CONFIRMED MINUTES

SCHOOL BOARD

At the **School Board** on **25 Jun 2026** these minutes were **confirmed as presented.**

Name:	Wesley College
Date:	Thursday, 28 May 2026
Time:	5:00 pm to 6:46 pm (NZST)
Location:	via Zoom, State Highway 22, Paerata
Board Members:	(Presiding Member) Patisepa Tāla'imanū, (Parent Representative) Pauli Moeakiola, (Proprietor's Representative) Jeoffry Moeakiola, (Parent Representative) Faaolataga Misikopa-Leasi, (Parent Representative) Lindsey Hatch, (Parent Representative) Savanna Ermias, (Parent Representative) Stewart Baker, (Proprietor's Representative) Sonia Pope, (Staff Representative) Jean-Paul Eason, (Principal) Brian Evans
Attendees:	(Limited Statutory Manager) Kevin Bush, (School Board Secretary) Barbara Ngataki
Apologies:	(Student Representative) Mika Mataka
Guests/Notes:	Mrs Natalie Faitala, HoD English

1. CONSTITUTION OF MEETING

1.1 Meeting opened with Prayer

2. Administration

2.1 Apologies

Receive Apologies

It was agreed to receive apologies from Mr Mataka.

Decision Date: 28 May 2026
Mover: (Presiding Member) Patisepa Tāla'imanū
Seconder: (Staff Representative) Jean-Paul Eason
Outcome: Approved

2.2 HoDs Report Presentation

Welcome

Mrs Tala'imanū acknowledged Mr Jean-Paul Eason, HOD Social Sciences and welcomed Mrs Natalie Faitala, HOD English to the meeting of the School Board.

Social Sciences:

Mr Eason presented his report to the Board, noting he was highly pleased with the History results, which he believes to be the strongest to date across both internal and external assessments, particularly examinations. The challenge is to improve results in Economics, Geography, and Classical Studies.

Mr Eason highlighted the value of the Year 13 field trip to Waitangi, describing it as beneficial and enjoyed by the students which he hopes to repeat.

Ms Pope acknowledged the evident strengths in the results and asked what factors contributed to this level of achievement, particularly given the challenges faced by students last year, including the hostels closure. She noted the students' resilience and sought insight into what had supported their success.

Mr Eason advised that strong student/teacher relationships that you build and effective engagement were key contributors. He noted that smaller Year 11 and Year 13 cohorts allowed for more targeted teaching and support, and that students entered with the necessary literacy requirements of at least level 5. Mr Eason also put a lot of emphasis and focus in terms 3 and 4 on examination preparation. Internal assessments are completed early to allow concentrated exam preparation. He emphasised the importance of securing student buy-in early and closely monitoring progress throughout the year.

Mr Eason advised he would like to achieve similar buy-in and outcomes in other social science subjects, particularly Geography and Economics.

Mrs Tāla'imanū asked how successful strategies in History might be applied to other subjects, such as Geography, and what could be transferred to gain student buy-in; Could incorporating more culturally relevant contexts like the Islands or Iwi areas improve student engagement.

Mr Eason agreed that student buy-in is critical and reiterated the importance of consistent tracking and structured progress monitoring. He advised his approach as highly proactive, involving working with students, regular check-ins, discussing work expectations, and receiving individual feedback. He explained that this level of tracking supports student progress and accountability. He also noted there is differing literacy levels in Geography by comparison to the History students he has which presents challenges.

Mr Eason also highlighted that student interest plays a role in success, in History, students are more engaged when they can select topics of personal or cultural relevance, its the skills that are assessed. They can chose whatever they want but normally stay with the class topics.

Mr Eason advised he takes it personally to get students to exams, reminding students and ringing home the day before the exams.

Mrs Tāla'imanū thanked Mr Eason for his report.

English

Mrs Faitala presented her report to the Board advising she had a brief presentation to share.

Mrs Faitala shared some of the 2025 highlights the Spoken Word team who made the Frontline finals and Winstone Cup Speech competition. The English department is led with a strong sense of community and commitment. Student feedback consistently highlights that our teachers are caring, supportive, and invested in student success.

Despite staffing challenges, we successfully delivered a full senior English programme, including Scholarship and optional standards. We also saw improvements in Merit and Excellence endorsements across Levels 1–3. A key initiative was the establishment of "Stop, Drop and Read" as a visible, school-wide literacy programme, which has been well received and continues to strengthen reading engagement.

