

# All about the board

## 2019 School Trustee Triennial Elections

New Zealand School Trustees Association  
2018



Section **1** Board composition/membership

Section **2** Eligibility criteria

Section **3** Desirable skills, experience and behaviour for trusteeship

Section **4** The role and responsibility of the board

Section **5** Where to get further help



The over-riding focus and objective of effective trusteeship is the quality of education that students at the school are receiving.



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# Who is the board?

## State Schools and State Integrated Schools



# State Schools

- 3 – 7 Elected parent trustees
- 1 Principal
- 1 Elected staff trustee
- 0 – 6 Co-opted trustees (must always be less than the number of parent trustees)

## Schools with students above year 9

- A student trustee



# State Integrated Schools

- 3 – 7 Elected parent trustees
- 1 Principal
- 1 Elected staff trustee
- 4 Proprietor's appointees\*
- 0 – 2 Co-opted trustee/s\*

## Schools with students above year 9

- A student trustee

\* Proprietors may consent to a reduction in the number of trustees they are entitled to appoint. This would then allow boards to potentially co-opt a trustee, or reduce their constitution (i.e. the number of parent representatives)



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Equal

standing

voice

accountability

vote



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# Who can be a parent trustee?





# Who can be a parent trustee?

- Parent trustees do not have to be parents of students at the school.
- There is no age requirement for parent trustees.
- Candidates can nominate themselves if they are also on the voting roll for that school.



# What skills, experience and behavior are we looking for?

Key competencies, helpful skills, ideal qualities



# Key competencies

- ✓ Visionary leadership
- ✓ Strategic thinkers
- ✓ Analytical thinkers
- ✓ Practical people
- ✓ People who can communicate well
- ✓ Team players

## Consider:

How does the board get these skills around the table?



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# Helpful skills

- ✓ Strategic expertise
- ✓ Financial understanding
- ✓ Legal understanding
- ✓ Risk management
- ✓ People management
- ✓ Knowledge of education environment

## Consider:

How does the board get these skills around the table?



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# Ideal qualities

- ✓ Integrity
- ✓ Honesty
- ✓ Curiosity
- ✓ Courage
- ✓ Interpersonal skills
- ✓ Genuine interest in the school and its students
- ✓ Time and commitment
- ✓ Willingness to learn

## Consider:

How does the board get these skills around the table?



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# Key areas of contribution



# What do trustees do?

Trustees on a school board of trustees I te poari kaitiaki o te kura are responsible for the governance of the school, including setting the policies by which the school is controlled and managed (schedule 6, Education Act 1989).

The board's main objective is to make sure every child I tamariki reaches their highest possible standard in educational achievement. As part of that key responsibility, here are some of the things the board does:

- Works with the principal I tumuaki, who is responsible for the management of the school
- Consults with staff, students I ākonga and the community to set the strategic directions and long-term plans for the school I kura
- Monitors progress against the board's strategic goals and targets, especially for student progress and achievement, and lets parents and whānau know how the school is progressing against its annual targets

- Makes sure that the school is a physically and emotionally safe place for all students I ākonga, staff I kaimahi and all visitors, and welcomes and caters for students with different needs
- Respects the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi by valuing and reflecting New Zealand's dual cultural heritage, and also makes sure that the school policies and practices reflect New Zealand's cultural diversity
- Makes sure that government priorities are met
- Appoints and supports the principal, assesses their performance, and supports the development of all staff
- Decides how the school's funding will be spent and oversees the management of staff, property, finances, curriculum and administration





# Thank you

We hope that you have found this information helpful.

Extra Nomination Forms can be obtained by contacting your local school or Returning Officer. **Check closing time and date for nominations and voting.**



# We're here to help

- NZSTA website ([www.nzsta.org.nz](http://www.nzsta.org.nz))
- Trustee election website ([www.trustee-election.co.nz](http://www.trustee-election.co.nz))
- Email [electionsadvic@nzsta.org.nz](mailto:electionsadvic@nzsta.org.nz)
- Phone 0800 ELECTIONS (0800 353 284)



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