

**Minutes of Meeting**  
Tuesday, 6 August 2024  
63 St Georges Rd, Avondale  
at 6.45pm at the school



**THE BOARD OF  
JIREH CHRISTIAN SCHOOL 2024**

**Attending:** Allan Bates, Sandra Bosman, Andrew Coombridge, Tavita Fesolai, Vicki Morris, Amrita Sadanand  
**Guests:** Philip Mark (NZCPT), Greta Mackie (Tiwai LA)  
**Apologies:** Gael Goulter

1. **Welcome** – Andrew welcomed everyone to the meeting and opened with prayer.
2. **Devotion** – Sandra shared the story of the men who brought their friend to Jesus and went to great lengths to lower him through the roof, with absolute faith Jesus would heal him. The friends had to work together to ensure he reached Jesus, if one man let go of the pallet it would have increased the load the others had to carry. This is an encouragement to put our hand to the plough and don't take it off – not giving up, doing everything we can and working as a team. Each of us is different but form one body. We each have our part to play in seeing God's kingdom come to earth (at Jireh). The man who took Billy Graham to the crusade, an older man who had a truck, literally just drove people to the crusade. He did his part, and he will be rewarded as much as Billy Graham. 1 Cor 3:6-10 NIV

Build today with care, it is too easy to go on yesterday's manna and having a form of godliness and denying the power there of; keep sharp and keep the goal and prize before us and be prayed up. We need to labour in gold, silver and precious stones, that will last. We want to see our students serving the Lord as university students, adults, parents, and into the future. We want them to know his Word and for it to carry them through. We are the conduits for the Holy Spirit. Philippians 2:3-8 (servant leadership and serving one another); Romans 12:10-12 NIV (don't be lacking in zeal, be faithful serving Him and praying).

### 3. **Tiwai Learning Area Report – Greta Mackie**

Andrew thanked Greta for her report. Some changes this year include the fact that there are now three (3) classrooms, a new teacher and a different dynamic. Tiwai is a great team that works well together. One specialist teacher has been lost, but progress is underway for another option. The teaching programme has a lot of content and is dynamic, changing according to needs. A different approach is being used involving a lot more explicit teaching and resources are being developed to support that. Maths and reading are going well but writing is a low area. A relatively high percentage (22%) of students joined the school recently and all came in below in all core learning areas. This has been a continuing pattern for the last 3 years. Students new to the school appear to be those that are struggling.

Programmes in the classroom must be adjusted to accommodate that.

A plan for 4-way rotation for next year is being worked on. It is possible that Tiwai will have 75 students for the following year, classes of 25 to 26 are too big for technology and the lab. A fourth person may be required for technology and science rotations. There is a specialist teacher doing hard tech now.

Opened for questions: Mrs Mackie's class holds several students who were nervous to pray for each other. At the beginning of the day the class is asked for prayer requests – e.g. Prayer for travellers, those who are unwell, high school interviews, family members (not too personal). To encourage those who are nervous, prayer is held in small groups, or asking for volunteers, suggesting small, short prayers with eyes closed - confidence has been growing

Memory verse engagement is good with 15 out of 22 remembering the whole term's memory verses. Discussion in class covers keeping God's word in your heart, the reason why we need to memorise the word of God and how to meditate on the word and challenging students to read their Bibles at home.

To assist low achiever students, it might help to have extra tuition so that they can have help to upskill and enable the class teacher to concentrate on the full intermediate program. This would depend on funding and staff.

At a recent team meeting, data indicated that the progress of individual students was encouraging, despite some not being at levels where they should be.

ESOL support has been available but by the time the students arrive at intermediate, the Ministry allowance has usually ended. Writing data reflects the English as second language learner although their speech/reading would not indicate that. Teachers are doing language and vocabulary development, so the students are hearing the language a lot more.

The only other request to the Board would be possible funding for a 4-way technology cycle.

Aron prayed for Greta. Greta left the meeting at 7.25pm.

#### **4. Confirmation of Minutes – taken as read**

It was moved that the minutes of 25 June 2024, subject to changing the words “**Proprietor Rep**” to read “**Land Trust Rep**”, be approved as a true and accurate record.

**Moved Andrew/ Seconded Sandra AGREED**

#### **5. Matters Arising from Minutes & Action List**

- Contact the PA to ask about them paying for the sign writing on the new van and replacing the sign writing on the old van. NOT DONE YET, THE TE REO WORDING IS BEING WORKED ON TO ENSURE ACCURACEY.
- The Church has been contacted re digital signage at the front of the property, but the kindergarten needs to be consulted after the Church have contacted the Council and further information brought before the Board. The church is keen to look at it for next year as it’s expensive. NOT COMPLETED YET
- Attendance at the AIS Conference (9 & 10 September in Wgtn) is confirmed for Tavita and Sandra. DONE
- Meet with Amy Singh re the PA and the possibility of it coming under the authority of the Board. Amrita has met with Amy. DONE
- Contact Kingsway and possibly NZSTA regarding the position of the PA. Andrew has contact the PM of KWS Board. In progress. NOT COMPLETED YET
- AIS Diversity and Inclusion Guide and the NZCPT Position Statement on Gender with Guidance documents to be considered by the Policy Committee and recommendations be reported back to the Board. They need to consult with Philip Mark and may also need legal advice. TABLED
- Information regarding an Ethical AI Policy to be included in the papers for the next Board meeting. Tabled tonight at the meeting. TABLED
- Send the proposed plans for new buildings as the roll cap increases to Board members. DONE and TABLED

#### **6. Conflicts of Interest**

No conflicts of interest to be declared.