Professional learning focused on AI, structured literacy, and the implementation of the revised English curriculum which the junior part will be implemented this year. We have also continued to enhance culturally responsive teaching practices, incorporating texts such as The Hate U Give, New Zealand films, Pasifika poetry, and Māori themed novels, which have generated strong student engagement.

It was a goal to imbed the Stop, Drop, Read Initiative in classrooms and across the school. There was some positive student voice regarding the independent reading opportunities. As a result Library borrowing increased and reading engagement improved.

Areas for development include independent writing and exam performance, where students continue to require scaffolding. Attendance, particularly during assessment periods, also impacted results.

Juniors school analysis there was strong outcomes in scaffolded tasks including speeches, poetry and close reading. Structured writing approach (SEXY paragraph) supports foundational literacy. Students continue to struggle with independent writing and examination tasks.

Focus this year is on the new Ministry of Education tools that have been funded for schools including the Scribo and curriculum refresh tool resources launching into the English space.

At Year 11, there was an increase in students achieving 14 or more credits, although external exam performance remains weaker than internal assessments.

At Year 12, results improved significantly due to a smaller, more focused cohort. Year 12 English wasn't compulsory in 2025 students could select Media studies however, this year, Year 12 English is compulsory and a targeted ESOL support class.

At Year 13, internal results were strong; however, external participation and achievement were lower, with notable disparities male achieving lower than female students.

Scholarship English uptake remains low and is an ongoing area for growth.

The department does have some work-ons a lot of students can work towards an achieved but struggle to gain a merit or excellence. An across department goal is to concentrate on exam preparation to ensure students are engaging in external assessment process.

Annual plan 2026, our priorities include staffing recruitment and retention. Literacy acceleration especially writing, external exam readiness, curriculum reform readiness, continued investment in culturally responsive teaching, sustained support for reading engagement initiatives.

In summary the central priorities for 2026 are stabilising staffing, improving literacy outcomes, increasing independent learning capability, and strengthening senior external examination success

Mr Bush enquired if the Stop, Drop and Read programme is a Wesley homegrown programme or has it come from somewhere else?

Mrs Faitala advised that the programme is used internationally. It was tried previously at Wesley College but did not take off, this time the Department ensured it was embedded in the school as a practice. An opportunity for students to engage with a text that they have chosen on a regular basis.

Mr Bush also enquired about the Year 9 and 10 corequisites in Literacy.

Mrs Faitala advised the CAAs is not in the English space itself although the department does work to support where needed. There are additional activities in classes in the lead up to the CAAs.

Mrs Tāla'imanū enquired how the department was feeling implementing the new Phase 4 English curriculum and what support is required around that.

Mrs Faitala advised its about making sure that students have the opportunity to engage in every aspect of the subject. The challenge is getting through everything that needs to be done. In Junior English the department had to add a few more text studies, non-fiction and study a play. In terms of support its really about the Board allowing the Department to buy the resources that it needs and to continuing to support PLD in that space.

Ms Pope commended the report, noting it was well written, clear, and accurate.

She enquired whether the acronym “SEXY Paragraph” had ever attracted comment from families of religious background.

Mrs Faitala advised that no one had commented.

Ms Pope also queried whether the absence of Media Studies this year had impacted students.

Mrs Faitala advised that Media Studies will be reinstated in the 2027 timetable.

Mr Hatch asked whether there were ways to further emphasise the importance of attending external examinations.

Mrs Faitala advised that the department’s focus is on increasing preparation, strengthening student buy-in, and introducing incentives to support exam participation.

Mrs Tāla’imanū noted that should be a goal for every department in the school and she would be interested to hear how Scribo is going with the students at a later date.

Mrs Faitala shared the Department had tried the SMART testing tool for the first time last week but felt the tool wasn't ready for use; Both English and Mathematics used the tool.

Mrs Tāla'imanū thanked Mrs Faitala for her report.

Mrs Faitala left the meeting at 5.40pm.

Decision Date: 28 May 2026
Outcome: Approved

2.3 Student Representative Report

Receive the report of the Student Representative

In the absence of Mr Mataka the Board read the presented Student Representative's report.

Ms Pope enquired if there was a decision from the Student Council to have another student attend the School Board meetings in support of the Student Representative.

Decision Date: 28 May 2026
Outcome: Approved

Student Council

Follow up with Mrs Saunders the decision of the Student Council.

Due Date: 25 Jun 2026
Owner: (School Board Secretary) Barbara Ngataki

2.4 Interests Register

2.5 Acknowledgements

Receive Acknowledgements

There were no acknowledgements for the meeting of the Board.

Decision Date: 28 May 2026
Outcome: Approved

2.6 Minutes

School Board 26 Mar 2026, the minutes were confirmed as presented.

