

14. BOARD CONSULTATION WITH THE COMMUNITY

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The purpose of this report is to submit for record purposes details of separate meetings held during May and June 2001 between the Board, St Margaret's College and the North West Schools Cluster Group.

1. ST MARGARET'S COLLEGE

Board members met at the College with representatives of the School's Board of Trustees and staff on Wednesday 30 May 2001.

The Principal, Claudia Wysocki, provided information on the demographic make-up of the school, curriculum options and of the Tutor Group System which was in operation to provide support and pastoral care for all students during their time at the College.

An overview was also provided on the buildings and property programme, including the recently completed Science and Technology building and the intended availability of the artificial hockey turf for community use. All development projects at the school were achieved through fund-raising initiatives.

A site plan showing proposed long term building development at the school was tabled.

Discussion occurred on several traffic related issues on streets in the vicinity of the College including Andover Street and Winchester Street.

In relation to funding schemes, mention was made that a number of schools were establishing sports clubs in order to qualify for Hillary Commission funding support.

The Board Chairman thanked the school representatives for hosting the Board and for sharing information with members.

2. NORTH WEST SCHOOLS CLUSTER GROUP

On Thursday 7 June 2001 at 4pm, Board Members met with school principals and some Board of Trustees representatives from the Aorangi School, Burnside Primary School, Christ the King School, Cobham Intermediate School, Kendal School, Fendalton School and Wairakei School.

A summary of the matters discussed follows

2.1 Community Enhancement Initiatives

- Community Funded events on school sites.

It was noted that the Council's Leisure Unit was actively involved in the running of community events albeit that the Council was not the sole provider of such activity.

The stance taken by the Board was to support the community 'doing its own thing' and that access to seed funding was available to support events that benefited the community.

Mention was also made of the forthcoming Neighbourhood Week being run from 27 October to 3 November and the suggestion was made of possible school involvement in this programme.

- Using school buildings for community use

The recently conducted review of community facilities was referred to, with the overall outcome clearly showing that the wider community was the major provider of facilities in the city. A city-wide database was presently being finalised and should be available to all to access electronically.

- Multicultural use of school facilities

Board members endorsed such an initiative and for contact purposes, mention was made of the Christchurch Asian Youth Trust and the Asian Youth Co-ordinator.

2.2 Traffic Issues

- Ilam Road/Aorangi Road Intersection

The Area Engineer undertook to follow up on a request made for cyclists signs to be installed in the vicinity of the intersection.

- Jeffreys Road/Clyde Road

Highlighted were difficulties experienced by pupils from Fendalton School crossing Jeffreys Road in the vicinity of the intersection and by Jeffreys Park.

The provision of an approved safe crossing point, using the red kerbside hoops and signage, was identified as a possible solution for following up by the Area Engineer.

- Memorial Avenue – Speed Signs

A request was made for the existing signs to be replaced with larger signs and for signs to be installed indicating that four schools were located in the vicinity.

The option of extending the 40km per hour trial to other schools was raised as a matter for consideration by the Council's Safe Routes to Schools Committee.

Such an initiative was supported and it was **agreed** that the Board continue to lobby for this along with the individual schools.

2.3 General

- Community Service Awards

The school representatives were advised that nominations were currently being called for the Community Service Awards for 2001 and that information on the scheme was available from the Advocacy Team staff.

- Information Packs re Neighbourhood Week

The schools were encouraged to promote the availability of this information to their school communities/families.

- Graffiti/Tagging

The problem of graffiti at schools was ongoing with remedial action being taken as required.

- Keep Christchurch Beautiful

The take-up by schools to participate in the Community Pride Awards was currently very limited due in part to the repetitive nature of the programme.

- Trees

Mention was made of the Board's commitment to provide more trees in the community including partnerships with schools. The fruit and nut tree option in particular was suggested as being worth pursuing.

The Edible Gardens programme along with Board funding remained available as was the Council's recently introduced initiative of having community gardens.

- Liaison with Schools

It was **agreed** that there would be real benefits in a liaison relationship being established between the Board and local schools whereby each Board member maintained contact with an allocated school and met on an agreed basis to discuss matters of mutual interest.

- Jellie Park Aqualand

From the viewpoint of Cobham Intermediate, relationships with the operator had now improved.

- Future Meetings

It was **agreed** that such meetings between the Board and local schools were beneficial and should continue in the future.

The Board Chairman thanked the school representatives for their attendance and contributions.

The meeting concluded at 5.15pm

Recommendation: That the report be received.

Chairman's

Recommendation: That the foregoing recommendation be adopted.