



Ref: OIA00324

06 AUG 2019

D Rogers

fyi-request-10622-244ba63f@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear D Rogers

Thank you for your email of 27 June 2019 requesting the following information:

- *All correspondence regarding the Ministerial appointments of the board of trustees members for 2019 to the Opononi Area School board. This would include applications, recommendations of applicants, all applicable electronic communications and how the decision was made to appoint. Details of those who made the decisions are also requested.*

I have considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

I have identified one document in scope of your request and this is being released in part as **Appendix A**. Some information has been withheld under the following sections of the Act:

- 9(2)(a) to protect the privacy of natural persons;
- 9(2)(g)(i) of the Act, to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to Ministers of the Crown or members of an organisation or officers and employees of any department or organisation in the course of their duty.

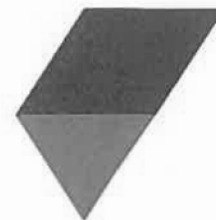
With regard to the information withheld under section 9(2) of the Act, I have identified no public interest considerations sufficient to outweigh the need to withhold this information at this time.

Thank you again for your email. You have the right to ask an Ombudsman to review this decision. You can do this by writing to info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'CHIPKINS'.

Chris Hipkins
Minister of Education



Education Report: Ministerial Appointments to the Opononi Area School (11) Board of Trustees

		RECEIVED	
		20 MAY 2019	
		BY: JS.	
To:	Hon Chris Hipkins, Minister of Education		
Date:	17 May 2019	Priority:	High
Security Level:	In Confidence	METIS No:	1186198
Drafter:	Deborah Tennet	DDI:	04 463 7098
Key Contact:	Hira Gage, Director of Education for Tai Tokerau	DDI:	09 436 8914 Mobile: 027 5015068
Messaging seen by Communications team:	No	Round Robin:	No

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is for you to:

Agree to appoint Shane Lloyd, Teresa Lomas, Gloria Naera and Karen Turner to the Opononi Area School Board of Trustees (the Board), in accordance with the school's alternative constitution under section 105A (now section 98A) of the Education Act 1989;

Sign the attached appointment letters to the successful candidates confirming their appointments;

Note that the Ministry will be notifying the unsuccessful applicant in writing; and

Agree that this Education Report is not proactively released at this time to protect the privacy of natural persons.

Summary


1. Opononi Area School has a history of statutory interventions. It currently has an Alternative Constitution, which has been in place since 2014.
2. The Alternative Constitution allows for up to four trustees to be appointed by the Minister of Education.
3. In May 2019, all Boards of Trustees will hold elections for the parent and staff elected representatives. All Ministerial appointments must also be confirmed at the same time.
4. The Ministry of Education (Ministry) has conducted a candidate selection process on your behalf and now recommends that you appoint up to four of the five candidates nominated to the Board. Appointment letters have been provided for your signature. The Ministry will notify the unsuccessful candidate.

5. The decision to recommend Shane Lloyd, Teresa Lomas, Gloria Naera and Karen Turner for appointment, and not [REDACTED] was based on the collective expertise that the new members would bring to the Board in order to promote the change that is required to turn this school around.

Recommended Actions

The Ministry of Education recommends you:

- a. **agree** to reappoint the following people to the Opononi Area School Board of Trustees:
- | | |
|--------------|-------------------------|
| Shane Lloyd | <u>Agree</u> / Disagree |
| Teresa Lomas | <u>Agree</u> / Disagree |
- b. **agree** to appoint the following people to the Opononi Area School Board of Trustees:
- | | |
|--------------|-------------------------|
| Gloria Naera | <u>Agree</u> / Disagree |
| Karen Turner | <u>Agree</u> / Disagree |
- c. **sign** the attached letters of appointment to the successful candidates confirming their appointments;
- d. **note** that the Ministry will be notifying the unsuccessful applicant; and **Noted**
- e. **agree** that this Education Report is not proactively released, to protect the privacy of natural persons. Agree / Disagree


