



Hurunui College Board of Trustees Report to Community 2010

Hurunui College Board of Trustees is pleased to provide this report on the 2010 school year. 2010 was an exciting and challenging year, with the first stage of our Building Replacement Programme being completed (new technology and primary classroom blocks) and Stage II being well advanced by the year's end. Despite the upheaval and disruption that such major projects have on the daily life of the school, students enjoyed a wide range of interesting and challenging learning experiences and made pleasing progress in their learning overall. This report gives some of the detail of the highlights, more of which is available in the school magazine, the Board of Trustees minutes, the school website, and school newsletters.



STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Highlights:

Literacy: huge focus on building literacy skills across the school, with Hurunui College being a member of both the Secondary Literacy Project and the Primary Literacy Project. Pleasing developments in teacher approaches and in student skills.

Numeracy: continued focus on improving students' numeracy results across Year 0-10.

Mathematics: Brent Wood (Year 13) and Sean Ryan (Year 9) gain distinction awards in Australian Maths Competition.

Home Learning Challenge: ten students successfully completed the Home Learning Challenge, with 4 platinum, 2 gold, 3 silver and 1 bronze award.

NCEA results:

- Pleasing numbers of students gaining NCEA certificates at all three levels
- An increase in Merit and Excellence credits in Year 11, with a record percentage of Merit credits (16%) and a record mean number of Merit credits per student (16).
- Five students (17%) gained Hurunui College Scholars awards. Brent Wood (Year 13) and Jessica Fechner (Year 11) gained Endorsed Certificates at Merit level.

Other:

- Five senior students participate in the Gateway programme
- Amy-Grace McIlraith wins the Lions Speech contest

Scholarships:

School dux, Brent Wood (Year 13), won the Hawarden Waikari Lions scholarship.

Jacob Smith (Year 13) won a Hurunui District Council Secondary Achievers Award.

Learning outside classroom

- Outdoor education: a comprehensive programme of camps, including Y5 and 6 at Hibburt Park, Year 7 and 8 at Wellington; Year 9 peer support and day at Hanmer; Year 10 at Windy Point, Year 12 St James tramp and outdoor skills at Boyle River
- Students from all levels of the school had their learning enriched with a diverse range of field trips, such primary classes beach trip, Year 7-10 science trip to Gore Bay, senior Geography trips, and Careers Expo.
- The Kiwiwatch group, led by Mr Kelly, won second prize in the E-Can Youth leadership for Sustainability Award, and also were given \$3000 funding from O-I New Zealand for their conservation project in the Nina Valley. This project, with the support of community groups and parents, provides the participating students with real-world learning experiences, and a chance to make a positive difference to the region that they live in. Kiwi were released into the Nina Valley in December.
- Visiting experts: Icelandic/ kiwi singer songwriter, Hera, worked with our budding musicians as part of the Musicians' Mentoring Programme; we hosted visits from Real Art Road Show; and the Navy bus.



Cultural

- The school production, *Treasure Island*, involving students from Year 0-10, was a wonderful learning opportunity and a huge success.
- Our annual speech contest once again showed a great array of talent across the Year 7-13 area of the school.
- One of our bands competed in Rock Quest.
- The choir (Year 4-8) took part in the Christchurch Primary Schools Music festival.
- Junior choir started, nurturing budding singers in the lower primary classes.
- The massed singing at primary assemblies went from strength to strength.
- The haka group showed great strength, despite losing a lot of leadership the previous year.
- An awesome display of musical and performing skills on display at the end-of-year *Hurunui's Got Talent* show.

Sport

- High levels of participation and keen competition in most grades in annual athletic and swimming sports. Five new records set in swimming and two in athletics.
- CASAfest team had an enjoyable and successful time at Cheviot at the end of term 3. The team won the overall Fair Play trophy.
- A successful cross country held in May - high levels of participation and commitment. Josh Allan (Year 9) won overall with Becky Wilson coming 3rd overall and first girl.
- Participation for the first time in the *Youth to Go* and secondary schools cycling champs.
- Year 9 mixed netball team won the Christchurch Indoor competition.
- Year 7-8 team won section 5 of the North Canterbury basketball competition.
- Year 5-6 in The Amazing Race (with Amuri Area School).
- The performance of Jacob and Hayden Smith in secondary schools' wrestling championships.
- Hayden Smith (Year 10) won Hawarden Licensing Trust sports scholarship.

Behaviour Management/ Discipline

- Review of discipline structure and procedures carried out, and processes strengthened.
- Safer Schools Committee reviews and revamps the anti-bullying procedure.
- Significant drop in discipline incidents.
- Board and staff continue implementing the Restorative Practices approach in the school, with four more staff completing the three day training (making seven trained in total).

Communication/ parent Involvement

- Our regular weekly newsletter goes to all school families and the wider community. Over 600 copies are distributed every week.
- Board reports regularly in newsletter, and agendas and minutes are always available at Hawarden and Greta Valley libraries.
- School website regularly updated.
- Comprehensive survey undertaken by Board of Trustees of parent opinion at show. Board planned a range of responses in relation to the feedback and reported to parents via newsletter(4 June).
- Parent meeting explaining Restorative Practices.
- Great attendance by parents and friends of the school at fortnightly primary assemblies, the termly culminating activities, and end-of-year prize-giving.
- Comprehensive portfolios (Year 0-8) and written reports (Year 7-13) sent home at half year and end-of-year.
- Parent interviews offered following reports.
- Over 90% participation of parents in student-led conferences in term one.
- An extensive display of student work at the Hawarden Show.
- Great involvement of parents as support people in sports trips, field trips,
- Displays of student work and school information mounted from time-to-time in library and school foyer.
- A further successful parent focus group held on reporting and National Standards.
- Our PTA continues to be a hard-working and vibrant support organisation, assisting with many school projects.

Looking ahead

- Completion of Stage II of the Building Project and landscaping of grounds.
- Refurbishment of remaining secondary classrooms.
- Restorative Practices implementation a focus for 2011.