

Tereora College Parent Teacher Association Annual General Meeting 2023

Report by the Tereora College 2022/23 PTA Chairperson Tapaeru Herrmann, 14 March 2023

Tereora College Parent Teacher Association (PTA) Meetings April 2022 – March 2023 & the Role of the PTA

The Cook Islands Ministry of Education (MoE) School Association Manual¹ requires a School Association (for Tereora College, the Parent Teacher Association (PTA)) be formed annually comprising parents, caregivers and others who live in the community to support the principal/teaching workforce and students achieve the learning/teaching goals each year.

Minutes of the PTA meetings are available from the PTA Secretary on request by email to tereorapta@gmail.com The minutes have also been posted to the college website community page at <https://www.tereora.edu.ck/community-page>

The PTA must convene an Annual General Meeting (AGM) before the 31st of March each year and the Chairperson must ensure a notice of meeting is advertised to parents of the school and the public at least 7 days prior to the AGM. The requirements for this AGM have been met.

In alignment with the MoE PTA manual, the role of the Tereora PTA is to:

- ✓ PROMOTE - the interests of Tereora College
- ✓ FACILITATE - further development of Tereora College
- ✓ FOSTER - community interest in Tereora College educational matters
- ✓ ADVISE – the Principal of Tereora College on matters relating to students of the school
- ✓ PROVIDE - input to the strategic plan of Tereora College and school wide policies
- ✓ ASSIST - in promoting the interests of Tereora College in all areas; the general operation and management Tereora College; discuss and amend Tereora College school policies and have them ratified by the PTA Chairperson; in keeping the school grounds, buildings and equipment maintained through raising funds for planned projects; in organizing fund raising activities; and perform any other tasks in line with the 2012 Education Act.

2022/23 PTA members, PTA priorities and PTA Sub-Committees

The following PTA members were confirmed by the 2022 Annual General Meeting held on 12 April 2022:

Chairperson – Tapaeru Herrmann

Secretary – Twila Reuther

Treasurer – Nora Raita, on resignation, replaced by Roana Mataitini

Parent Representative – Rebecca Puni

Teacher Representatives – Rauhina Tipuna

Ex-officio – Principal Tania Morgan and Deputy Principal Teremoana Ngaau, from January 2023 Principal Teremoana Ngaau and Deputy Principal Joel Pokura

Student Representative – Akevai Purua

Other PTA members - Nadine Newnham, Marina Short

¹ Cook Islands Ministry of Education publication - The School Association - The School Committee. Edition: 4. Effective Date - 8th June, 2016.

Guided by the directions set by the Principal and Deputy Principal in January 2022, discussions at the AGM held April 2022 and at the first meeting of the 2022/23 PTA, the following priorities were set by the 2022/23 PTA:

- **Tereora College workforce issues** – PTA continuing to support Tereora leadership manage staff retention and recruitment challenges through closer engagement with school management and teachers and elevation of advocacy to the MoE if required. Tereora have had to recruit Cook Islands teachers who teach in the upper Primary school and transition them into junior College. In 2023, not all core NCEA subjects able to be delivered due to shortage of teachers;
- **Ensuring Tereora College financial viability** through elevated advocacy with the Ministry of Education and Budget Committee for additional \$150,000 per annum towards operating costs with funds to be raised through:
 - o annual budget process.
 - o canteen rental for two vendors.
 - o resource fee contributions from parents/caregivers.
 - o fundraising.
- **Strengthening PTA engagement with our Tereora College community** - our tu'oe (teachers); kiato (students) and ama (parents), school management, the Ministry of Education and our wider community as a means of drawing critical additional resources to the school, ensuring inclusive quality learning for our students and securing a high level of community engagement with Tereora
- **Bolstering support to Tereora leadership** as a means of empowering and motivating Tereora workforce and student leadership to ensure our students have access to quality learning and experience success and our workforce feel valued and are motivated to strive for excellence in their service delivery

2022/23 PTA outcomes and deliverables

The following is a summary of notable outcomes achieved for our Tereora community through PTA effort working closely with Tereora leadership and wider stakeholders (our Tereora families, government (inclusive Ministry of Education) and wider community over the last 12 months;

