



29 OCT 2019

John Luke
fyi-request-11240-3aa6f75f@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear John

Thank you for your email of 16 September 2019 to the Ministry of Education requesting the following information:

I would like to understand how many Co-opted trustee that each school has within the Auckland region. Also, what's the common reason to have Co-opted trustee within the Boards of Trustees of any Schools.

I noted from your website, the percentage for Co-opted trustee are low, are there any plan to increase the Co-opted trustee within the school's Boards of Trustees? Also, how can public express interest to become a Co-opted trustee and who make the decision to have Co-opted trustee?

Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

The data showing how many co-opted trustees each school has in the Auckland region can be found publicly at this link:

https://www.educationcounts.govt.nz/data/assets/excel_doc/0016/115315/Bot-pivot-table-1997-2018.xlsx

Instructions on how to use the pivot table can be found on the "Getting Started" tab. It can be used to look at each individual school in the Auckland region to find which have co-opted members as at 1 December 2018, the latest data available.

It is at the discretion of each board of trustees of a state school as to how many co-opted members they have and who they co-opt. A board must have regard to the criteria for selecting co-opted or appointed trustees set out in section 99 of the Education Act 1989. This section can be found at this link:

<http://www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/1989/0080/latest/DLM180550.html>

Boards must ensure the number of parent representatives is always greater than the total number of co-opted and appointed members.

A member of the public can express their interest to become a co-opted member by writing to the board chair of the specific school.

Boards are autonomous Crown entities and, as such, co-option is a decision that they make where they identify a gap in skills or expertise on their boards. As such the number of co-opted trustees will naturally fluctuate as the needs of boards and the people who sit on them do.

Please note, the Ministry now proactively publishes responses to requests under the Act on our website. As such, we may publish this response on our website after five working days. Your name and contact details will be removed.

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



Coralanne Child
Deputy Secretary
Sector Enablement and Support

cc Isabel Evans, Director of Education for Auckland