#### **7. Proprietor Update – Philip Mark**

##### Site Development

Congratulations on the new classroom that has arrived on site. Philip shared on screen the diagrams that have already been circulated. Philip met with one of the architects on May 4<sup>th</sup>. Explanations of the diagrams indicated that they were drafts of possible site development to accommodate 450 - 600 students over the next 15–20-years. The signed lease is with the lawyers (church and school). The perpetually renewable lease needs resource consent with the council. Please keep this in your prayers.

It was pointed out that the calculations show there are only spaces for 425, 25 (1 class) short. We have space currently for 325. Future plans must be staged to cover anticipated growth. KingsWay Trust have a meeting tomorrow with the banks, please pray.

##### Roll growth application

**It was moved that the Jireh Christian School Board supports the application by the NZCPT for a maximum roll increase to the Ministry of Education for 450 students.**

**Moved Sandra/Andrew Seconded AGREED**

The proposal for first 150 roll increase will be staged over several years. There is a chance the application for the roll increase may be processed this year.

#### COLA Canopy

The canopy is not a building, but we must be sure that no building consent is required. Boards are responsible to fund and register the canopy as an asset. Philip Mark recommends the Board take up this opportunity. The quote is for \$374,000 + GST. It would be well utilized as a covered space for sports, lunches, parent meetings, mihi Whakataua, assemblies. It is durable and a great investment.

The Shade Systems quote shows the plan using the whole court area, it is a hard space already on the leased land that can't be used for building. The canopy would most likely remain in the same place for the foreseeable future. The playground doesn't impede the canopy in any way.

The Finance committee advise the funds are available and there may be a way to recoup the GST. The PA are keen to fundraise towards the canopy. It would be helpful to find someone willing to complete and submit applications for funds towards this. Tavita will contact Principals at some of the local schools who have managed to recoup some of the costs towards the canopy for information.

Sandra will follow up with Shade Systems if the quote covers the cost of consent. The current understanding is that the cost (quote) is fixed.

The Presiding Member is to apply in writing for consent from the Ministry and the Proprietor.

**It was moved that the Jireh Christian School Board commits to a covered outdoor learning area based on the quote by Shade Systems, up to an amount of \$375,000 + GST. The Board encourages the principal to apply for independent funding to support the purchase though the Board's commitment to this is not dependent on that being successful.**

Approval from both the Proprietor and the Ministry to be sought and received prior to signing the contract with Shade Systems.

**Moved Andrew/Sandra seconded AGREED**

Allan abstained as Land Trust Rep

#### **8. NZCPT Position Statement on Gender – taken as read.**

**It was moved that the Jireh Christian School Board adopts the NZCPTs Position Statement on Gender.**

After the adoption of the policies statement, the Policy Committee will write a policy is relevant for Jireh in keeping with the intent of the NZCPT position on gender.

**Moved Andrews/Seconded Tavita AGREED**

#### **9. Reports**

##### **a. Principal's Report – taken as read**

Today notification was received that the curriculum change will occur sooner than expected. Next term will be busy with professional development in preparation for the maths and English curricula.

**It was moved that the Jireh Christian School Board adopts the Principal's August Report.**

**Moved Sandra / Seconded Aron AGREED**

##### **b. Finance & Property for May – taken as read**

Tavita spoke to the report. Our financial position continues to be strong, we expected to be in deficit by the end of the year, but we are tracking to be in a surplus position.

Funding is available to fund another teacher, for example for ESOL support for intermediate students but personnel are not. Sandra would request from the Board to pursue this option if it would help.

**It was moved that the Jireh Christian School Board adopts the Finance Report for May.**

**Moved Andrews / Seconded Tavita AGREED**

#### **10. Fixed Asset Register and Resolution of Useful Lives documents**

- a. Asset Register along with the summary and note of items. No items have been removed.
- b. Presiding Member to sign and date the summary page of the Fixed Asset Register once approved.
- c. Acceptance of Depreciation Rates for Assets – Useful Life of Assets 2024 resolution.

It was moved that the Jireh Christian School Board of Trustees resolves to accept the useful life of the school's assets, as per the schedule attached.

Moved Tavita/Seconded Alan AGREED

**11. July Roll Return** – tabled for information

It was moved that the Jireh Christian School Board adopts the July Roll Return.

Moved by Andrew/Seconded Tavita AGREED

**12. AI Board Policy**

AI is front and centre, and lots of people are already using it. It is a tool, and ethical guidelines need to be drawn up for using it responsibly and well. Policy included from a local school as a starting point. There are two separate AI issues: ethical use by staff, and how students will use it at school. There is a caution into rushing to create a policy, it needs thorough discussion. Community consultation will occur once a policy has been drawn up by the Policy Committee and viewed by the Board. An expert in the field has been invited to speak to the staff on this issue and feedback will be taken from staff after that.

**13. Inward Correspondence –**

NZSTA news June issue uploaded with meeting documents.

**14. Future Business**

No further business.

**Next meeting – 17 September 2024. Gael on devotions.**

Andrew closed the meeting with prayer at 8.50 pm

Signed as a true and accurate record:

Approved: *Andrew Coombridge*

Presiding Member

*17 September 2024*

Date