Katrina Casey
Deputy Secretary
Sector Enablement and Support

16/5/2019


Hon Chris Hipkins
Minister of Education

1/6/19

Background

1. Opononi Area School is a decile 2, coeducational, Year 1 - 13 state school located beside the Hokianga Harbour, Northland.
2. The school has a history of statutory intervention. Following serious issues facing the school, a Limited Statutory Manager (LSM) was appointed in April 2008. In September of the same year, the Minister determined that the level of risk required the intervention to be escalated to a Commissioner under section 78N of the Education Act 1989. The decision to appoint the Commissioner had a serious impact on the school and led to divisions within the community.
3. In September 2009, the original Commissioner was replaced and the new Commissioner remained in place until an Alternative Constitution Board of Trustees was established. The Alternative Constitution was approved under section 105A (now section 98A) of the Education Act 1989 on 24 November 2010, and was Gazetted on 9 December 2010.
4. In June 2011, the 78N intervention ended and an LSM was appointed under section 78M of the Education Act 1989. His task was to support the new Board through its establishment stage and to appoint a new Principal.
5. The 78M intervention was revoked in September 2012.
6. On 26 May 2014, the Minister of Education approved an amendment to the Alternative Constitution to add a student representative to the Board's constitution. The amended Alternative Constitution was Gazetted on 29 May 2014 and has since remained in place.
7. Under the present Alternative Constitution, the membership of the board is:
 - a. two parent representatives;
 - b. the Principal;
 - c. one staff representative;
 - d. one student representative; and
 - e. up to four trustees appointed by the Minister of Education.

s 9(2)(a) OIA

8.

Schooling Improvement Framework

s 9(2)(g)(i) OIA

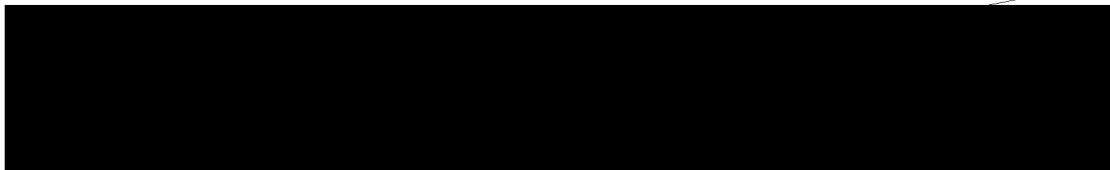
9.

10. Through the implementation of the Schooling Improvement Framework, there has been a noticeable change in the effectiveness of teaching and learning in the Year 1 –

eight classes in the school and some improvement at Year 9 and 10. We have identified a need for improvement at Year 11 – 13.

s 9(2)(g)(i) OIA

11.



12. Opononi Area School has an Education Review Office return of one – two years.

Selection and Appointment of New Ministerial Trustees to the Board of Opononi Area School

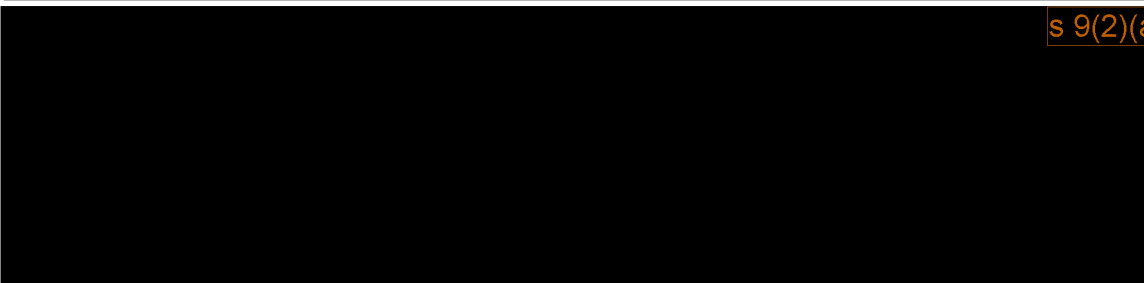
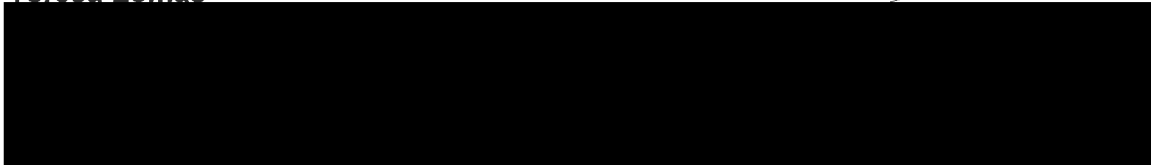
13. The current term of office for trustees elected and appointed under the school's Alternative Constitution will end seven days after the triennial election for boards of trustees, which will take place on a date between 17 May 2019 and 21 June 2019.
14. As part of the process of forming a new Board of Trustees, new Ministerial trustees need to be appointed to the Board. These new trustees will take office following the election process.
15. In March 2019, the Ministry of Education advertised in the Northern Advocate, the Northern News, and via the normal school communication channels for expressions of interest from people who wished to serve on the Opononi Area School Board of Trustees.
16. A representative from our Whangarei office visited a group of community representatives to discuss the selection process, and to ensure they agreed with the wording of the documentation that was to be forwarded to those expressing interest. The following criteria for assessing nominees were agreed:
 - a. a clear connection with the Opononi community;
 - b. a willingness to become familiar with effective school governance and to take part in Board training;
 - c. an understanding of the Board's accountability for raising student achievement;
 - d. experience with schools' financial policies and procedures;
 - e. an understanding of the diverse needs of the students in this school's community;
 - f. sound understanding of student achievement in a Māori medium setting;
 - g. experience in personnel management and employment issues;
 - h. an awareness of property maintenance and development; and
 - i. an ability to manage finances and understand budgets, income, and expenditure reports.

