



Stratford High School Board Minutes of Board of Trustees Meeting

Tuesday 23 June 2026 at 6.35 pm in Staffroom, Stratford High School

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

Declarations of Conflicts of Interest

Member	

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

1. Denise Kay – HOD PE

Ms Kay introduced Kahoot! to the Board to demonstrate her board report. First question was how many modules in each of the Year levels. She spoke through each of the answers explaining how she utilises the modules in the classroom. She explained that Māori learners are less likely to engage in curriculum trips, especially tramps, and especially males. She is finding communication via email and then a reminder text does help with organizing trips. A link to absenteeism was discussed. This is one of the department goals for 2026. She explained there are no pre-requisites for senior PE, which does mean that some senior students are starting from brand new which can be challenging. Some students did not realise that outdoor education does require students to go into the outdoors – first trips are usually tramps which gives her an indication that they ideally need to be moved away from the module if they don't attend, as they won't gain credits if they don't attend. Year 12 and 13 PE students can also gain credits in their own sport. If some students don't have a sport they use turbo-touch and badminton as their sport. Major barriers are identified for some students accessing outdoor ed trips by students not wanting to go, cost and lack of communication or engaging with whanau. Fundraising opportunities are offered but it is not always taken up. All teachers within the department give students the opportunity to resubmit on their assessments, but a major barrier is ensuring the student does hand their assessment in first. 2025 Year 13 PE results were better than 2023 and 2024. The hand-in rate increased which has made a significant difference – one reason was ball attendance. All outdoor ed courses offer one trip per term. This term was TOPEC, next term will be Tough Guy/Tough Girl – it keeps the students engaged although the uptake is not always 100%.

A question was raised by the Board – how were the numbers of students attending PE going? Year 11 course numbers have dropped off – there were 2 Year 11 courses but now with Outdoor Ed and PE it has split. Started with 17 students this year, now have 13, and two further classes. Results are tracking below national average in some areas – the hand-in rate is high, but this is something we are continually working on. A question was asked how other schools are dealing with this? Results show the boys and Māori students are struggling. What has changed this year to rectify this? Communication with home before assessments due and after assessments if they haven't been handed in, and the department is currently reviewing this tracking. A Term 2 review goal has been undertaken last Friday and keeping the lines of communication open. PE classes – 10 in Year 12 last year, now 13 in this year. Year 13 was 17 but some students have left. Level 1 NCEA PE is high 20s. Hopefully proposed changes in the timetable next year will help with the ability to take both Outdoor Ed and PE. A question was asked what is the difference – PE offers endorsement.

The new curriculum will become Health and PE. All the department staff will be able to teach Health. It will be quite content heavy i.e. what we are currently teaching senior students, they will also be teaching junior classes the same content as well.

Ms Kay also gave an update on the Australia Netball trip planned for 2027. Expressions of interest have been sent out and a team of 12 have been picked. Their first payment is due next month.

Ms Kay was thanked for her presentation and left the meeting at 7.04 pm.

Matters Arising:

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. Nurse interviews have been undertaken, and an offer will be made shortly. A farm manager has been appointed who started today. The Principal also explained the TET funding application to support a cricket development officer within central Taranaki and schools, based at Stratford High School has been lodged. This will also provide an important marketing opportunity for the school.

Finance & Property Sub-Committee:

The Sub-Committee Chair gave a brief summary of the minutes as attached in the agenda. The school van has arrived and is awaiting signage, but being utilised. The farm budget was discussed and prices for the larger items will be brought back to the Committee. The Finance Officer confirmed that the farm will not be taxed for income, only GST. Discussion around what the future of the demonstration farm will be was raised. The school BWOF was discussed and a plan to rectify the many issues raised in the letter from Stratford District Council. A letter had also been written to the IQP seeking explanation of their monthly/bi-annual inspections. They have since responded and another letter will be written back seeking further clarification. The new pickleball area is a great success story for the school. Building signage was discussed and the Principal is meeting with a contractor this week to investigate pricing and how to make the space brighter.

2. 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 26 May 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 16 June 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 17 June 2026, and adopts any recommendations therein.

Moved: Cameron Stone
Seconded: Brent Watkins
Carried: ALL



TRUSTEE REPORTS

3. Principal – Cameron Stone – June 2026 Report

The Principal spoke to his report for the month as attached in the agenda. Attendance is holding firm, communication via our school app, the new Akonga Support position, and the KAMAR automation keeps the community involved immediately. It is noted that attendance historically drops off in the later part of the year but the goal is to hit 90%. Year 11 progression was discussed, the lack of apathy and care is of concern given the results to date. The SLT is doing a lot of work around the expectations of the new curriculum coming in. There will also be no formal assessment apart from literacy and numeracy in the new curriculum and they will become more difficult to what they are now. He alluded to questions raised the Curriculum Roadshow he recently attended as well.

Timetable structure for 2027 is still ongoing. SLT have met with the PPTA. It is proposed to drop Puawai and electives next year based on the changes required to create meaningful choices for the students.

A major incident did occur yesterday with a senior student after this report was published. The ambulance was called and the student was hospitalized and discharged the next day.

Resolution:

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

Moved: Jason Loveridge

Seconded: Carl Triggs

Carried: ALL

4. Student – Lily Single

The student report was taken as read, given the late apology from Ms Single.

Resolution:

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

Moved: Lily Single

Seconded: Cameron Stone

Carried: ALL

5. Staff – Riejanne Campbell – no report.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Variety Concert

The Principal briefed the Board regarding an item that was played (video) during the variety concert held last week. As a result three or four families left the concert, and an email complaint was received by the Principal. Social media blew up over this video, and also regarding an item associated with Pride Week on the night. School policy states no imitation guns. There is an exception to this policy which permits guns and other imitation items to be used for role play, plays and other acting type activities. The programme did state a horror video was being showed, but that particular family did not take a programme. He sought the Boards view on this and whether it was actually appropriate to show this video at the variety concert. One board member suggested perhaps a staff member should have stated to the attendees this will be shown, and play it at the very end of the show, under the guidance of the Principal before showing. The question was raised - is this any different to a heavy metal band performance and should the teacher avoid this type of topic for viewing at the variety show which is a family occasion?



Inwards Correspondence

Date	Name	Regarding

Outwards Correspondence

Date	Name	Regarding
8 June 2026	Denise Kay	Australia Netball Trip 2027
8 June 2026	Philippa Smith	Board Resolution – Tournament Week funding application

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 7.53pm

Signed:

Board Chair:



Date:

4/08/26