

Minutes of Mokau School BOT Meeting 13 October 2025

Opened: Name: Maree Jones Time: 7:00 pm

Karakia: from Board Members

Present: Maree Jones, Maryann Symonds, Jackie Warren, Emma-Gene Hutchinson, Adrian Smith, Merepaea Rauputu, Anne Owens

Apologies: Nil

Conflict of Interest: The board effectively manages actual, potential, and perceived conflicts of interest ensuring the integrity of board decisions and reputation of board members.

Reports

Principal Report

Roll: 25

Taken as read. Items for discussion will be in general business.

Moved: Maryann, seconded Jackie. Passed.

Finance Report

Maree to sign Visa account. Report includes playground repairs and maintenance.

Motion: Finance Report taken as read.

Moved: Jackie, seconded Maree. Passed.

Property Report

Ministry advised of a new scheme providing \$5000 for school maintenance: building washing, drainage, guttering, minor works, etc. It was applied for and received within 7 days. We are required to report back on actual expenditures by end of January 2026.

Health and Safety Report

Covered in Maryann's Principal report. Nothing significant.

Farm Report

Fence to be looked at when weather has fined up.

Achievement Report

Planned for next meeting.

Policy Review

- Bullying and Harassment
- Behaviour Management (including Formal Discipline)
- Searches, surrender and retention of Property.

These policies were read and discussed at the meeting by Board Members with no comments. Agreed that they don't require changes.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Draft Budget

The budget was prepared by the principal in conjunction with Chris from Ed Services. It is a deficit one, based on best projections and a comparison of last year actuals versus budget. Support staff costs have increased since September due to paying living wage not minimum wage.

A high needs student (ORS) starts next month and we will likely have to top up costs which could be significant. These have not been included as still waiting on detail confirmation. They will be covered with existing staff until funding comes in. This will not detrimentally affect other students. Noted that additional staff have to be permanent not fixed term. The Board are currently paying top up costs for teacher aides. To be reviewed at next meeting: are we getting value for money, etc.

Attendance Management Plan

This is part of school documents.

Strategic Plan

Strategic plan is not required for 2025, just the annual plan.

School Donation Scheme

We currently opt into the school donation scheme, receiving \$163.50 per student from MOE if we don't ask for school fees and donations.

Motion: To continue to opt in to the School Donation Scheme.

Moved: Maryann, seconded Maree Passed.

Duffy Book Sponsor

Generous Donation of \$600 received from Gail Pratt towards free Duffy books.

EOTC

Upcoming events: Ki O Rahi (PioPio), Maniapoto Cultural Festival (Te Kuiti), Cluster Tabloids (Uruti), Touch Rugby (Mondays in Te Kuiti).

Ki O Rahi transport by car, others by bus.

Staffing 2026

Discussion deferred until November meeting.

Have asked for increase in CRT (Classroom Relief Teacher).

MOE number for next year's roll is 29.

NZEI Strike Action

Strike planned for Thu 23 October, to be confirmed 3 days prior.

Unable to keep the school open as insufficient non-union staff.

Motion: To close the school on 23 October if Strike Notice comes into effect.

Moved: Maree, all agreed. Passed.

Board approved Maryann to advise school community of arrangements if strike goes ahead.

Christmas Dinner

Planned for Saturday 1 November at the Awakino Hotel.

David and Adrienne to be invited. Jackie and Maree to arrange.

Board Vacancy

No request for a bi-election received by the deadline.

Selection process for the Casual Vacancy can now go ahead, with any potential members to be directed to Maree.

Pet Day

Mokau School Pet Day Wed 15 Oct, 10am start.

Tainui Pet Day at the Domain, Fri 24 Oct.

Targa Rally

Thursday 16 October: fundraising car wash by parents, teachers, community members, senior students from 4:30pm

Trevor Walshaw

Acknowledgement of service. Some discussion around an appropriate acknowledgement and care to be taken if setting precedent, etc. To be discussed at next meeting.

Administration:

- Confirmation of August 2025 Minutes.
- Paperwork to sign – Done
- Correspondence – Nil

In Committee: No

Tasks to be done

- **Maryann** to advise school community of arrangements if strike goes ahead.
- **Jackie** and **Maree** to arrange Christmas Dinner.
- **Board members** to contact Maree with any potential Parent Rep candidates.
- **Board members** to come to the next meeting with ideas for Trevor Walshaw acknowledgement.

Meeting Closed at: 9:43 pm

Next meeting: **Monday 17 November 2025 at 7:00 pm at the school**

MINUTES ARE TRUE AND CORRECT



(Chairperson)