Applications Received

17. The Ministry received five requests for information, and subsequently five applications for consideration. All applicants completed declarations stating that they were eligible to become a trustee, as specified in section 103 of the Education Act 1989.
18. The five candidates considered for the four ministerial appointment positions were (see Annex 1 for a summary of each candidate's experience):

Teresa Lomas

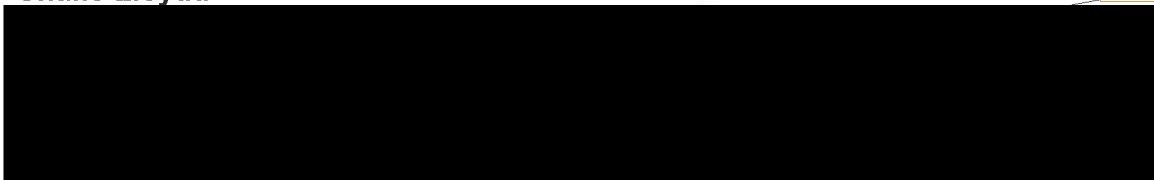
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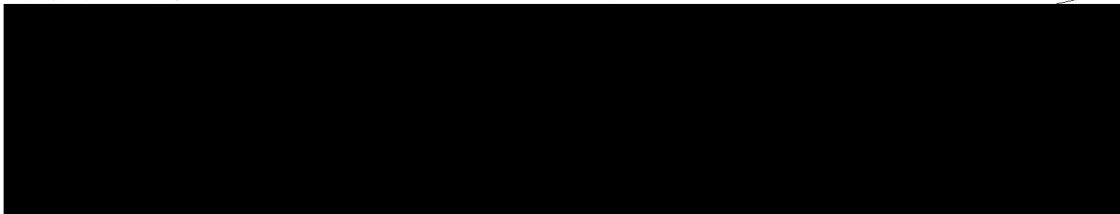
Shane Lloyd

s 9(2)(a) OIA



Gloria Naera

s 9(2)(a) OIA



Karen Turner

s 9(2)(a) OIA



19. A selection panel was convened to review all the applications against the agreed criteria, and to recommend applicants for your consideration. Members of the selection panel included a staff member from the Ministry of Education Tai Tokerau office, iwi representatives, and a local Kaumatua.
20. The selection panel's view is that all applicants would be suitable for appointment. They invited the Ministry of Education Tai Tokerau office to make the final decision, as the office is best placed to understand the particular needs of Opononi Area School and can base the choice on who could best provide the expertise to form a balanced Board.

The Ministry's Recommendation for Appointments

21. We recommend that you appoint the following to the Opononi Area School board:

- Teresa Lomas
- Shane Lloyd
- Gloria Naera
- Karen Turner

s 9(2)(g)(i) OIA

22.

