

Candidate Statements

PHIL UNSWORTH



A previous Chair and Finance board representative of the Sunnynook School I have over 30 years' experience in both private and public sector leadership positions. I am currently working for the Ministry of Health in a senior management role, and have significant capability working within a governance structure. During my time on the Sunnynook School Board of Trustees I was actively involved in the transition to National Standards, the upgrade of our IT Infrastructure and wireless networking and was a part of the initial conversations around the lease and upgrading of the school pool. I have had three children attend Sunnynook School since 1999 (Tia, Jodie and Alex) and have a passion for the wider Sunnynook community. If elected I would provide a stable influence on the board, ensure decisions are made in the best interest of the School and continue to encourage wider parent participation in decisions of governance. I would be delighted to receive your support.

NICOLE FRANCE



Hi, I'm Nicole France and I am standing for the Board of Trustees for Sunnynook School. I am married to Greg, a solicitor at EY Law, and we have three children: Gabriel is in year 5, Rafe is in year 4, and Marlow attends Sunnynook

Preschool. Before taking a break from work to raise my family, I completed a Pharmacy degree at Otago University and worked as a Pharmacist in Wellington. I then moved into medical publishing, primarily focusing on the areas of drug development and competitive intelligence information. I worked for Wolters Kluwer Health and Thomson Reuters in various editorial, team leader and project management roles in Auckland and London. Critical thinking, teamwork and clear communication were vital skills for these roles, and I believe they would also be of benefit in the role of a Trustee. I am standing for the Board of Trustees because I would like to contribute more to the Sunnynook School community, and to help maintain the high standard of education that the school offers. I feel very fortunate that we were able to enrol our children at Sunnynook after arriving back from living overseas, and really value the education and opportunities they have been given there. I have enjoyed the smaller roles I have had, including helping out with various school sports teams, but would love the opportunity to play a bigger part in the school by becoming a board member.

STEVE MCCRACKEN



Tēnā koutou katoa, My name is Steve McCracken and I am the proud father of Cameron (5) and Oliver (3) and husband to Desiree. As a member of the Sunnynook community for over 15 years, I believe I am well placed to represent the parent body of Sunnynook

Primary School as a member of the Board of Trustees. In our spare time, our family can often be found cycling, walking, running and enjoying the local parks. The boys especially enjoy the new outdoor 'work out gear' as part of the Sunnynook park upgrade. We can also be found playing, supporting or coaching hockey. I have extensive educational experience, and am currently Principal of Kaipara College, and previously, Deputy Headmaster at Westlake Boys' High School. With my experience at a secondary school level, I am particularly interested in the relationships our school, Sunnynook Primary School, has with its local secondary schools. Having been involved in the establishment of the Pupuke Community of Learning, I am particularly interested, at a board level, to offer opportunities for this to develop. I have experience working with a board with my current role as principal and believe this experience will positively contribute to Sunnynook Primary School to ensure clarity between governance and management of our school. Education is receiving a lot of publicity currently. I believe it is important for the incoming board members to provide stability and reassurance to the management of the school to ensure they have the ability, resources, and facilities to ensure all children get the best possible education. We all appreciate the importance of education, and I want to ensure all children within our community have the provision to receive access to the

best possible education. I am an educationalist at heart, and am passionate about the future for all students. I hope, that by serving on the board of trustees, I can continue the proud traditions of Sunnynook Primary School, and assist in ensuring the school remains a fantastic school.

JASON ALEXANDER



I was fortunate enough to have been appointed as a Trustee last year and I would love to continue to contribute to Sunnynook School. During my short time on

the Board I have built strong working relationships with the other Trustees as well as the Principal, Teachers, Staff, PTA and Parents/Caregivers. My wife Tanith and I have lived in Sunnynook for over 10 years, we have 2 daughters that attend the school, Roxie in Year 1 and Keira in Year 3 and we all love Sunnynook School and the wider Sunnynook community. I currently work in public health for Hāpai Te Hauora where I am the GM of Strategy and Innovation. My role is wide-ranging with a focus on ensuring that that our activities align with our goals and a focus on innovation, where I look for new or different ways to solve problems. Prior to my current role, I always worked in technology for various organisations here and overseas. I hold a Bachelor of Information Science and own a small web development company which I help to run part-time. As such I am passionate about technology in schools and am excited about the new focus on digital technologies in the

curriculum and am proud of the various work Sunnynook has pre-emptively undertaken in this area. I also sit on the board of YES Disability Resource Centre based in Albany that supports young people to reach their full potential. I believe in providing our kids with a balanced education and think that Sunnynook School does a great job of providing a range of opportunities for extracurricular activities. I hope that there continues to be something for everyone such as sports, cultural activities, arts, STEM etc. In our few years at Sunnynook I have seen a number of new initiatives that celebrate the diversity and range of cultures we have in our community and I look forward to continuing to support these. The experience I have gained is highly relevant on a Board of Trustees where we are constantly met with new challenges. It is my goal to ensure Sunnynook continues to be a fun, safe and positive environment for all of our Tamariki (Children) as they continue on their journey to become leaders. I would love the opportunity to once again represent the Children, Parents/Caregivers and the wider community as a Trustee.

REUBEN BILLINGS

I'm standing for the Sunnynook Board because of the fantastic experience my family's had with the staff at Sunnynook and I want to help the school in return. I am a passionate advocate for quality education, particularly in educating our children for the future, and for alternative learning support for those who need it. I have two sons at Sunnynook, one in year 5 the other in year 2, and I grew up in Glenfield. Both my sons have special education needs and my wife and I have been fortunate enough to be able to provide private help for them, but many are not so lucky. I started my career at Penrose High School (One Tree Hill College) nearly twenty years ago. After leaving education for a national sporting organisation, I changed careers to work in technology. For the past six years I have been a Chief Innovation / Technology Officer. I have governance experience reporting to a Board, an Audit and Risk committee and as an appointed member on a technology advisory panel for a household name national online platform. Because of my role I have had

to keep myself up to date constantly with yearly training with the Institute of Directors and workshops in governance. My son says my job is "an inventor", a thought from a child who imagines me creating wondrous things, probably robots. But my less glamorous role as a CIO is to set the strategy, guide and coach a high performing team to create new things that improve the daily experience for thousands of people. Experience I would gladly share. Outside of work I dedicate my time to family or playing O35s football, I have also spent over a decade coaching football. My former secondary education experience, current high tech job, governance experience and having two children who are overcoming challenges in their own education has created my passion to give back. It has also given me the skills to add value to the Sunnynook School Board.



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