

## **BOARD OF TRUSTEES REPORT 2023**

Tēna koutou katoa,

Thank you so much for taking time out of your busy schedules today to celebrate the successes and achievements of our tamariki at the Okaihau Primary School Prize giving for 2023.

With another school year coming to its end, we want to celebrate not only our tamariki, but also our full school community who consistently manage to pull together to maintain a positive and stable environment for all of our tamariki at Okaihau Primary School, thank you, we could not do what we do without all of you.

The Board of Trustees would like to say a massive THANK YOU to our dedicated Principal, our wonderful teaching staff and amazing support staff for all of their hard work and commitment to ensuring that we have the best possible environment and opportunities for our tamariki to learn and succeed. Your experience, knowledge, passion and the fact that you consistently go “above and beyond” the call of duty for our school and tamariki is so much appreciated and has not gone unnoticed.

Okaihau Primary is going into 2024 fully staffed with amazing people to teach and nurture our tamariki, we are incredibly proud of this as it is an achievement that not many other schools can claim. The Board of Trustees has made the decision to start 2024 with 8 classrooms, this is 1 more than the ministry of education is funding us for, so we will be funding the cost of this additional teacher from our operational grant, the board have made this decision in an effort to reduce class numbers, maintain staff and classroom stability and optimize the learning outcomes for our tamariki.

2023 has seen many accomplishments that our school community should be proud of:

- Part one of the toilet block upgrades have been completed with part two set to begin in 2024. We have reopened our school library with a brand new library operating system.
- The change we made at the beginning of the school year to our school lunch programme has been a huge success thanks to Mrs Camella, Whaea Tarnz and their team.
- We have welcomed Matua Johnie back to the staff and everyone is enjoying having him and his music back in the school environment.
- Most importantly though, the Board of Trustees are incredibly proud of our behavioural improvements and sense of calm we have seen across the school throughout the year and the huge improvements made in academic achievement testing results that has been consistent across all year levels within our school.

The Board of Trustees would also like to take this opportunity to farewell the staff who are moving on this year and extend a very warm welcome to the new staff who are joining

our school community in 2024. We look forward to you all being able to meet and work with them in the new school year.

To the parents, grandparents, caregivers and whanau, THANK YOU for your efforts in supporting our school and your children this year. We have loved having your involvement and support on class camps and trips, sports days, Pet Day, fundraising events, classroom happenings, parent interviews, sausage sizzles, OSCAR, cross country and Athletics day. Our tamariki thrive on having their whanau there to support them.

Finally, to the students of Okaihau Primary. THANK YOU so much for all your hard work and participation in all aspects of school life. To our Year 6 students, who are leaving us to begin the next stage of their education journey, we wish you well and look forward to hearing all of your successes in the future – it has been our pleasure having you and your whanau as part of the Okaihau Primary School whanau.

The board of trustees extends our warmest festive wishes to you all. We hope you have a safe and happy holiday break and we look forward to seeing you all again in 2024.

Ngā mihi nui,

Kelly Thomas (Chairperson), Ella Fergusson, Rachel Bolger, Leanne Rumble,  
Haydn Korach, Mary Piripo, Tim Couling and Sheri Banks.

**Board of Trustees, 2023**