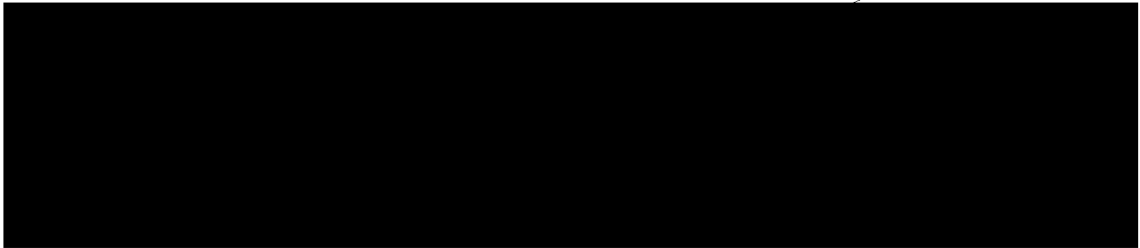


23. Letters for you to sign appointing the successful candidates are attached at Annex 2.

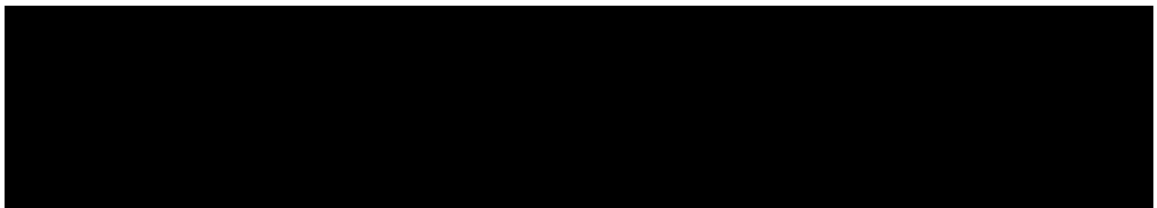
Risks

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24.



25.



Proactive Release

s 9(2)(g)(i) OIA

It is recommended that this Education Report is not proactively released to protect the privacy of natural persons.

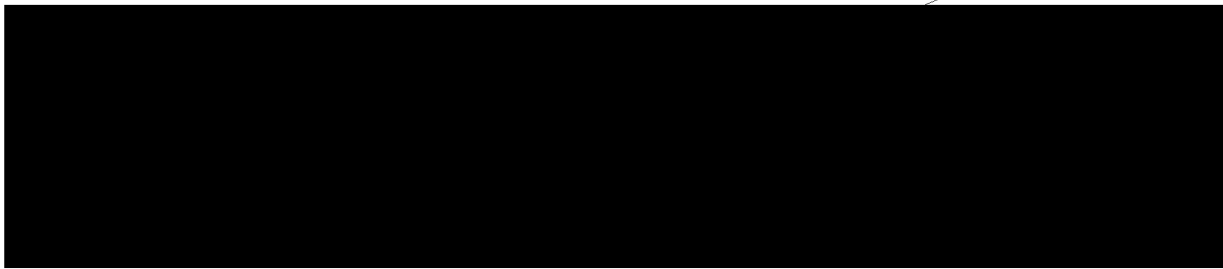
Annexes

Annex 1: Summary of applicants' experience

Annex 2: Letters of appointment to successful applicants

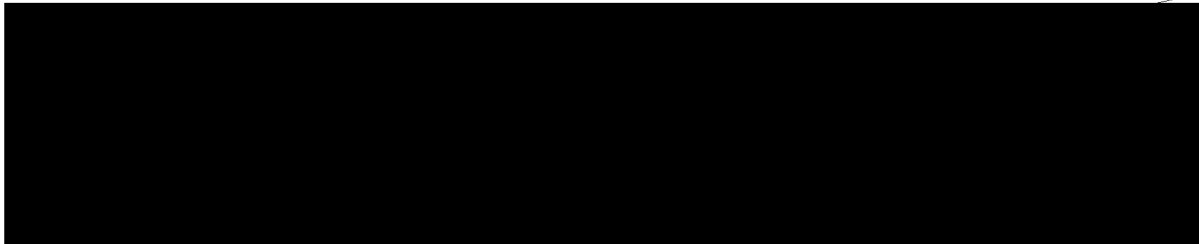
Annex 1: Summary of applicants' experience