- ✓ **Additional \$50,000 per annum allocation towards Tereora College operating budget through government budget process**– Parents may recall during the 2021/22 period, the PTA articulated Tereora PTA 5-year budget for the period 2022-2026 requiring an additional \$150,000 per annum from 2002-2006 from Crown Appropriation **see attached 5 year budget**
- ✓ **Ensuring the financial viability of Tereora College and reducing Tereora Leadership resources spent on fundraising to deliver core teaching learning services** – PTA newsletter to parents March 2023 requesting financial contribution towards resources of \$50 per term, per student. The bulk of these will go towards the digital transformation program and specifically acquisition of chromebooks for each Tereora Student. If parents/caregivers contribute the full annual contribution, 740 students @ \$200 = \$148,000. If only half students contribute \$74,000. It is a **voluntary contribution**
- ✓ **Renegotiation of both canteen contracts and work to install electricity meters on both** canteen rentals go towards PTA generated funds
- ✓ **Attainment of Unmodified Opinion for Tereora College Financial Annual Report for Year End December 22.** See MoE/ Auditor letter to PTA Chairperson dated March 2023, **see attached Annual Audited Accounts year end December 2022;**
- ✓ **Continued content generation for parent resources/community engagement portal on Tereora College website** <https://www.tereora.edu.ck/commuity-page>
- ✓ **More frequent use of online platforms to engage our community on Tereora matters**

- ✓ **Enhanced teacher workforce retention through PTA funding** - \$10 for each year of teaching service at Tereora - acknowledgement of long service teachers at December teachers gathering

Suggested 2023/24 priorities

The following are put forward for the consideration of the 2022/23 PTA as matters which might be progressed in the forward 12 months, in close partnership with the Tereora Leadership:

- ✓ **Articulate a 5 year strategic plan to accompany the 5 year budget 2022-2026** – strategic plan should include:
 - **Sustainable funding model** with blended finance from government, parent/caregiver contributions, PTA co-ordinated funding initiatives
 - **Workforce Management Plan** – developed in close partnership with the Ministry of Education with funding to support implementation
 - **Digital Transformation Plan** – to fully recalibrate Tereora onto digital operating platform and securing additional funding to implement the plan. Need digital devices, stable IT infrastructure framework and professional development for teachers to deliver
 - **NCEA change management plan** with built in support for teachers
 - **Asset Management and Replacement Plan** – desks and chairs for students through to larger capital items like air conditioning units, Science Lab and Hospitality Kitchen facilities
 - **Partnership with Cook Islands Hospitality and Tourism Centre** to expand pathway offering for Tereora College students on exit from Tereora
- ✓ **Finalise and sign 3 way Memorandum of Understanding between Tereora College, Ministry of Education and the Cook Islands Investment Corporation pertaining to ongoing maintenance of Tereora buildings**
- ✓ **Schedule PTA quarterly engagement with Secretary of Education**
- ✓ **Strengthen PTA engagement with parents regarding in-school and out of school incidents.**
- ✓ **Extend PTA collaboration with other PTAs** for Titikaveka College and Nukutere College as a means to elevate shared challenges with MoE and Minister of Education
- ✓ **Secure additional resources from MoE and Government to support junior remedial program given growing number of students from across contributing schools that require remedial literacy and numeracy support.** Resources will be needed to support the interventions; this may be in the form of an increase in human resources; IT devices and general expenses to support a new program
- ✓ **Secure additional resources from MoE to provide counselling services to students and take a proactive approach to engaging students and our community on issues** – example road safety and acting lawfully at all times

Acknowledgements

Tereora College continue to operate in a challenging environment – partly alongside the rest of society/economy in the aftermath of COVID but significantly as a consequence of legacy deficiencies in operating funds and ongoing workforce retention and recruitment challenges.

I wish to formally register PTA appreciation to former Principal Tania Morgan for her many years contributions to Tereora including a notable number of those as Principal. Her determination, with strong support from her then Deputy Teremoana Ngaau and Senior Leadership team are a credit to their

unwavering commitment to the learning and future of our tamariki Tereora. I congratulate again the newly appointed Principal Teremoana Ngaau and her Deputies for their appointment and the particularly strong start they've had to 2023. Akamaroiroi kia kotou e to tatou au puapii.

I wish to thank our student leaders, representatives of our students who engaged with the PTA over the last 12 months to ensure our student voices and the issues of concern to them were at the centre of our PTA considerations.

I thank all our PTA members who have contributed time, effort, expertise and support for our efforts over the last 12 months. It's a privilege working with you all and we can take some pride in our efforts – though as we all know, much remains to be done. It is incumbent on all of us to engage more of our parents and families with our Tereora community – their direct involvement will be necessary if we are to continue to overcome the challenges facing our students and teachers in the months ahead. Ka akamaroiroi tatou

Tepaeru Herrmann

Chairperson, Tereora College 2022/23 PTA