

Profile of Jan Hewitt

Whangarei Boys' High School

Nomination for Triennial School Trustee Elections



I am the mother of two boys, Oliver and Louis, both having attended Whangarei Boys' High School, and am married to Tony Collins. I have been involved in trusteeship on school boards for the past 15 years, as an elected Parent Trustee on Whangarei Boys' High School board for the past 6 years, and the Chairperson of a Full Primary School for 9 years prior to that.

I am currently a provider of board professional development as an accredited training provider for Northland School boards, and because of my involvement in this area, I have kept abreast of any changes within the education system and trusteeship within the governance realm. Boards contribute to student achievement through having commitment to continual improvement, and this is a strong focus for me as a board member and trainer of school boards.

We are elected to represent the Parent Community of our school, and as such we must have highly sustainable systems of accountability for all our stakeholders, we must also have high expectations of student learning for every student in our school. As board members we must continually improve through ongoing professional development.

My focus during my time on school boards has been not only to continue to develop my own capability either through formal training or interaction with other board members, but to also use these skills to the benefit of the current board and other school boards I have worked with over the years.

Last year we appointed our new Principal, Karen Gilbert-Smith. I want to continue in my governance role on the board to support Karen in the continuing growth and development of our school.

I have worked in a wide range of roles during my working career, having worked in all sectors of the community. I am currently the Features and Special Projects Manager for the Northern Advocate and NZME., the Chair of the Northland School Trustees Association, and involved in youth through Rotary and the Rotary International Youth Exchange Programme.

Every student at our school has the right to succeed in achieving their highest possible educational potential, and I am committed to making that happen at Whangarei Boys' High School.

You can contact me on 021 355246 for any further information.

Jan Hewitt Deputy Chair
