



## MENPS MATTERS

SCHOOL BOARD  
NEWSLETTER  
APRIL 2025



### Key Dates:

Jul 18 - Nominations open

Aug 6 - Nominations close

Sept 10 - Election Day

# BOARD ELECTIONS ARE COMING

## ...but, what does it mean to be 'on the Board?'

***The NZ School Board Elections are set for September 10, and as a school community, we will have the opportunity to vote in the parent representatives for our school board's next three year term.***

### Let's talk details...

- What is a school board?
- Who are its members?
- What exactly do they do?

This special board newsletter aims to share insights on boards' responsibilities and the role of a parent representative, and encourage our community to make a nomination or stand for election.

### What is a school board?

A school board is a group of people (board members) working together towards common goals to govern their school.

Boards have overall legal responsibility and accountability for the school. Their primary objectives ensure the school is safe for all, inclusive of and caters to students with differing needs and gives effect to Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

### Responsibilities include:

- Setting the strategic direction for the school
- Protecting the school's values
- Monitoring & evaluating student learning outcomes
- Reviewing & updating governance policies
- Financial stewardship
- Building community engagement and support

Boards meet monthly, during the school term, and members are required to review documentation in advance for discussion and decision-making.

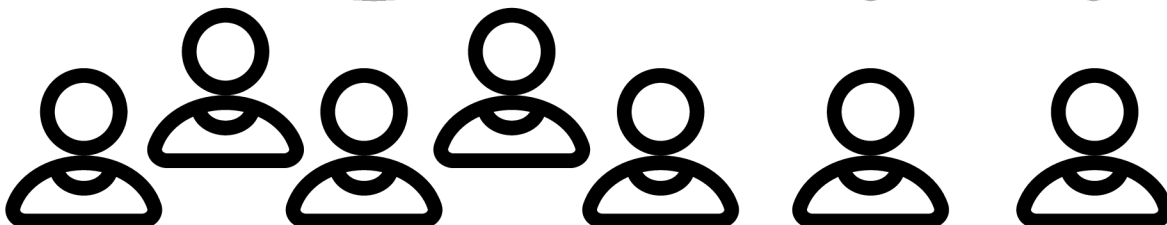
It may sound like a lot of mahi, but it's a team effort and there is a variety of support available.

## Who is on the board?

5x PARENT REPRESENTATIVES,  
INCLUDING A PRESIDING MEMBER (CHAIRPERSON)

STAFF  
REPRESENTATIVE

PRINCIPAL /  
BOARD CEO &  
CHIEF ADVISOR



Voted by parent/caregiver community

Voted by staff

Full member

### Ōritetanga

Everyone on a  
school board has  
equal standing...  
Equal voice, equal  
vote, equal  
accountability

## GOVERNANCE VS. MANAGEMENT

The board's role is to govern the school by setting strategic goals and policies by which the school is controlled and managed.

The board entrusts the principal to handle the day-to-day management of the school, guided by the board's policies and working towards the strategic goals.

### **Governance / The Board determines:**

- **THE WHAT** *Designing the future*
- **THE ENDS** *The outcomes to be achieved*
- **THE POLICIES** *Statements of what is expected*

### **Management / The Principal determines:**

- **THE HOW** *Designing how to get there*
- **THE MEANS** *Strategies to achieve the ends*
- **THE PROCEDURES** *Steps to meet expectations*



## Who can become a Parent Rep?

Almost anyone in the community can be a board member! Ideally, board members will bring a diverse mix of perspectives, skills and representation of our school's community.

You don't need to be a parent of a MENPS student, though you must be nominated by someone who is on the school's electoral roll.

## What skills do you need?

People often think board members need to have a legal or business background, but that is not the case! It doesn't matter what you do – it matters that you care about education in your community and you want to make a difference.

### Valuable skills are:

- Work well as part of a team
- Not afraid to ask challenging questions
- Have good communication skills
- Be connected to the school community

## Why join the board?

Becoming a parent representative brings members great responsibility and even greater reward.

This fulfilling and sometimes challenging role offers an incredible learning experience and a truly meaningful opportunity to give back to our school community and our children, who are at the heart of everything we do.

**Board members play an important role in shaping the education experience and achievements of students**



*Have we piqued your interest?*

## Where to find out more:

If you are interested in running for election, we encourage you to...

- **Attend a board meeting** - see Hero for times and dates
- **Browse our meeting minutes** - these can be found on the MENPS website, under 'School Board'
- **Email your questions** - [bot@mteden.school.nz](mailto:bot@mteden.school.nz)
- **Chat to a current Board Member** - *we're a friendly bunch!*

**Ngā mihi nui, Virginia, Nigel, Alan, Mei, Martina, Fleur, Mike, Anna & Annette**