2.7 Action List

Due Date	Action Title	Owner(s)
28 Aug 2025	Wesley College History Book **Status:** Cancelled on 5 Jun 2026	(Principal) Brian Evans
26 Feb 2026	School Camps / Polyfest **Status:** Completed on 31 Mar 2026	(Principal) Brian Evans
26 Mar 2026	Trust Board Staffing Funding Request **Status:** Completed on 31 Mar 2026	(Presiding Member) Patisepa Tāla'imanū
26 Mar 2026	School Board Work Plan **Status:** Not Started	(Limited Statutory Manager) Kevin Bush
26 Mar 2026	HOD Annual Report to Board **Status:** In Progress	(Acting Principal) Charlotte Saunders
26 Mar 2026	Student Council-School Board Student Representative **Status:** Completed on 4 Jun 2026	(Acting Principal) Charlotte Saunders
26 Mar 2026	School Board/Trust Board Communication Strategy **Status:** Not Started	(Limited Statutory Manager) Kevin Bush, (Proprietor's Representative) Maungarongo Tito, (Proprietor's Representative) Sonia Pope
26 Mar 2026	School Camps/Polyfest **Status:** On Hold	(Acting Principal) Charlotte Saunders
28 May 2026	Covered Walkway - TB **Status:** Completed on 31 Mar 2026	(School Board Secretary) Barbara Ngataki
28 May 2026	Letters of Acknowledgement **Status:** Completed on 31 Mar 2026	(School Board Secretary) Barbara Ngataki
28 May 2026	HOD Presentations **Status:** Completed on 13 May 2026	(School Board Secretary) Barbara Ngataki
25 Jun 2026	Wesley College Crest Request **Status:** Completed on 15 Jun 2026	(Proprietor's Representative) Jeoffry Moeakiola

2.8 Receive Correspondence

Receive/Approve Correspondence

It was agreed to approve the outward correspondence.

Decision Date: 28 May 2026
Mover: (Parent Representative) Faaolataga Misikopa-Leasi
Seconder: (Staff Representative) Jean-Paul Eason
Outcome: Approved

2.9 2026 Delegations

2.10 2026 Sub-Committees

2.11 2025-2026 Sub-committee Terms of Reference

Sub-Committees Terms of Reference

School Board:

Mrs Tāla'manū enquired if the School Board required a terms of reference for itself.

Mr Bush advised the School Board terms of references is written in Legislation.

Compliance Sub-committee:

There were no matters arising

Discipline Committee:

Ms Pope enquired if Board members receive full documentation prior to a suspension meeting.

The Principal advised the Discipline Committee receives all relevant information prior to a suspension meeting including incident reports, pastoral notes, attendance, NCEA and school reports. The Principal or the Deputy Principal is also available to answer any questions during the Suspension meeting however leaves the room when the Committee makes its determination.

Mr Bush also advised the Board should be following the Ministry of Education Guidelines for Stand-downs and Suspensions.

Mr J Moeakiola advised it was only the one meeting where the Deputy Principal wasn't available however Mrs Saunders made herself available for the review. Mr J Moeakiola also confirmed the family and the Discipline Committee receives the same meeting information.

Mrs Ngataki advised the Guidelines for Stand-downs and Suspensions can be located on Boardpro under the documents section of the programme.

It was agreed to receive the Terms of Reference for the Discipline Committee and the Compliance Sub-committee.

Decision Date:	28 May 2026
Mover:	(Parent Representative) Faaolataga Misikopa-Leasi
Seconder:	(Parent Representative) Pauli Moeakiola
Outcome:	Approved

Terms of Reference

It was agreed to receive the Terms of Reference for the Compliance Sub-committee and the Discipline Committee.

Decision Date:	28 May 2026
Outcome:	Approved

2.12 Child Safeguarding Programme

Online Safeguarding Reminder

Mrs Ngataki advised this is a reminder to complete the online Child Safeguarding Programme per the email from Ms J Mariner, Safeguarding Officer

Decision Date:	28 May 2026
Outcome:	Approved

3. Management Reports

3.1 Principal's Report

Receive the Principal's Report

Dr Evans advised he will take the report as read and highlighted a few key points.

Last year's NCEA results were finalised at the end of March and are now included in the report. Overall, the outcomes were positive. Level 2 results were particularly strong and among our highest, this positions students well for Level 3 and University Entrance (UE) this year. We also saw excellent achievement for Māori students and for girls at both Level 2 and Level 3.

