



Te Matapuna Aroha – Te Matapuna Whakapono

SPECIAL EDUCATION SCHOOL

104 Merivale Lane, Merivale, PO Box 36024, Christchurch, New Zealand

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31 May 2019

Kia ora Parents, Caregivers and Whanau,

BOT ELECTION; PLEASE VOTE

Please **return your voting papers by post or sending them in to school by Thursday 6 June** so that they are received by the school Returning Officer by Friday 7 June at 12pm.

Below is a list of the candidates who have been nominated for the Board. As there are eight nominees this has to go to a parent vote as the Ferndale School Board has a maximum of five parent Board members.

Christelle Paulsen

I am very passionate about Ferndale school and for what our school stands for with our motto, "The best I can be". For me that means to see the potential in our kids, make them stronger in the areas they are great at and help them grow in the areas they are yet to develop.

I enjoy working together in a team behind the scenes to make our school a better place for our children and every person working with and around our kids. I believe we should work towards a common goal of having the best environment for our young people and the best support team for them including the teachers, support workers, therapists and parents that surrounds every young person in our school.

Rebecca Clark

My name is Rebecca. I am currently on the Ferndale BOT as a parent rep. I have two boys aged 9 and 8 who are currently in the Ferndale Beckenham Unit. I am nominating myself.

Ray Farrelly

My name is Ray Farrelly and I am standing for the Ferndale School Board of Trustees. I was the Ferndale School principal for 23 years, before retiring to enjoy my garden and travel.

I have been on the Ferndale Board of Trustees since starting my retirement in 2017. I have wide-ranging expertise and experience in running a specialist education school, in particular, I am proficient in strategic-planning, finance, staff management, property, working with students and families/caregivers and the wider Ferndale Community. I have transferred this knowledge into a governance role whilst being on the Ferndale Board and look forward to seeing Ferndale develop over the future years.

I have an interest in supporting and seeing children and young people with various learning needs doing the best that they can, within a happy, safe and educational environment.

Gill Gardner

No statement provided by the candidate.

Deborah Kavanagh

My name is Deborah Kavanagh and I am standing for the Ferndale School Board. I am a fulltime Counsellor specialising in the Alcohol and other Drug (AOD) field. A considerable chunk of my work is done behind bars in Christchurch's various prisons and the Youth Justice system. While I find this work incredibly rewarding I am aware it can also be very dark and taxing, hence the need to balance the light and dark aspects of my world. I am blessed to be a proud, Christian Mother and Grandmother and find my greatest sources of light here. My Grandson attends Ferndale school and his special qualities have introduced me to a whole other beautiful world I didn't know existed.

I believe as a Counsellor that everybody has their own unique journey to share and giving people the opportunity to feel seen and heard can change the world, this is love. In this forum, the Ferndale School Board represents the precious souls whose voices are often trapped, and their needs are not so easily shared.

I would be honoured to be a part of this forum and help to be a voice for my Grandson and his friends. They deserve the very best care, facilities and people to ensure their school environment reflects and not only meets, but exceeds their unique and wonderful needs.

Gary David Schroder

My name is Gary Schroder and I am standing for the Ferndale School Board. I am 42 years old and I am a parent and grandparent, I am originally from Hokitika on the west coast, where I have been a Board member when my children attended primary school. I spent 15 years in the Dairy industry and Health and Safety was one of my passions and take very seriously. I currently work for the Department of Corrections for the last 3.5 years and have seen what happens when people have not had exposure to education.

I look forward to bringing my knowledge to your school in the future.

Anne McMahon

My name is Anne McMahon I am standing for election to the Board of Trustees of Ferndale School (MOE School Profile Number: 3339). I have a son who attends the Marshland unit (and previously the Northcote unit) of Ferndale school. I have an older son with special needs as well, and through my children I have become passionate about education.

I am currently studying towards a degree in performance music at ARA and I have an honours degree in biotechnology. I am currently teaching music in a community setting, and am experienced in quality assurance and document control. I completed Playcentre's courses 1 and 2 in early childhood education and was the secretary of my local Playcentre for a year.

I value communication and team work; I don't mind doing hard things and I am relentlessly positive.

To me, it is about people and that is what I value: children, parents, whanau, staff, and the community striving together for the best for our kids.

I want to play my part and to support the amazing staff here at Ferndale, by being your representative as a parent so that we can be the best that we can be together.

Lumi Tavake

No statement provided by the candidate.