

Hastings Girls' High School – Ngā Rau Huia o Ākina Board of Trustees Meeting	
Date:	Thursday 19 June 2025
Time:	5.15pm
Location:	Principal's Office
1. Meeting opening	Minutes
1.1. Karakia	
1.2. Present	Tahatera Apatu (minute taker), Evelyn Leef (Acting Principal), Lani Kawana, Brendan Jones, Amataga Iuli, Jesamine Te Huia
1.3. Apologies	Sonya Lyndon (Secretary), Candyce Keelan, Moira Fomai, Jo Husband
1.4. Declaration of interests	None
2. For Approval	Minutes
2.1 Minutes of the previous meeting [May] - See below	<i>Motion: Move that the minutes of the previous meeting in May 2025 be approved.</i> <i>Moved by: Brendon Jones Seconded by: Candyce Keelan</i>
2.2 Correspondence	
2.2.1 Inwards	None
2.2.2 Outwards	None
2.3 Finance Report	The Board is going to seek clarity on budgets for the new sports uniforms and counselling miscellaneous. <i>Motion: Move that the finance report be approved.</i> <i>Moved by: Lani Kawana Seconded by: Brendon Jones</i>
The Governance Report	<i>Motion: Move that the Finance report for April be accepted.</i> <i>Moved by: Lani Kawana Seconded by: Brendon Jones</i>
2.4 Principals Report - See below, taken as read	<p>As we come to the end of Term 2, we look forward to celebrating the incredible dedication and long-standing service of our staff. This year, we honour: 11 staff members who have served 10+ years, 3 staff with 20+ years, 2 staff with 30+ years, and 1 staff member who has reached an outstanding milestone of 44 years of service. These are significant achievements that speak to the loyalty, commitment, and impact of our teaching and support staff. In particular, we acknowledge Robyn Farger, who has indicated that this will be her final year of teaching at HGHS. Robyn's contribution to our kura over several decades has been immense and deeply appreciated. We will mark these milestones with a celebration of shared kai and speeches at the end of the term.</p> <p>Alongside these acknowledgements, we have continued our focus on staff Hauora, recognising the importance of morale and wellbeing during the winter months. This term, we introduced several initiatives aimed at fostering connection, gratitude, and warmth among our team:</p> <p>Friday Soup Day – Staff take turns bringing in homemade winter soups for all to share during intervals. This has become a well-loved tradition that brings warmth and connection to our busy days.</p> <p>Caught Being Awesome – A peer-recognition initiative where staff can write notes acknowledging colleagues who have gone above and beyond to help or support others. Names are drawn from the kete at the end of every second week, with winners receiving a complimentary café coffee and a king-size chocolate bar.</p> <p>As the whakataukī says, "Ahakoa he iti, he pounamu" – although small, it is precious. These small acts of kindness and recognition have brought genuine joy and uplifted the spirits of our staff, particularly those who often work quietly behind the scenes.</p>

<p>Te Kanorautanga (Learners are achieving excellent and equitable educational Outcomes) - Shaping Teacher Capacity - Curriculum enrichment - Strengthening structures and Systems</p>	<p>We have now completed our first round of Common Assessment Activities (CAAs). Once the reports of achievement are finalised and released, they will be collated and shared with the Board of Trustees.</p> <p>Our Careers Department has been working tirelessly this term to provide our students with meaningful exposure to future pathways. These opportunities have sparked inspiring kōrero among our ākonga about their aspirations and the possibilities ahead. We extend a sincere thank you to our Careers team for their ongoing commitment to guiding and motivating our students.</p> <p>Our Outdoors classes have also had the opportunity to embark on some incredible excursions this term. These experiences continue to offer our ākonga life-changing learning — building practical skills, resilience, and strengthening relationships with their peers and kaiako. A huge thank you to the two dedicated staff members who have led these trips, generously giving their time and energy and spending time away from their own whānau to support our students.</p> <p>We recently held our Junior Parent-Teacher evenings, and it was heartening to see such strong whānau turnout. Some staff met with up to 29 families in one evening — a clear reflection of the value our community places on education and connection. This round of whānau engagement has also supported the momentum of our wider whānau engagement strategy, contributing to an overall increase in parent involvement across the kura.</p> <p>Finally, the introduction of junior assessment rubrics this year has had a noticeable impact. Many ākonga are more engaged and motivated in their learning, striving towards personal excellence and, for some, the goal of becoming Junior Dux. It has been encouraging to see our students respond so positively to clear expectations and visible progress in their learning journeys.</p>
<p>Te Tuakiritanga (Learners and whānau tell us they see and feel their identity, language and culture on a daily basis) - collaborative community partnerships - enhancing Ākina coach capacity - Strengthening Relationships with Whānau</p>	<p>This term has been rich in student success, particularly in the performance space. Our students proudly represented HGHS in Showquest, where they placed 2nd overall. This is a significant achievement and a testament to the dedication and talent of both our Performing Arts team and our ākonga. A special congratulations to Sharon Faalele, who was named Top Senior Performer of the Event — a remarkable accomplishment that reflects her outstanding performance.</p> <p>Our rōpū kapa haka, Te Rōpū Manu Huia, continues to demonstrate excellence and pride in our cultural heritage. They recently placed 2nd overall in the Regional Kapa Haka competition and achieved 1st equal in four categories. As a result of this outstanding achievement, our kapa will represent the region at the National Kapa Haka Competition in July next year. To acknowledge and celebrate this success, we held a whānau hui last Friday at HBHS. We were also privileged to welcome our brothers from HBHS into our kura to present the taonga — a powerful symbol of unity, pride, and shared accomplishment. This success is a testament to the dedication and collaboration of our ākonga, whānau, and kaiako.</p> <p>Earlier in the term, our Samoan Aiga led a vibrant and meaningful celebration of Samoan Language Week. The Ava ceremony, led by our Samoan language teacher and students, was a particular highlight — a privilege to experience and a moment of deep cultural pride. While our HBHS brothers were not involved this time, the leadership demonstrated by our young wāhine was exceptional. It was an honour to witness them standing confidently in their culture, leading and sharing with mana and grace.</p> <p>We also recently celebrated International Language Week, which once again highlighted the rich cultural diversity of our kura. Our kaiako coordinated a series of student speeches in their home languages, alongside our language-themed Showquest. Each year, participation continues to grow, with more</p>

