



HEREWORTH
DESIGNED FOR BOYS

**Hereworth School Trust Board
Chairman's Report
For the year ended 31 December 2015**

It is my pleasure to once again report on the Trust Board activities for the past year, a year which included some significant changes for Hereworth.

As foreshadowed last year Headmaster Ross Scrymgeour moved to Prince Alfred College in Adelaide at the end of term 1 after 13 years in charge at Hereworth. Ross' contribution to Hereworth has been significant. We sincerely thank him, and his wife Gill, for their dedication to Hereworth during their time at the school.

We welcomed a new headmaster, Steve Fiet and his wife Vicki, to the school at the beginning of the third term. The appointment of the Headmaster is the single most important decision of the Board. The appointment process involved an extensive search followed by detailed interviews, evaluation and reference checking.

Steve came to us from Pinehurst School in Albany, Auckland where he had been the Assistant Headmaster of the Junior College since 2012. Steve began his teaching career in 1994 in his native Scotland. Since moving to NZ in 2003 he has had a number of teaching roles including technology specialisation.

Strategic plan

The six strategic areas identified in the 2013-2016 plan – Teaching and Learning, Communication and Marketing, Community, Accessibility, