

MINUTES

For the meeting of the Middleton Grange School Board Monday, 23 June 2025



6.00 - 9.35 pm / Kahika Centre

Welcome & Devotion

Present	Mel Hikuroa (Chair), Mike Vannoort, Rebekah Immanuel, Andy Milne, Chris Hannen, Nick Pomare, Sisilia Misa, Alexis O'Connell, David Gillon Tony Kan
In attendance	Craig Utting (Associate Principal) Hillary Carley (Minute Secretary)
Prior Leave	Geoff Robson
Apologies	Karen Winder
Devotion	Rebekah Immanuel: Trusting in God's divine timing. Ps 39: 17-18; Ecc 3: 11; Rom 8: 28. Joseph had many periods of change throughout his life, but God had a perfect plan for Joseph - in his time. In Middleton Grange School's current period of change we called to remember that God is in the detail no matter how the facts present themselves. Rebekah and Mel ka inoi / prayed

Special Topic

1. Farewell for Mike Vannoort, Principal

At the commencement of the meeting the Board shared fellowship over a takeaway meal in honour of Mike, acknowledging and thanking him for his time as the Principal at Middleton Grange School.

Actions

1. PRINCIPAL APPOINTMENT PROCESS

Action / Agreed

That the Principal Appointment process catalogue / summary be added to the Board Handbook and also to the Board Secretary for filing.

Administration

1. ADMINISTRATION

a. MINUTES

Motion:

That the Minutes of the meeting of 19 May 2025 be accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Moved Alexis O'Connell

Seconder Mike Vannoort

CARRIED

b. DEVOTIONS

Andy Milne, 4 August 2025

c. BOARD

i. BOARD TRIENNIAL ELECTION

- Board Members submit Profile should they be nominated for the upcoming Triennial Elections.

ii. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

- Updated
- Added: Karen Winder - husband Martin, (partner at CBRE) is the new Account Manager for providing evaluation services to CST / MGS

d. Board [2025 Board Handbook - Final](#)

Discussion

Where any actions are required See Readings

1. OUTSTANDING RECOMMENDATIONS

Updated

2. STRATEGIC PLAN 2024 - 2025

AIP ANALYSIS OF VARIANCE

Noted

a. SG 1A: Scripture & Christian Studies

- Peter Collier, Head of Faculty, reporting to the Board in Term 4 2025
- Board highly encouraged by Peter's initial developments that include foundational preparation; care; depth of thought; energy; development of Year 7-8 assessment tool that was easy for staff manage.
- There is a need to ensure there is no / minimal repetition of subject matter across Years 1-13 at Middleton Grange School and also across Middleton Grange School the Christian Education Network (CEN) contributing schools.
- Caution over big investment at Year 14 which may not become a goal in the Strategic Plan.

b. SG 1A: Staff Induction

- Encouraging to see an engaged group of new teachers who are giving up their own time, unpaid over a full year to engage with the programme.
- Staff commencing mid-year are provided with a catch up programme.
- Consideration to be given to online teaching videos / modules.
- A Special Character paper could be included for Support Staff who are mainly inducted through induction by conversation currently.

c. SG 1B: Roll Growth

- Working Group scope of works received with results to be presented at the July Board Hui if possible.

d. SG 3A: Marketing / PR Communications

- Proposal from parent connection awaited.
- Enrolment interviews have provided a good opportunity to speak with parents about the importance of payment of the Special Character Donation.

3. POLICIES

a. TREATY OF WAITANGI POLICY

- The draft policy and audit schedule was taken to the Māori hui, reviewed with Kahui Ako Across School Teachers (AST's) for biculturalism, Head of Te Reo and Dean McKenzie, DP School Management.
- There was rigorous discussion around the terms 'equitable' (a politically loaded statement and noting that provision is made for all students); and 'allowing Māori to succeed as Māori' (placing limits on success). The main aim is to lead students into a relationship with Christ.
- The Board acknowledged the pain of Māori who were not able to speak Te Reo without consequence in our country's history.
- Feedback be sought from stakeholders on the updated draft Policy that includes an amendment to Guiding principles 2. See Motions.

4. PRINCIPAL'S STRATEGIC REPORT

a. NZ CURRICULUM - 5 YEAR TIMELINE

Some minor updates re curriculum and assessment changes between now and 2028.

Link: [NZ Curriculum 5 year Timeline](#)

b. YEAR 11 CERTIFICATE / NCEA CHANGE PROGRAMME / NCEA LEVEL 1 REVIEW

Excellent mid-year report with follow up to the Board in Term 4.

c. STAFFING / APPOINTMENTS

Update to Appointments Panel: Gregg Le Roux, Principal, approval of full Board; and Andy van Ameyde, CST Board Chair had no voting rights.

d. LEARNING CENTRE

- There are increasing numbers of students identified with neurodiverse needs - particularly in the Primary School
- Demand for Learning Centre assistance will continue to grow, including from the good reputation that Middleton Grange School has in this area.
- There was uncertainty about the legality of asking parents for a contribution towards Learning Centre support costs for their child.
- The Board significantly supports the Learning Centre financially through International College revenue.
- The Lord has blessed Middleton Grange School and it is fitting that it assist families (those who can and those who cannot pay privately) via the Learning Centre.
- Supporting students that require Learning Centre services is a Christian thing to do.