s 9(2)(a) OIA



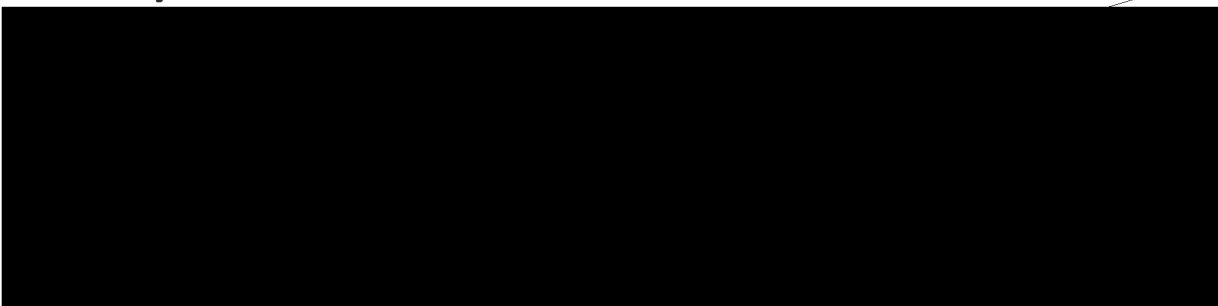
Teresa Lomas

s 9(2)(a) OIA



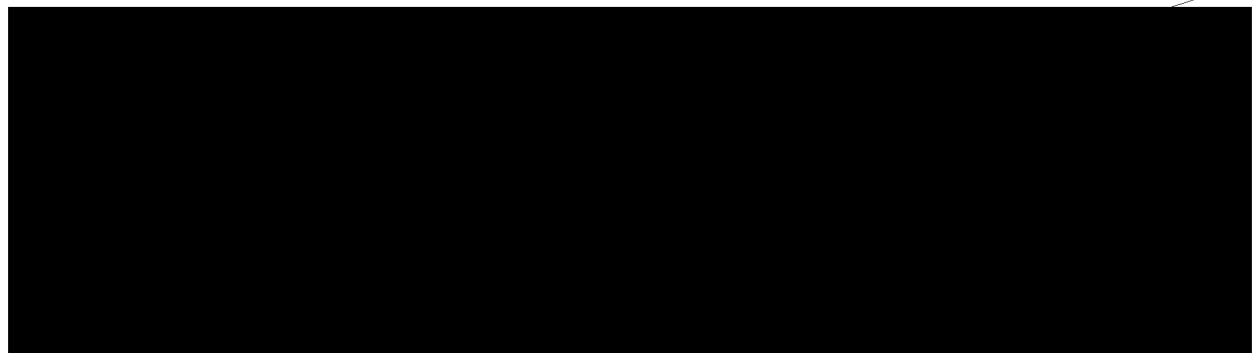
Shane Lloyd

s 9(2)(a) OIA



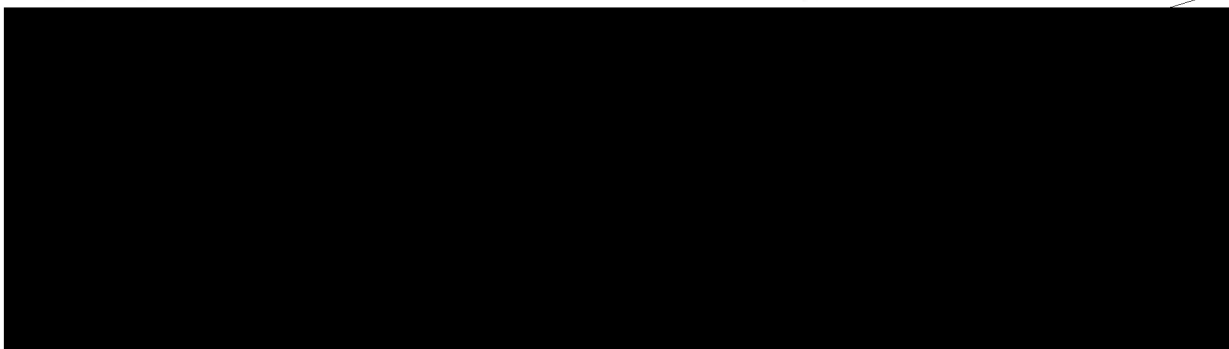
Gloria Naera

s 9(2)(a) OIA



Karen Turner

s 9(2)(a) OIA



Annex 2: Letters of appointment to successful applicants

Hon Chris Hipkins



MP for Rimutaka

Minister of Education

Minister of State Services

Leader of the House

Minister Responsible for Ministerial Services

Shane Lloyd



s 9(2)(a) OIA

Dear Shane

I am pleased to advise that I have reappointed you to the Opononi Area School Board of Trustees.

