held for the Farm Manager.

Nurse position – both people sharing this role have resigned, the position has been advertised and interviews pending shortly.

Finance & Property Sub-Committee:

The Sub-Committee Chair gave a brief summary of the minutes as attached in the agenda.

4. Purchase of School Van – Principal to update

With the increase in demand for school transport the Principal explained the need for another van in the school fleet. A van is available to purchase second-hand from a Rotorua dealer. There is no warranty on this particular vehicle, but it will be serviced prior to delivery.

Resolution:

That the Board approves the purchase of the van.

Moved: Carl Triggs

Seconded: Jason Loveridge

Carried: ALL

5. Property

The Principal gave an update on the current property projects around the school, and the BWOFF status. Quote received for the heat pump in the front office has been received. The Board agreed to the purchase.



6. Confirmation of minutes:

Resolution:

That the Board take as read and confirms the minutes and resolutions of the Board of Trustees Meeting held at Stratford High School on Tuesday 28 April 2026.

Receipt of Sub-Committee Minutes:

That the Board receives the minutes of the People and Policy Sub-Committee held at Stratford High School on Tuesday 19 May 2026, and adopts any recommendations therein.

That the Board receives the minutes of the Finance and Property Sub-Committee held at Stratford High School on Wednesday 20 May 2026, and adopts any recommendations therein.

Moved: Jason Loveridge
Seconded: Cameron Stone
Carried: ALL

TRUSTEE REPORTS

7. Principal – Cameron Stone – May 2026 Report

The Principal spoke to his report for the month as attached in the agenda, particularly the changes to the NCEA curriculum, and the structure of the SHS timetable next year.

Resolution:

That the Board take as read and confirms the Principal's Report for May 2026.

Moved: Jason Loveridge
Seconded: Carl Triggs
Carried: ALL

8. Student – Lily Single

Miss Single spoke to her report, highlighting the last months events - Australia Hockey Trip, lunchtime concert on Wellness Day, Chalk Drawing competition. Pink Shirt Day was very successful – a lot of students and teachers wearing pink. Many TSSSA events. Special mention to Terra Fleece winning the TRC sustainable business award. Congratulations to Jacob Larsen, Holly Topless and Lily Single for their selection in Taranaki Under 18 hockey teams. Congratulations also to Lily Davis, Arnika Warren and the Taranaki Kotiro U14 rugby league team.

A suggestion from students for a handball court was raised. Mr Stone agreed this could easily be painted on a concrete area, so will organise this.

Resolution:

That the Board take as read and confirms the Student Report for May 2026.

Moved: Lily Single
Seconded: Cameron Stone
Carried: ALL

9. Staff – Riejanne Campbell – no report.



GENERAL BUSINESS

No general business to discuss.

Inwards Correspondence

Date	Name	Regarding

Outwards Correspondence

Date	Name	Regarding
8.5.2026	Xanthe Maketoni	Craig Scholarship 2026
8.5.2026	Liam Watkins	Craig Scholarship 2026
8.5.2026	Zoey Robinson	Craig Scholarship 2026

PUBLIC EXCLUDED BUSINESSResolution:

That the public be excluded pursuant to section 48 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act. The reason being to discuss matters regarding personnel and students, including Welfare and Discipline Committee, on the grounds to protect the privacy of individuals.

Moved: Jason Loveridge
Seconded: Brent Watkins
Carried: ALL

Meeting closed at 8.38pm

Signed:

Board Chair:



Date:

23/6/26