

BOT Elections are coming up in
May 2010

Want to **find out more** about what it
takes to be on the BOT of YOUR school?

Come along to an informal
Information Evening

All Primary School Parents/Caregivers/Friends
Welcome

When: Tuesday 9th March at 5.45pm

Where: Red Beach School Staff Room, 20 Albert Hall Drive, Red Beach

Who: Anyone thinking about running for the BOT of their School.

What: Information on what the BOT's role is, who can stand for election, how to stand for election

RSVP: Leanne leanne@redbeach.school.nz or phone 09 426 8915 by Mon 8th

"Being on the Board of Trustees for the school has been a really rewarding experience. It's allowed me to find out more about the education of children and there has been lots of personal growth too. There is great reward in being able to contribute to the school for the benefit of not only the students but also the staff. Over the years I have built some lasting friendships with some amazing people from both the staff and management of the school and also fellow board members. I'd encourage parents to come and find out more."

Jane Finlavson Red Beach School BOT

See you on Tues 9th March
at 5.45

Red Beach School Staff Room

Put it in your diary,
bring a friend

All schools welcome, please RSVP
to Leanne@redbeach.school.nz

Can't make it? Come along to a Board
meeting to see what it's all about – see
school newsletter for details. Also see
brochure attached

“Board members are entrusted by the community to ensure the success of our schools and a bright future for our children. We need an education system where all children are expected to succeed and one where we all take shared responsibility in ensuring this happens.

As a member of a school board you can make things happen – you can make a difference.”

Lorraine Kerr, NZSTA president



SCHOOL TRUSTEES

– using their skills and their experiences to help shape a positive future for our children.

SCHOOL TRUSTEES

– make a difference for our schools.

SCHOOL TRUSTEES

Make a difference for our schools

Are you passionate about the education of children in your community?

How about becoming a trustee and using your skills and experiences to help shape a positive future for our children?

What is a school board of trustees?

Every state and state-integrated school in New Zealand has a board of trustees. Boards bring families, communities and schools together to work for a quality education for our children.

The board of trustees is a Crown entity. It is the employer of all school staff and sets the school's overall strategic direction. The school's principal is the board's 'chief executive' and manages the school operation in line with the board's policies.

The membership of the school board includes elected parent representatives, an elected staff representative and the principal. If the school has students above Year 9, the board also includes a student representative.

What do trustees do?

School trustees have a very important role in making sure every child achieves their potential at school. Here are some of the things they do:

- Work with the principal and consult with staff, students and the community.
- Set the educational goals and strategic direction of the school.
- Monitor progress and let parents know how the school is progressing against its annual targets and how well students are achieving.
- Decide how the school's funding will be spent.
- Select the school's principal and support the development of all staff.
- Oversee the management of staff, property, finances, curriculum and administration.

What sort of skills do trustees need?

Trustees are active leaders in their schools and need a balance of skills and experiences. They need to work well in a team, be able to put plans in place for the school's future, ask challenging questions and have good communications skills. It helps to have an understanding of financial matters and the education sector, and experience in managing people.

Our schools need your skills

Who can become a trustee?

Parents, caregivers and people from the wider community can be nominated for election to a school board.

Working together for our children's success

How do I become a trustee?

Ask your school about going along to a board meeting to see how it works. The board chairperson or any other board member can also answer questions about what the board does. Contact your school if you want to find out about standing for election, nominating someone else and voting in the election – they will be happy to help.

How is a board elected?

The school staff and parents elect boards of trustees every three years. The trustee elections are the biggest democratic event in New Zealand. Schools around the country seek more than 13,000 parent representatives. All parents of students enrolled full-time in a state or state-integrated school can and should vote in the elections for parent representatives.

Connecting families, communities and schools

What help do school trustees get?

Boards of trustees can get a lot of help in their important roles. There are training and development courses, local support services, the local office of the Ministry of Education gives support and advice, and the New Zealand School Trustees Association can provide free advice and support through their helpdesk advisory service.

Advisory Service: 0800 782 435
www.nzsta.org.nz

Great boards help build and support great schools