Your appointment is made in accordance with the alternative constitution for Opononi Area School Board of Trustees, as approved under section 105A (now section 98A) of the Education Act 1989.

Your appointment will commence on the seventh day after the date set for the forthcoming board elections. Your term of office will end seven days after the next triennial election for boards of trustees in 2022. Before that time, all Ministerial appointments will be reviewed and you will be welcome to reapply for selection.

You have been appointed because of the balance of skills, experience, and attributes that you will bring to the Board, the school, and the community. I am confident that your experience will support sound governance practice, and provide direction and support to the Principal and the Board.

I have also appointed Teresa Lomas, Gloria Naera and Karen Turner to the Board.

As the current Board Chair, you may like to contact Teresa, Gloria, and Karen in the near future to discuss details of their first Board meeting in 2019. Their contact details are:

Teresa Lomas
PO Box 33
Waimamaku 0446
Hokianga



Gloria Naera
PO Box 83
Opononi 0445



Karen Turner



s 9(2)(a) OIA

s 9(2)(a) OIA

Thank you for your willingness to accept this appointment. I congratulate you and wish you a rewarding and successful term of office.

Yours sincerely

Chris Hipkins
Minister of Education

Hon Chris Hipkins

MP for Rimutaka

Minister of Education

Minister of State Services

Leader of the House

Minister Responsible for Ministerial Services



Gloria Naera
PO Box 83
OPONONI 0445

Dear Gloria

I am pleased to advise that I have appointed you to the Opononi Area School Board of Trustees.

Your appointment is made in accordance with the alternative constitution for Opononi Area School Board of Trustees, as approved under section 105A (now section 98A) of the Education Act 1989.

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You have been appointed because of the balance of skills, experience, and attributes that you will bring to the Board, the school, and the community. I am confident that your experience will support sound governance practice, and provide direction and support to the Principal and the Board.

I have also appointed Teresa Lomas, Shane Lloyd and Karen Turner to the Board.

The Board Chair, Shane Lloyd, will be in touch to discuss details of the first Board meeting.

Thank you for your willingness to accept this appointment. I congratulate you and wish you a rewarding and successful term of office.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Hipkins'.

Chris Hipkins
Minister of Education

Hon Chris Hipkins

MP for Rimutaka

Minister of Education

Minister of State Services

Leader of the House

Minister Responsible for Ministerial Services



Karen Turner



s 9(2)(a) OIA

Dear Karen

I am pleased to advise that I have appointed you to the Opononi Area School Board of Trustees.

Your appointment is made in accordance with the alternative constitution for Opononi Area School Board of Trustees, as approved under section 105A (now section 98A) of the Education Act 1989.

Your appointment will commence on the seventh day after the date set for the forthcoming board elections. Your term of office will end seven days after the next triennial election for boards of trustees in 2022. Before that time, all Ministerial appointments will be reviewed and you will be welcome to reapply for selection.

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I have also appointed Teresa Lomas, Shane Lloyd and Gloria Naera to the Board.

The Board Chair, Shane Lloyd, will be in touch to discuss details of the first Board meeting.

Thank you for your willingness to accept this appointment. I congratulate you and wish you a rewarding and successful term of office.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chris Hipkins'.

Chris Hipkins
Minister of Education

Hon Chris Hipkins

MP for Rimutaka

Minister of Education

Minister of State Services

Leader of the House

Minister Responsible for Ministerial Services



Teresa Lomas
PO Box 33
Waimamaku 0446
Hokianga

Dear Teresa

I am pleased to advise that I have reappointed you to the Opononi Area School Board of Trustees.

Your appointment is made in accordance with the alternative constitution for Opononi Area School Board of Trustees, as approved under section 105A (now section 98A) of the Education Act 1989.

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I have also appointed Shane Lloyd, Gloria Naera, and Karen Turner to the Board.

The Board Chair, Shane Lloyd, will be in touch to discuss details of the first Board meeting.

Thank you for your willingness to accept this appointment. I congratulate you and wish you a rewarding and successful term of office.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'CHH', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Chris Hipkins
Minister of Education