Action / Agreed

- Management to provide a summary of Learning Centre student needs eg those requiring a Teacher Aide or SACs.
- #### e. TE HAERENGA YEAR 10 PROGRAMME
- Two week timetable has impacted delivery of the programme with it now being placed in the same timetable line as PE.
 - It being in the same line as PE does not negatively impact students taking PE, however, the organisers of the Te Haerenga Programme have elected to prioritise PE in this line.
 - Whilst no specific mention of Special Character in the reflections - maybe due to the questions asked - it is clear the programme has prompted reflection / change in student behaviour, indicating an intrinsic Christian character change.

- The Student Board Member had thoroughly enjoyed the programme noting the opportunity to discuss various topics as boys/girls and getting to know students in the cohort in an open space.

Action / Agreed

Questions to be asked of the Te Haerenga Programme

- How is biblical content embedded in delivery of the programme?
- Explanation of the problems around loss of time for delivery of the programme and the link to PE
- What are the learning outcomes?

f. STUDENT WELLBEING/COUNSELLING DEMAND

- The 2025 theme of 'Hope' is repeated frequently to encourage staff and students going through challenges.
- Suggestion made to encourage/urge the school to teach a factual basis for Hope as a means to support its Theme for the year. Another related idea to similarly promote is Thankfulness.

g. OVERSEAS TRIPS

- Provisional approval given to overseas trips where documentation has previously been presented and approved by the Board
- Overseas Trip paperwork to be submitted to next Board meeting for trips that have not been approved previously by the Board

5. INTERNAL REVIEW

Updated

6. OTHER

a. CST STRATEGIC PLAN 2026-2028

Further discussion at the Board Hui.

b. CEN DATA REPORTS

Further discussion at the Board Hui.

7. HUI

Moved to In Committee

8. CORRESPONDENCE

a. Enrolment Scheme Consultation / Holy Family Parish Schools

There are no negative ramifications for Middleton Grange School who wish to support a fellow Special Character School. See Motions.

9. STUDENT TRUSTEE REPORT

10. QUESTIONS RAISED OR DISCUSSION RAISED FROM THE Readings

Motions

a. CORRESPONDENCE

i. Enrolment Scheme Consultation / Holy Family Parish Schools

To support the Enrolment Scheme as proposed by the Holy Family Prish Schools.

Moved David Gillon
Seconded Alexis O'Connell
CARRIED

b. COMMITTEES

i. Health & Safety Committee

To accept the Minutes of the Health & Safety Committee of 19 May 2025 and any recommendations contained therein

Moved Chris Hannen
Seconded Rebekah Immanuel
CARRIED

ii. Property Committee

To accept the Minutes of the Property Committee of 5 June 2025 and any recommendations contained therein

Moved Chris Hannen
Seconded Mike Vannoort
CARRIED

c. POLICIES

i. TREATY OF WAITANGI POLICY

To adopt the Treaty of Waitangi Policy
NOT MOVED

ii. TREATY OF WAITANGI POLICY

To circulate the final draft with the following amendment for consultation

- Guiding principles 2. To make equitable provisions for the needs of Māori students to succeed. ~~(as Māori in both Māori and other cultural backgrounds.)~~

Moved Mel Hikuroa, Presiding Member
CARRIED

d. PRINCIPAL'S STRATEGIC REPORT

i. OVERSEAS TRIPS 2026

To approve the following overseas trips for 2026 subject to the full completion of RAMS
Missions & Service - Tonga (July)
Missions & Service - Cambodia (July or December)
Language & Culture - Rarotonga (December)

Moved Mel Hikuroa, Presiding Member
CARRIED

ii. PRINCIPAL'S STRATEGIC REPORT

That the Principal's Strategic Report be accepted

Moved Mike Vannoort
Seconded Tony Kan
CARRIED

Correspondence

See Correspondence section

1. NZEI (Support Staff) - Paid Union Meeting
2. Board Election - update

3. Enrolment Scheme Consultation / Holy Family Parish
4. Safety Checking for Children's Workers - APIS
5. MGS Appointment of new Principal

Student Board Member

Sisilia reported a busy Term 2 with a plethora of activities including camps, Tu Kaha, World Vision activities, The Fridge Radio, Shakespeare Festival, Year 12-13 Formal, leadership days, winter sports, Senior Ethics Competition, Senior College Production of Mary Poppins included. Sisilia was thankful for abundant blessings and asked the Board to pray for the Tonga Missions & Service team (leaving Wednesday) and for a restful term break for all. She thanked the Board for their work on behalf of the school.

Move to Public Excluded / In Committee

Motion

'That the public be excluded from the following part/s of the proceedings of this meeting.

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under [section 48\(1\)](#) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
Disciplinary matters	Protect the privacy of individuals	S48(1)(a)(ii)

This resolution is made in reliance on [section 48\(1\)\(a\)](#) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by [section 7](#) of that Act which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public.'

Moved Mel Hikuroa, Presiding Member

CARRIED

Motion 'That the meeting move back into public session.'

Moved Mel Hikuroa, Presiding Member

CARRIED

The meeting closed in prayer at 8.35 pm.

Next Meeting

Date 4 August 2025
 Devotion Andy Milne
 Discussion Topic
 Prior Leave

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www.middleton.school.nz

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