



## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

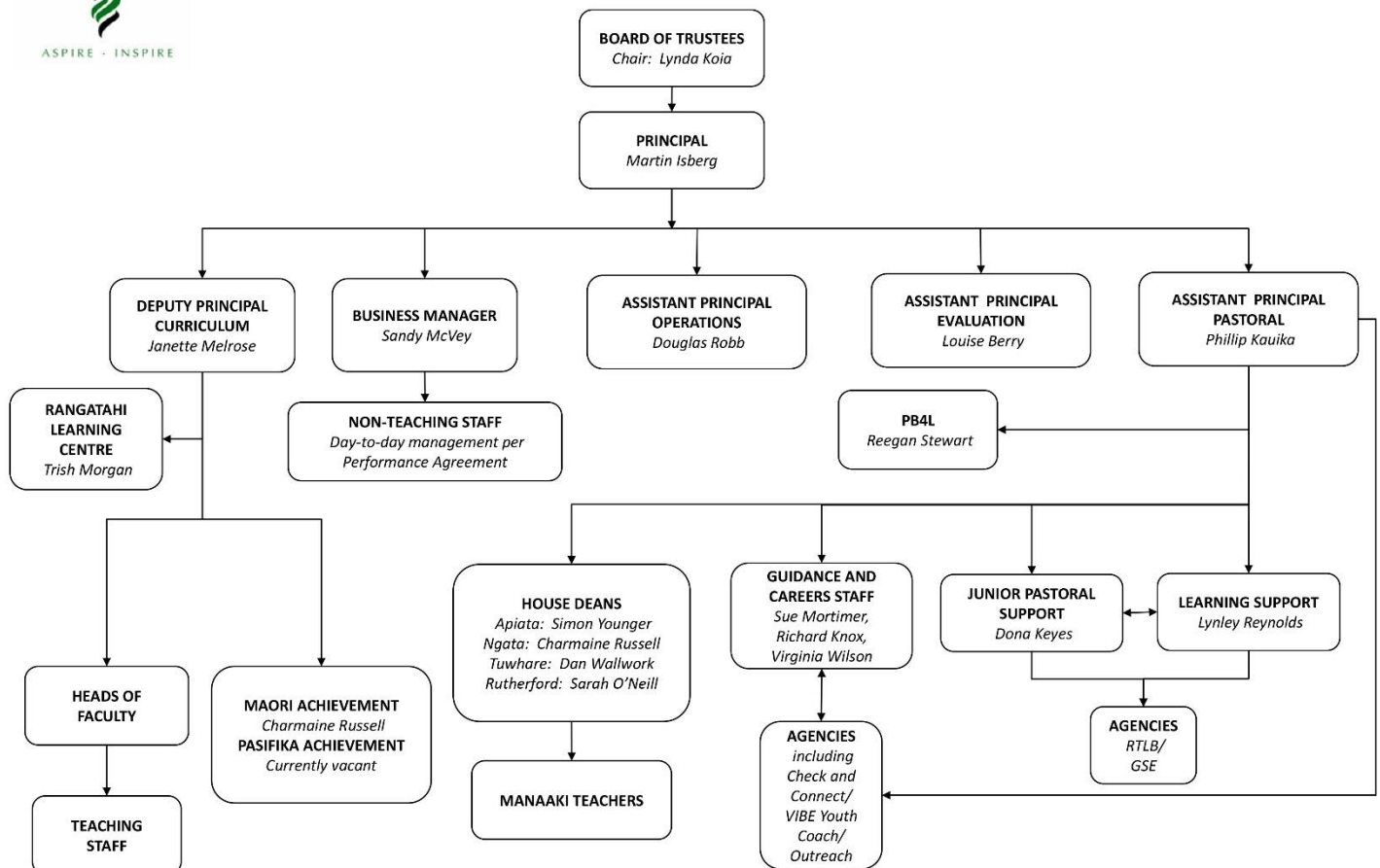
Dear Parents/Caregivers

Thank you to all who attended our recent “Making Connections” evening, and met your child’s subject teachers. Our next “event” is our Learning Conferences on Tuesday 14 March, which we see as crucial in helping your child succeed at the High School – further details are later in this Newsletter.

We have changed our Senior Leadership structure this year, to reflect the change in emphasis in how we approach some areas of how the High School operates – the diagram below shows “who does what”.



