

SPLINTERS



FINANCE

A review of our finances for the 2010 year to date shows that the school is performing well to the budget that was set by the Board last year.

The latest numbers available to us, one third of the way through our financial year, shows we are currently tracking *under* budget for our expenditure and just *over* budget for our income. Both of these results are what we would hope for at this early stage.

And this does set us up to continue to perform well over the balance of the year

If you'd like a more detailed explanation of how we are doing, feel free to contact me, Lawrie Jensen on 04 296 6043.

SPLINTERS FROM THE BOARD

The Raumati Beach School Board of Trustees wants to take this opportunity to update the school community regarding ongoing projects and issues that affect the school.

It has certainly been a very busy year for the school. The new building project is progressing and it has been wonderful to see the impact that the first part of the build has had on the school.

Thank you to all of you who took the time to vote in the recent trustee elections. School Trustees provide an important governance role. It was gratifying to see the number of people who stood at Raumati Beach. Reading the local paper it was interesting to note that some schools did not have enough candidates to run an election. The elected BOT which starts at the end of this month is.

Paul Brimblecombe	(Property)
Marc Hercock	(Chairperson)
Chris Litten	(Fundraising)
Nikki McGill	(Community)
Jo Fothergill	(Staff Rep)

The BOT also has as members Lawrie Jensen who has been co-opted as Treasurer and Mike Farrelly (Principal)

The portfolios for the BOT are in brackets beside their names. These are confirmed each year or after any board election.

Other issues also occupy our time...read on...

PROPERTY FUNDING

Funds for this project were obtained from the Ministry of Education. The school received three types of funding for the project.

5 Year Allocation – this money is available for modernisation projects. It is not usual for schools to be allowed to use this money to build new classrooms. However we were able to negotiate with the MOE to allow us to declare two of the Village Prefabs past their usable life. This allowed the 5YA to be funnelled into a new build, rather than trying to modernise buildings which were not conducive to teaching and learning.

SPG (School Property Grant)- This money was available for new build due to space deficiency. The money from this income stream was received due to space deficiencies in staff, storage and administration areas. A little negotiation also allowed us to use this money to build a new library, something which was not originally planned.

Furniture and Equipment Grant- This money is generated from SPG entitlement, that is money made available to furnish staff, storage, administration and library areas. Furniture for the new classrooms was purchased during 2009 to ensure that the students would have the best available. Money for this comes from the schools depreciation reserves.

The building project is entirely government funded; we have not needed to put any school or community money into this programme. As with all funding received from the MOE the funding types listed above are “tagged” for use to ensure funds are used in their intended area. For example: funds tagged as “Furniture and Equipment Grant” cannot be used in the building construction side of the project. The Board would like to acknowledge the efforts of Mike Farrelly in this area. Mike has spent many additional hours working closely with the architects and main contractor to ensure that RBS receives the best possible outcome from the limited funds received for this project. Recognition must also be made towards previous Boards who had the foresight to hold the money until there was enough to make a real difference.

FUNDRAISING

The Board, working with the school management, have published the vision and plans for where all school fundraising will be directed.

Briefly, 80% of all money will be directed to "big ticket" items, which are about improving the school's environment, 20% will be towards smaller items. More details can be found on the schools website: <http://www.raumatibeach.school.nz/813/pages/145-2010-fundraising>, along with a calendar of events and the opportunity for you to contribute to any activities that are going on. Please have a look.

A number of very successful activities have been undertaken this year. I would like to thank all those who have organised and contributed to the events which have been held this year.

The golf day raised in excess of \$8,500 for the school – thank you! This has made a significant dent in realising the first phase of the redevelopment – the outdoor stage. The ongoing Wholly Bagel sales, entertainment books, ice creams, cards, multi-days, etc – all contribute.

Fundraising and developing the community spirit are key to growing the school. If you have ideas, thoughts or input, please let us know at either rbs.fundraising@gmail.com or via the form on the webpage (as above).

Events for the remainder of this year: a fun evening out for the adults – more details soon, but book **Saturday August 14th and book a baby sitter**; the Christmas Market; a fun run; and involvement with the Kapiti Arts Trail.



BUILDING

The building project which commenced in October 2009, is now well underway with the new class block already in use and the admin redevelopment quickly taking shape. The project has three main stages.

Stage 1: This stage has seen the construction of replacement classrooms, Learning Street, Library and Staff Room. It is very satisfying to see the new teaching spaces being used. The Learning Street is proving to be a great space; it was put to good use during Te Moana's recent sleepover. While largely completed, there is some final finishing being undertaken, including:

- completing the deck area at the eastern end of the new build,
- installing large double doors into rooms 13 & 14 leading out onto this deck area, and
- constructing a veranda over the doors on room 17.

This work will be completed towards the end of the project to reduce disruption to those classrooms.

Stage 2: Redeveloping the administration area includes increasing usable space for our admin staff and providing much needed office space and meeting rooms. The new design also provides a clear point of entry into the school. This stage is well underway and is on-track to be completed by the end of July.

Stage 3: In Stage 3, two of the remaining re-locatables will be removed (currently being used as the administration area). This space will be transformed into play area. Staff car parking will be provided adjacent to Raumatibeach Kindergarten. The old (and unserviceable) Team B playground will be removed. The school is investigating turning this area into vegetable gardens. The new playground for this age group was built last year and is located over the hill from the existing one.

The Board of Trustees would like to make special mention of Paul Brimblecombe who along with Mike Farrelly, has spent many extra hours working on this exciting project. The entire project is scheduled for completion by the end of Term 3 2010.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Thank you to the families who responded to the survey regarding the delivery of the health curriculum. A report has been prepared and will be published on the school website. The school has already made some minor adjustments which will flow through into the delivery of the programmes.

The next round of consultation will focus on the topics of Homework and Reporting to Parents. Nikki McGill and Mike Farrelly are currently working on this and intend to have the surveys out to you in the second week of Term 3. As well as a paper version, there will be an online version for parents to fill in, and this will be linked to the School's website.

The BOT would also like to seek feedback from parents who are interested in education of Maori students. A number of the school staff are working to put together an interesting and informative information evening which will also be held in Term 3