However, Level 3 UE results were below expectations. We are currently reviewing the contributing reasons. It appears the end of the year was unsettled for some senior students, and in a small cohort, individual factors had a notable impact i.e some students who secured rugby academy placements did not complete the academic year strongly.

In response, we are taking a more proactive approach. We have a meeting scheduled next week to identify and support students at risk of falling behind. Although numbers are currently low, we will engage one on one with these students and their families through targeted meetings, rather than waiting for student led conferences.

We are also reviewing our UE performance, which has been inconsistent in recent years. We will visit similar schools to our profile such as St Paul's and Ponsonby that consistently achieve strong Level 3 and UE outcomes, to identify effective practices. Overall, we are satisfied with our NCEA performance.

There is a strong focus on strengthening the junior school. A new foundation studies programme has been introduced at Year 9 focusing on numeracy and literacy, a REP Reading Enhancement Programme and a Numeracy equivalent has been implemented to support students who arrive at a very low reading ability.

Information on the new curriculum and the significant changes currently underway in education is included in the report. The scale and pace of change present challenges for staff, and we will need to manage this carefully and maintain a positive approach.

There is also ongoing work related to the future development of the school. Mr TJ Asiata is currently undertaking work on potential hostels developments, alongside existing plans for a new school build. A special character review is also scheduled for next term, which will be an important opportunity for reflection.

Our strategic plan is due for renewal. A draft has been developed, and consultation will begin shortly with students, whānau, community groups, and the Church. The Board will play a key role, as the strategic plan ultimately sets the direction for the school.

Work has already begun gathering community input through recent hui, and this will continue in the coming months.

It was agreed to receive the report of the Principal's Report.

Decision Date: 28 May 2026
Outcome: Approved

3.2 Spirit of Adventure

Spirit of Adventure - Board Approved Off Site Learning

It was agreed to approve the Spirt of Adventure as Board Approved Off Site Learning.

Decision Date:	28 May 2026
Mover:	(Staff Representative) Jean-Paul Eason
Seconder:	(Parent Representative) Faaolataga Misikopa-Leasi
Outcome:	Approved

3.3 Attendance, Bus Stop Matters

Attendance, Bus Stops

Ms Pope advised she recently spoke with a manager from the Ministry of Education, who noted that Wesley College achieved strong attendance last term. It was encouraging to hear such feedback, and Ms Pope wanted to pass that on to the school.

Reviewing the data presented, the increase in attendance is clearly significant. There had been some concern that attendance might decline following the closure of the hostels; however, the results show that attendance has remained strong. This is excellent news and very encouraging.

Mrs Tāla'imanū advised credit goes to our staff, senior leadership, and teachers for their consistent efforts in supporting students. It’s clear that students are engaged and value being at school, despite the challenges some face in getting here. Recognition should also go to parents for their ongoing support.

Dr Evans advised students are clearly enjoying coming to school. The outdoor spaces have had a positive impact, contributing to a sense of enjoyment, wellbeing, and safety. As reflected in the wellbeing reports, this is an area of strength, and it’s important that we continue to build on that journey.

Mrs Ermias added that communication to the parents has improved since the last meeting of the School Board. Parents have appreciated the improved accuracy in monitoring late arrivals, particularly the ability to identify absences before chapel and communicate this with families. The introduction of texting/email for notifying the families about absences or lateness is very effective. It’s good to see the team taking a proactive approach rather than waiting until first period. Well done to the Wesley College team for implementing this initiative.

Mrs Misikopa-Leasi also raised concern that student lateness maybe linked to the school bus and the lack of bus shelters provided for students.

Mrs Misikopa-Leasi advised she contacted the bus coordinator and was advised to approach the Ministry of Transport directly following her son becoming unwell after standing in the rain waiting for the bus one morning. Unfortunately, progress on this issue has been slow. Several other parents have since done the same and received a response indicating the matter is under review. Given that this may affect multiple bus routes, it may be appropriate for the school to consider it more broadly. In particular, the provision of bus shelters could be explored as a longer-term priority for the board.

Mrs Misikopa-Leasi felt it is something the school could also support by formally advocating to the Ministry of Transport as students are relying more on buses. Sometimes the bus arrives early and other times the situation is reversed. This unpredictability affects attendance.

Ms Pope advised progress with the Ministry of Transport can be slow particularly for infrastructure that may take time to implement, we could consider some short-term solutions i.e. ensuring students have access to jackets, providing umbrellas, or making umbrellas available for student use, especially as we head into winter.

We may also want to look at practical support for students who arrive in wet clothing. Previously, there may have been options for drying uniforms on-site. If this is no longer available, it maybe worth exploring whether we can provide facilities for drying clothes or access to spare uniforms. It is important that students are not required to remain in wet clothing throughout the day.

Decision Date: 28 May 2026
Outcome: Approved

3.4 2027-2029 Strategic Planning

Receive the report of the Compliance Sub-committee

Mr P Moeakiola advised he has been reflecting on how we define our identity, particularly following the shift away from the hostel. With students now coming from a wider range of areas, it raises the question of what our collective identity is and whether it remains grounded in the foundations of mana whenua.

Mr P Moeakiola enquired if students understand the identity of Wesley College, would they be able to clearly articulate it, including its connection to mana whenua and its history.

Dr Evans advised the Strategic planning process will be helpful with a significant portion of this. Further detail will be gained through the special character review, as well as through Mr Asiata's work and our own surveys and questionnaires. Collectively, these inputs should allow us to develop a clearer framework. The feedback from the community will be invaluable.

Mr P Moeakiola agreed it would be good to distribute a survey to gather data, particularly from the new students coming through and building on that point.

Dr. Evans also advised that Community Consultation is ultimately the responsibility of the School Board however both the school and the Board can work together.

Ms Pope advised as the school considers its future strategic direction particularly its identity and history it is essential that the school works closely with the Church. Given that our special character is grounded in the Methodist ethos, any review must meaningfully involve that perspective. Without it, we risk losing alignment with the very principles that define us.

Ms Pope also noted surveys of students and staff are valuable however, shaping our identity and strategic direction requires deeper collaboration. These conversations should take place in partnership with the Church to ensure authenticity and coherence.

Dr. Evans agreed that the Church should be engaged and noted the Special Character review which is being undertaken has been initiated by the Trust Board. The strategic planning will also involve both the Trust Board and the School Board.

Ms Pope advised that the Trust Board is also wanting to meet with the School Board to ensure both Boards are working closely together.

It was agreed to receive the report of Mr P Moeakiola.

Mrs Misikopa-Leasi left the meeting at 6.15pm

Decision Date: 28 May 2026
Outcome: Approved

3.5 Finance Report

Receive the Finance Report

Mr Hatch advised the April invoices totaling $145,101 have been paid.

The 2025 annual accounts have been audited and submitted to the Ministry of Education.

Property expenditure includes expenses associated with Ministry-funded grants. The first-quarter budget is being well managed.

Following discussion at the March meeting of the School Board, the salary for the second Life and Faith teacher will continue. This is not funded from operational grants and is fully covered, with no financial impact anticipated.

It was agreed to approve the 2025 Audited Accounts.

It was agreed to receive the report of the Property and Finance Sub-committee.

Decision Date:	28 May 2026
Mover:	(Parent Representative) Lindsey Hatch
Seconder:	(Parent Representative) Pauli Moeakiola
Outcome:	Approved

3.6 MOE June 1 Roll Return

Receive the MOE June 1 Roll Return

It was agreed to receive the MOE June 1 Roll Return.

Decision Date:	28 May 2026
Mover:	(Staff Representative) Jean-Paul Eason
Seconder:	(Parent Representative) Pauli Moeakiola
Outcome:	Approved

4. Other Business

4.1 Other Business

June Meeting Packs

Mrs Ngataki advised that she is away the week prior to the June meeting of the Board. The Board will receive the Board meeting packs on the Monday of the meeting week.

Decision Date:	28 May 2026
Outcome:	Approved

June Board Meeting - Via Zoom

It was agreed that the School Board continue to meet via zoom for the June meeting.

Decision Date:	28 May 2026
Mover:	(Parent Representative) Savanna Ermias
Seconder:	(Parent Representative) Pauli Moeakiola
Outcome:	Approved

4.2 Move In-Committee

In-Committee

It was agreed at 6.21pm the public is excluded from this part of the meeting, to discuss matters which, in public would infringe the privacy of a natural person under Section 9(2) (a) of the Official Information Act 1982. The Board moved out of in-committee at 6.46pm.

Decision Date:	28 May 2026
Mover:	(Parent Representative) Pauli Moeakiola
Seconder:	(Staff Representative) Jean-Paul Eason
Outcome:	Approved

5. Meeting closed

5.1 Close the meeting

Next meeting: School Board - 25 Jun 2026, 5:00 pm

New Actions raised in this meeting

Item	Action Title	Owner(s)
2.3	Student Council **Due Date:** 25 Jun 2026	(School Board Secretary) Barbara Ngataki

(Presiding Member) Patisepa Tāla'imanū
27 Jun 2026