	<p>ākonga sharing and celebrating their unique linguistic and cultural backgrounds. Parent judges were involved throughout the week and expressed their gratitude for the opportunity to see their children standing proudly in their identity and heritage. These moments continue to empower our wāhine, strengthening their voice and confidence.</p>
<p>Kaitiakitanga (Learners as guardians of our past, present and future) - Building Leadership Capacity, Establishing a Hub based Junior Curriculum</p>	<p>This term, our ākonga have participated in a variety of rich learning opportunities that continue to strengthen their engagement both inside and outside of the classroom.</p> <p>Our senior Outdoor Education classes recently returned from an exceptional excursion to Rotorua. This trip provided valuable hands-on learning about outdoor environments and also offered a cultural learning component, with students exploring the rich history and legacy of Te Arawa Waka. It was a memorable experience that blended physical education with bicultural understanding.</p> <p>Ananya and Ocean were selected to join the YEA programme (Youth Environment Ambassador) and Ocean Dutta has been elected chairperson of the Youth Ambassador group at the Hawke's Bay Regional Council.</p> <p>New Zealand Schools' Debating Council has selected Pippa Yule for the 2025 Lower North Island Regional Development Squad to be run over Terms 2 and 3. Students were selected based on their performances at the regional tournaments earlier this year. NZSDC were very impressed with the talent and commitment Pippa showed</p> <p>Our Māori Student Council led the school's Matariki celebrations this term, standing alongside Te Rōpū Manu Huia Kapa Haka to open our kura assembly and coordinating a range of activities throughout the week. In addition, two senior ākonga from our Huia Kaimanawa group are currently developing a wānanga initiative as part of their Hauora class. This project is designed to support our junior ākonga to re-engage with learning through a Māori lens, an initiative by ākonga, for ākonga. It has been encouraging to see their commitment and creativity in an approach that reflects tuakana-teina relationships and supports hauora and a sense of belonging.</p> <p><i>Motion: Move that the Principles report be approval.</i> <i>Moved by: Jesamine Te Huia Seconded by: Lani Kawana</i></p>
2.5 Policies for review	<p>Teacher Relief Cover</p> <p>Please read the attachments for discussion the June meeting. The Board request further information before end of year budgeting meeting.</p> <p><i>Motion: Move that the attached policies be approved</i> <i>Moved by: Brendon Jones Seconded by: Lani Kawana</i></p>
3. General Business	Minutes
Leave Request	<p>Staffing request for Leave during term time - Start of Term 4, 7 days. The Board has approved this as long as the duties of this role are covered.</p> <p><i>Motion: Move that the leave request to be approved.</i> <i>Moved by: Brendon Jones Seconded by: Lani Kawana</i></p>
Funding request from Te Rōpu Manu Huia	<p><i>Motion: Move that the funding request has been moved for approval</i> <i>Moved by: Amataga luli Seconded by: Brendon Jones</i></p>
Elections	The Board reviewed and discussed the options for appointing a Returning Officer for the 2025 Board election.
Health and Safety Report	<p>Move that the Health and Safety report be accepted.</p> <p>Lani Kawana Jesamine Te Huia</p>
Sabbatical Request for Katie Geary	<p>Move that the Sabbatical request from Katie be approved.</p> <p>Brendon Jones Amataga luli</p>

Proposal to repurpose approved PLD funding	Move that the proposal to repurpose the PLD funding has been approved by the board. Amataga luli Brendon Jones
In-Committee	Candyce took the minutes Unknown moved that the meeting go In Committee at pm and that that the public be excluded under Section 48 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 because the Board wishes to discuss personnel or financially sensitive matters and for reasons that discussion of these matters in public would infringe the privacy of a natural person under Section 9(2)(a) of the Official Information Act 1982.
Out-of-Committee	Unknown moved that the meeting go out of Committee at 6.46pm.
4. Meeting closure	Minutes
Finish and date of next meeting	There being no further business, the meeting closed at 6.46pm.
Closing karakia	

BL Jones

Brendon Jones

Sep 15, 2025






June BOT Minutes 2025 - unsigned

Final Audit Report

2025-09-15

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