

Minutes of the Otamatea High School Board of Trustees SPECIAL committee meeting on

Wednesday 12 February, 2020

VENUE: Otamatea High School
DATE: Wednesday 12 February, 2020
TIME: 10.30am
VENUE: Administration Meeting Room
PRESENT: L. Smart, R. Clothier-Simmonds, G. Jenkins and K. van Harlingen.
IN ATTENDANCE: Nil
APOLOGIES: N. Cotching and B. Weber

“That the apologies be accepted.”

Moved: L. Smart

CARRIED

ALL IN FAVOUR

PURPOSE OF MEETING:

To review the communication regarding the international programme cessation.

Discussion about the timeline included:

The decision to discontinue the international programme at the end of the 2019 academic year was made at the 7th August meeting. This was part of the review of the international strategic plan which was one of the Board’s annual goals. The decision included discontinuing the exchange programme with Ji’nai High School and the membership with SIEBA. The communication regarding this decision was delegated to the principal.

The principal made contact with Robie Pickford, SIEBA consultant and Chinatsu, the agent for Ji’nai High School. Both were disappointed but respected the Board’s decision. Robbie suggested that the school should continue to be a signatory to the code, which we have done.

The principal communicated with the international student director about this decision and met with her on 25th August to discuss further.

At the SLT meeting on 3rd September it was discussed and a decision was made to hold off communication to staff and community at this stage.

23rd September – Principal communicated to staff about the decision to discontinue the international programme at a staff briefing meeting.

The principal was not aware that an Otamatea High School student was set to go to Ji’nai Girls’ High School on Exchange in 2020. This was not communicated during the regular meetings with the international student director or at the meeting on 25th August. A further complication was that the international student director was on leave for the last two weeks of term three and then the principal was on sabbatical leave from the end of term three.

The principal acknowledges that a better plan regarding communicating the decision to the community was needed prior to the sabbatical leave. Alternatively a better handover could have resulted in less community ill feeling.

The Board members present discussed communicating to the community about the decision and apologising for the way in which it had happened. The exact wording of this would be formulated and agreed upon before going out to the community.

Meeting closed: 12.30pm

Chairperson

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Principal

Signed: _____

Date: _____