

# CONFIRMED MINUTES

## FEBRUARY 2026 SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

At the **March Board Meeting** on **31 Mar 2026** these minutes were **confirmed as presented**.

<b>Name:</b>	Waitaki Boys' High School
<b>Date:</b>	Tuesday, 24 February 2026
<b>Time:</b>	5:30 pm to 8:50 pm (NZDT)
<b>Location:</b>	Waitaki Boys High School, Waitaki Ave
<b>Board Members:</b>	Stacey Hayes (Chair), Akuhata Pirere, Darryl Paterson, Erik van der Spek, Greg Familton, Megan Innes
<b>Attendees:</b>	Linda Crossley
<b>Apologies:</b>	Quinn Neal, Heather Martyn
<b>Guests/Notes:</b>	Ryan Wilson

### 1. Opening Meeting

#### 1.1 Tour of School

The School Board started their tour of the school at 5:30pm

#### 1.2 Welcome

Stacey Hayes, School Board Chair opened the meeting at 5:50pm.

Apologies were read from Quinn Neal and Heather Martyn

#### 1.3 Karakia

#### 1.4 Interests Register

### 2. Sub Committee and reporting

#### 2.1 Rectors Report

Darryl Paterson, Rector's report was taken as read.

Darryl shared with the School Board that it had been a strong start to the year, with positive vibes through staff and students. He is impressed with the new staff and the Year 9 cohort are settled and quiet, without major behaviour issues.

The year started so well with the presentation by Dr Chris Jackson. It was a particularly emotional and powerful speech.

The Year 9 boarding numbers are up. NCEA pass rates were mixed. Level 3 was the highest ever with a number of endorsements, whereas the Level 1 & 2 were disappointing. Literacy and

numeracy are the focus. The school are looking to engage a literacy and numeracy coordinator. It was noted that the ESOL students struggled.

Questions were asked around funding for Teacher Aides, Whanau Groups and how they are appointed, as well as about the current years Prefects. Discussion followed.

The 2026 Annual Plan was questioned. Darryl updated the current status by sharing that feedback from staff was around academic tracking, with some good ideas coming out of that discussion.

The Student Council meeting is scheduled for next week, for their input on the plan, with the final step being to arrange a community meeting for feedback. Discussion followed around potential dates for the community meeting.

## **2.2 Property**

Erik van der Spek's report was marked as read

The Hall of Memories official opening date remains to schedule with it being 9 April 2026.

Erik shared with the School Board that the property team had met with the Ministry of Education regarding the 10 yr Property Plan. The current plans were discussed with the Board in detail.

Bridges were discussed, with MOE to check if bridge repairs and maintenance are covered by MOE.

Virgil St flats were discussed, along with the ongoing work there.

Discussion followed.

## **2.3 Policy & H&S**

Greg FAMILTON's report was marked as read.

He shared with the School Board that there had been two recent incidents, and there have also been two near misses on Waitaki Avenue.

Greg met with the Waitaki District Council and Police to work together on a solution for this area to make it safer for everyone. Outcomes of that meeting is that more signage was suggested, with Mr Paterson to action and the WDC to help fund. Greg will also address the school regarding safety.

The SADD committee will create and hand out informational flyers to students.

SchoolDocs policy need reviewing, with Greg explaining how SchoolDocs works and what is expected of the School Board. The digital policy is the most important, with it to be centred around is the policy fit for purpose and what updates may be required to policy.

Discussion followed. with Greg closing by giving a status update regarding the Restraint Training Certificates, with just one reliever currently outstanding.

### **Cultural Sub Committee**

Akuhata & Quinn's report was marked as read.

The report provides a broad overview of what they would like to do, with some ideas on how to move forward.

Aku has made connection with the marae at Moeraki, and the School Board were invited to suggest potential actions to address any of the cultural gaps that the subcommittee finds.

Discussion followed.

## **2.4 Don House**

Ryan Wilson, Director of Boarding's report was marked as read.

Ryan started by telling the School Board that he is enjoying the role, and the small numbers. He is resetting some expectations of the boarders, and he is feeling supported with the management, parent and student reps who are fully behind Ryan. A family bbq is being planned to give Ryan a chance to introduce himself to all parents, to reassure them of the actions that he is implementing and the changes for the boys, as well as to reassure them that the boys do get fed and that parents do not need to continually contribute cash to their sons so that they could get takeaways.

Ryan is aware that he needs to build connections, and discussion was had around building leadership within the hostel.

Marketing is critically important, with the Wanaka show in a couple of weeks. Ryan, Darryl and two or three boarders attend. Cost is minimal as all have organised personal or family accommodation and transport.

Ryan is looking at changing some of the hours staff are working as part of his Roster reshuffle. Currently only 12 boys seem to be regularly at the hostel during the weekend, so rosters need to be shaved. Orah software was discussed.

The big goal is to get 10 x Year 9 boys for 2027. There are some promising boys who are saying they will come in future years.

Ryan is grateful for the opportunity to be in the role and is very impressed with the school. Ryan's background has been in boarding, and after working in Masterton, he wanted to get back in to the boarding experience, and feels it a service to make a difference to young mens lives.

He sees the Year 9 boys as a very strong cohort. The Year 10's have a few behaviour issues. Ryan has introduced minimal rule changes, such as the students have lost one day a week of leave as five days is too thought to be too many. The van service is improving with boys needing to book times, or to take trips at pre-prescribed times. Parent communication has been mostly positive, and Ryan is planning a family BBQ on Sunday, 8 March to introduce himself formally to the families of the boarders, and to talk through his plans for the Hostel.

Lone Pine is looking to be very helpful financially, and some marketing of that would be great. Teams can use this space, as well as international student group visits.

Discussion followed, and then Ryan was thanked for his time presenting to the School Board.

## 2.5 Finance

With the Sub-Finance School Board member unavailable for this evenings meeting at late notice, the Business Manager presented the financial reports to the end of January 2026 for both the school and the hostel.

The Hostel and School Budgets for 2026 were presented in detail, with vibrant discussion and great questions from the School Board to the Business Manager. The School Board decided to take some time to absorb and discuss among themselves the presented Budgets for 2026, and they are to advise/present on their decision as soon as possible.

## 2.6 Chair scan



### Emma Prosser Leave Application

Leave is approved for Emma Prosser in Nov, pending checking the CA

<b>Decision Date:</b>	24 Feb 2026
<b>Mover:</b>	Megan Innes
<b>Seconded:</b>	Stacey Hayes
<b>Outcome:</b>	Approved

## 2.7 Public Excluded Business

### 3. Correspondence

#### 3.1 Inward and outward



##### Inward and Outward Approved

The inward and outward communication was approved

**Decision Date:** 24 Feb 2026  
**Mover:** Akuhata Pirere  
**Seconder:** Stacey Hayes  
**Outcome:** Approved

### 4. Action List

#### 4.1 Action List

Due Date	Action Title	Owner(s)
26 May 2025	Signage on Sports Fields Waitaki Avenue <b>Status:</b> In Progress	Erik van der Spek
24 Jun 2025	Rectors Residence <b>Status:</b> In Progress	Darryl Paterson
30 Jan 2026	School Board letter of acceptance of Sandra Ewing Resignation <b>Status:</b> Completed on 3 Feb 2026	Heather Martyn
1 Feb 2026	WDC Submission <b>Status:</b> Cancelled on 5 Mar 2026	Darryl Paterson
6 Feb 2026	Letter from School Board to Property Manager <b>Status:</b> Completed on 3 Feb 2026	Heather Martyn
16 Feb 2026	School Board to research 18 Feb 2025 Heads of Department meeting <b>Status:</b> Completed on 3 Feb 2026	Akuhata Pirere, Erik van der Spek, Heather Martyn, Megan Innes, Quinn Neal, Stacey Hayes
20 Aug 2026	Set up Google Whiteboard for Strategic Planning <b>Status:</b> Cancelled on 5 Mar 2026	Darryl Paterson
20 Oct 2026	2026 Strategic Plan Feedback <b>Status:</b> In Progress	Darryl Paterson

### 5. Administration

#### 5.1 Confirm Minutes

**HOD Meeting 17 Feb 2026**, the minutes were confirmed as presented.



##### Approved with no changes

Approved  
**Decision Date:** 24 Feb 2026  
**Mover:** Greg Familton  
**Seconder:** Stacey Hayes  
**Outcome:** Approved

#### 5.2 Meeting Evaluation

Akuhata Pirere presenting the meeting evaluation.

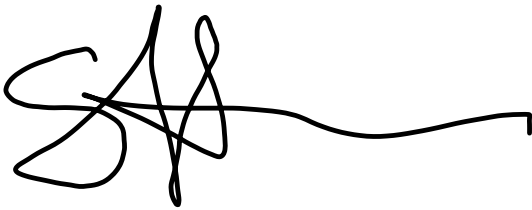
He shared how he was happy with the progress, and communication of the School Board, and talked about how he sees opportunities and not set backs.

## 6. Close Meeting

### 6.1 Close the meeting

**Next meeting:** No date for the next meeting has been set.

Next meeting - Karakia, Evaluation, EOM

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'S' followed by a long horizontal line that ends in a small vertical tick.

Stacey Hayes  
21 May 2026