



MINUTES OF MEETING

TE ARA KOROPIKO WEST SPREYDON SCHOOL BOARD

Monday 3 August 2026 - held at Te Ara Koropiko West Spreydon School

Meeting opened: 4:01pm

PRESENT: Marriene Langton (Principal), Amy Scott, Jess Thomson (Co Presiding Member), Michael Pretty (Co Presiding Member), Michael Odering, Jodi Apiata, Shailesh Singh (*arrived 4.03pm*)

Apologies: Marina Shehata (Staff Representative)

In Attendance for data presentation: Hannah Gardiner (Assistant Principal)

In attendance for minute taking: Rachael Stafford

Karakia, Welcome

Conflict of interest - Nil

Previous Board Meeting Minutes

Jess proposed that the minutes be accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting held on 22 June 2026. Minutes signed.

Moved: Michael Pretty Seconded: Amy Scott Motion carried : All in agreement ✓

1. Data Presentation - Marriene and Hannah

Jess welcomed Hannah and proposed that a motion was passed to allow her speaking rights for this board meeting

Points discussed:

- Reading data better than expected over most levels with a lack of progress evident in maths and writing
- It was noted that 75% of the year 6 cohort were at or above expected levels, possibly attributed to the school's early adoption of structured literacy
- Disappointing but not surprising the lack of progress in maths and writing, working on improvements with MOE and external providers
- This data shows the shift in curriculum expectations and is reflective throughout the country. The change in expectations are different in each year level
- Issues with new reporting language prescribed by the Education Minister as well as Student Management dropdowns making it difficult to give whānau a clear picture of where their child is at. Data literacy will evolve but in the interim directing parents to MOE website and giving clarity in parent teacher conferences



- Ethnicity: Māori and Pasifika data seemed lower in year 5 & 6, however Amy Scott raised that it was difficult to triangulate and for future data requested a more summative account, with narratives and consistency in the language to give depth and meaning.
- The Education Act dictates that data cannot be read without taking into account all other considerations, attendance, poverty, impacts on the 'whole child'
- Often our whānau are navigating bigger issues than attendance. Attendance statistics do not take lateness into account which also has an impact
- Our English Language Learners (ESOL) give another cultural lens. They have to do the same tests as English speakers. The school currently has 49 ELL learners
- Our school employs a qualified teacher for our ESOL learners, funding often comes retrospectively, conditional on a variety of qualifications. Many come with no English and adapting to school is a challenge. Support and resources are provided on many levels by school for these students and their whānau
- Writing data illustrates the challenges of this new curriculum especially in years 3 and 5. Year 1 students now have levels to reach after 6 months in school.
- Students who are new to being below grade level are given 'boosted' structured literacy intervention. Currently there are 10 groups.
- Maths is going to be the new focus. In-school and external expertise and experience alongside working with other schools in professional development
- Amy Scott questioned whether the fidelity is affected by taking from multiple programmes and resources. Is this data utilised to analyse the effectiveness of the programmes?
- Hannah reassured, while the new curriculum is affecting the ability to reach necessary goals, lessons align with evidence based resources, are structured and constantly assessed. Lesson plans and processes are visible to Leadership.
- Children who are struggling are identified and given the help they need, this is adaptive depending on the individual child.
- Foundational learning issues are identified so the teachers can teach missing factors
- Michael Odering acknowledged what the teachers have achieved especially under pressure with curriculum changes
- End of year data requires the children to be 'proficient' or 'exceeding' to be at the necessary curriculum levels

Jess acknowledged and thanked Hannah for her mahi and presentation.

Hannah left the meeting at 5.05pm

Delegate authority

Actions:

Amy to provide Marriene with key headlines to assist with future data insights



2. Centenary update from Marriene

Points discussed:

- The marquee has been taken off plan due to challenges of cost and logistics
- Hāngī is prohibitive due to lack of servers available

Plan update: Birthday party

- 11.30am Mihi whakatau with current board members, past principals and board members
- sausage sizzle and ice blocks for children and platters for visitors/attendees
- Open classrooms for living museum
- Cake cutting ceremony, enough for every child and guest
- Evening BYO meal on school grounds supplied by food vendors. Old fashioned games. Completed by 7pm
- With the Boards permission Marriene would present the costs for them to cover the upfront costs of tea towels available for purchase. Sausage sizzle, ice blocks, platters, cake
- Choir and kapa haka performances and school memories digitally collated
- Marriene is conscious of the financial pressures for the community and feels strongly that manaakitanga and the foundation of our school being based in the community
- a koha to be added to the budget for the mihi whakatau
- Storyboards along the school fence with key dates and imagery would be worked on for the future. Public resources suggested: Retrolens and Kā Huru Manu

Jess confirmed that the Board supports the simplification of the school Centenary plans. And going forward requested correspondence with School Board via email with plans and costing

3. Property

Pool Fencing

Points discussed:

- What is the Board risk threshold?
- Marriene feels the Board has taken every mitigating action for safety, no legal liability
- Amy Scott noted that if the pool fence is not up to standard or fit for purpose how does the Board feel about that?
- Board liability around the school pool is a reoccurring question. Do we resolve it once and for all through research and mitigation pursuing a definitive answer?
- According to past enquiries with the MOE the Board are ticking all the boxes but the guidelines are reflective of private pool not a fee-paying community pool



- The question comes down to negligence. As the Board has covered all options for safety, are we comfortable morally if there was an incident after someone climbed the fence?
- Does there need to be a legal review of the Terms and Conditions and Disclosures/Disclaimers of the pool key contract?
- The Board discussed seeking legal advice with a litigation lawyer and professional advice regarding the differences between the Christchurch City Council rules and the Ministry of Education guidelines.

Action Point: Marriene to seek written clarification via email with Ian McKenzie, Nick Yannikis and the MOE regarding Board liability and pool safety

4. Health and Safety

Points discussed

- Term 3 policies for review
- School Engagement - School culture and wellbeing. Amy Scott to review.
- Student Attendance - Michael Pretty to review
- Concerns and Complaints - Jess Thomson to review
- Board assurances list NZSBA requires termly read

Property and Health and Safety reports

Moved as received and accepted: Jess Thomson

Accepted: Jodi Apiata

Seconded: Michael Odering

Motion carried : All in agreement ✓

5. Finance report

Report as read, questions only

- Low curriculum spend was commented on. Staff have been reminded and upcoming expenditure is expected
- Figures for Hāngī do not match as it is not a proper budget
- Accountant email noted additional income from ESOL and ORS was not projected but this is allocated to TA hours

Moved as received and accepted: Jess Thomson

Accepted: Michael Odering

Seconded: Michael Pretty

Motion carried : All in agreement ✓



5. Principals Report and Variance Report

Report as read

Additional discussions:

- Question raised on the Student and Staff Wellbeing Survey
- The survey is independently run, information is garnered anonymously. Comprehensive questions and children are guided through
- Alongside the data from ERO will present a broad view
- It was suggested that pre-survey communication be sent to parents about children's participation
- The Board discussed a potential MOE directed enrollment
- Whānau are not in zone so enrolment needs to be approved by the Secretary of Education. The child has to reach the threshold for directed enrolment, unsure what this would be. Alternative is an out of zone enrolment
- The principals blog is to be taken as part of reporting, link to be added
- ML is so impressed with the teaching and connection the kaiako have with children, they lead the way in manaakitanga
- The level of need is beyond previous years and is very sobering
- The school has fantastic support from community based sources. This term they have paid sport fees and powerbills for whānau in need
- The school still receives food support from Kidscan, Crossover Trust and PTA who provide food items, prepared lunches and funding as needed

Moved as received and accepted: Jess Thomson

Accepted: Jess Thomson

Seconded: Shailesh Singh

Motion carried : All in agreement ✓

7. Board Business

Community consultation 2027-2029 Strategic Plan- lead by Amy Scott

Discussion points:

- One response from the survey at school disco event. More promotion needed for greater feedback
- Board needs to decide and delegate next steps/action approach for plan
- Staff feedback needs to be scheduled in advance, term 3 or 4
- Fono/Hui in August could be utilized, ipads with Google form, members of Board in attendance
- Athletics day, a Board-hosted survey station set up for visibility



- Risk of reducing anonymity with ipads, other options needed
- Formal channels for communication with whānau as well as posters with QR code around school, ongoing notices in newsletter and an ipad in the office
- Regularly supported families could be approached directly
- Students could be approached in term 4, the survey could be part of reading and writing
- 10-15% feedback target would be low but acceptable
- Future approach focused survey, school community fed back with key themes identified and actions taken

Delegate Authority:

Actions:

Marriene to provide dates in term 3 or 4 for the Board to meet/consult with staff

Amy Scott to draft email for Rachael to send out via Edge SMS

Actions Log

Jess lead discussion, updated Board members on completed and ongoing actions

Moved as received and accepted : Jess Thomson

Approved: Amy Scott

Seconded: Jodi Apiata

All in agreement: Motion carried ✓

9. In Committee discussions

Jess Thomson moved - that the meeting moved into a public excluded session at 6:44pm for reasons of legal and professional privilege and to protect the privacy of natural persons.

The meeting was resumed at 6.31pm

Next meeting Monday 14 September, Te Ara Koropiko West Spreydon School boardroom

The meeting closed with a karakia at 6.32pm



Upcoming 2026 Board meetings

Term 3:

- Monday 14 September 2026

Term 4:

- Monday 2 November 2026
- Monday 7 December 2026

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J Thomson".

Approved:

Date:.....14.09.2026

Jess Thomson, Co Presiding Member

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Pretty".

Approved:

Date:.....14/09/2026

Michael Pretty, Co Presiding Member