## WAINUIOMATA HIGH SCHOOL – 2017



- 🌀 Deputy Principal, Janette Melrose, oversees the delivery and development of our Curriculum, including providing teaching staff with a professional learning programme each Wednesday. She works closely with our Heads of Faculty (English, Mathematics, Science and so on), who in turn work closely with the teachers who deliver their subjects to the students.
- 🌀 Assistant Principal, Douglas Robb, oversees the daily operation of the High School, including liaison with the New Zealand Qualifications Authority (NZQA) with regards to the credits our students accumulate for their National Certificates in Educational Achievement (NCEA).
- 🌀 Assistant Principal, Phillip Kauika, ties together all the pastoral support we provide for our students – we recognise teenagers often face “hiccups” in their personal lives that may impact on their learning, and work hard to put things into place for them. Phillip also works closely with our House Deans, who in turn work closely with the Manaaki Teachers in their Houses to track, monitor and support the students in their Manaaki Class.
- 🌀 Assistant Principal, Louise Berry, looks after Evaluation (as well as leading the Social Sciences Faculty as HOF). We are committed to continually improving the teaching and learning we offer at the High School, and this relies on us measuring and evaluating what we do on a regular basis – which is the basis for Louise’s role.
- 🌀 Finally, Sandy McVey, as Business Manager, not only keeps track of the High School’s finances, but also manages the 30 or so non-teaching staff we employ to support our classroom delivery, including our Groundsman and Caretaker, our IT Administrator, our Attendance staff and our Office staff.

A secondary school is a complex and dynamic institution, but we believe that we have the systems and structures in place to allow us to operate effectively and efficiently.

*Martin Isberg, Principal*

## LEARNING CONFERENCES

On Tuesday 14 March we are expecting to see you all at our Learning Conferences. We recognise the importance of the High School working in conjunction with our parents/caregivers to support our students in their learning, and the Learning Conferences provide the forum where your child outlines their academic plans for the year.

**Please note that the school will be closed for learning on that day.** Appointments will run for 25 minutes from 9:00am until 6:00pm. This year we will be using School Interviews to schedule the appointments. Please go to [www.schoolinterviews.co.nz](http://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz) and enter the event code **2d66r** then enter your details and select your student’s Manaaki Teacher. If you are able to attend during the day – please do so – and leave the evening slots for those who may not be able to take time off work during the day. If no time suits you on Tuesday 14 March, please let your child’s Manaaki Teacher know so an alternative time can be arranged.

If you do not have internet access, please contact the High School office on 04-9383224 (or come into the school) and we will be happy to make an appointment for you.

For those of you who haven’t been to Learning Conferences before, or for those of you who have forgotten what happened last time the format will be as follows – and led by your child:

- ✎ The meeting will be between the Manaaki Teacher, the student and their parents/caregivers and is timetabled for 25 minutes.
- ✎ Your child will talk about a “snapshot” of where they see themselves currently in terms of their academic place at the moment, how they are meeting the High School’s values, what sporting/cultural goals they may have and their thoughts on a possible future career.
- ✎ A Progress Report will be available that shows, for each subject, your child’s attitude to learning, completion of tasks, how well they are prepared for learning, how they learn with others, and how well they are displaying the school values.
- ✎ The student’s attendance record for the year to date will be available.
- ✎ Year 9 and 10 students will have samples of their work.
- ✎ Senior students will have a NCEA Credit Tracking sheet, plus a personalised assessment calendar.

All of these will then be the basis for discussion around your child’s goals for this year (academic, values, and sporting/cultural), with discussion around the steps your child needs to take to reach their goals and what support they will need from their family/whanau and their Manaaki Teacher to achieve these goals.

Please note that we have a second round of Learning Conferences scheduled for early Term Three (Wednesday 02 August) where progress towards the student’s 2017 goals is reviewed and new steps put in place if necessary. I look forward to hearing of successful Learning Conference discussions and can I thank you again in advance for your attendance.

*Martin Isberg, Principal*

## **ID PHOTO CATCH-UPS**

L C Scott will be back in school on Monday 13 March to take the remainder of the ID photos for students who were absent. Students need to assemble at the Auditorium towards the end of lunchtime on Monday 13 March if they didn’t get their ID photo taken. If you would like to order a student ID Card, please contact the office.

## **YEAR 9 CAMP AND COMMUNITY CHALLENGE**

The Year 9 Camp and Community Challenge are done and dusted for another year, with lots of tired, smiling, happy Juniors telling us great things about their experiences. Next week’s Newsletter will feature some articles from students on Camp and loads of photos from the week’s activities.

## **COMING UP**

**Wednesday 08 March ..... Outreach Starts**  
**Thursday 09 March ..... Canterbury University Visit**  
**Friday 10 March ..... Hutt Valley Athletics Day**  
**Monday 13 March ..... ID Photo Catch-ups**  
**Tuesday 14 March ..... Learning Conferences, 9am-6pm (School closed)**  
**Wednesday 15 March ..... Wainuiomata High School ‘Pi’ Day**  
**Thursday 16 March ..... Auckland University Visit**