

Candidate Profile of

Ben Smith

For Board of Trustees Nomination

Whangarei Boys' High School



Having served for the last 3 years as a Parent Elected board of Trustees representative it is with great pleasure I have been approached to stand for a second term. With both Sharon and my boys Matthew (Y13) and Caleb (Y10) being still at school I feel I have the direct daily contact to demonstrate the integrity required to effectively fulfil the role of an elected board member.

Past and present governance roles within my personal bio overseeing both small and large business, government appointed advisory and charitable foundations give me the confidence, as a school parent, to feel extremely comfortable representing the parental vote within such an important role.

My roles within the school board to date have included membership of both the Finance and Property committee, deputy Chair of the disciplinary committee, Old Boys Association representative and board representative for Carruth House. We have seen many changes in this time and a consistent enhancement in staff skills which has put Whangarei Boys High back in an enviable position poised to deliver even stronger outcomes for our Northland Community going forward.

The next term of a new board presents an amazing opportunity to see major structural physical change within our school environment. With major planning started for these changes, I feel re-election and some consistency around the board table will enhance our outcomes. Having participated over the last 5 years building the \$523m Rural Board Band Initiative and watching Whangarei in particular benefit from such investment, I really look forward to being part of the next board, if given the opportunity, and more to the Whangarei Boys High Community

Community consultation and active daily contact via our son's activities within the school is important and of particular importance to me is to provide the structural governance within the school to enable **every** boy to succeed. As my tipuana (Nana) always said there always needs to be somebody to fill the pot holes and providing a safe and stable learning environment for **all** boys is my underlying philosophy.

My commitment to you as parents and guardians of the next generation of "Great Men" of this community is to be fair, be contactable, and to support all learning and development of your boys while in attendance of such a great school and beyond.

I hope you take to time to vote in such an important election process, and if successful, I hope to spend some time with one and all in sharing the successes of your boy's time and effort at Whangarei Boys High.