



LATEST NEWS AND EVENTS

[08/03/2010]

You can help us determine the future direction of the school – Community Survey

We believe most parents know the school pretty well through their high level of everyday participation in school life. Because of the good knowledge of the school and how it delivers education, we believe your feedback will be of great benefit to us. Whilst information regarding curriculum delivery and achievement reporting is readily available through a variety of reports that are published on our website under the "Curriculum Section", parent knowledge is most often gained from everyday experiences within the school. It is through the learning, achievements and the emotional contentment you see in your own children that provides the school with the greatest reality measure of satisfaction or not.

The Board of Trustees is currently reviewing its Charter goals and strategic direction and wants your feedback on a range of important aspects relating to the school's effectiveness and next steps. As part of this process, feedback from the parents in terms of student achievement, resources, the teaching, the qualities and suggestions for future focus would be very much appreciated. Constructive feedback will assist the Board and the staff measure how people generally feel about the school and its future direction. It's all about hearing the community voice to gauge satisfaction levels, identify the strengths that need to be maintained and to hear about ideas and suggestions for continued improvement and development. We view "feedback" as an essential aspect of our planning processes.

The procedure followed by the Board to set its strategic goals for the next three to five years involves a self-review of its current policies and procedures, its educational priorities and future focus for property developments, finances, resourcing needs, and the quality assurance measures that the Board needs to have in place to ensure the school delivers to the National Curriculum and local expectations. Feedback from the staff, the parents, external partners and the children themselves, provides the information needed for the development of the School Charter. The School Charter is the formal statement of the school's vision, strategic goals and educational delivery plan of action. The School Charter is annually reviewed and is approved by the Ministry of Education.

We are asking parents to complete a survey that is designed for quick responses to ten questions that will provide a good level of scope to assist the Board in the self-review process that is now underway. **The "five minute survey" will be distributed to the eldest child from each family today** and should be returned to the school office by 20 March. Parents who would prefer to complete the survey on-line should **visit the home page of our website www.elmwood.school.nz to locate a link to the electronic version of the survey.** It's easy to do, will not take too much of your time, and most importantly will help us with our strategic planning.

Parents should check out the latest communication from the Board of Trustees - **Board Talk**. This can be located on our website through the BOT section. Please go to Administration – BOT.

Thank you for your support and participation in shaping the future of your school.
Kevin Gooch, Principal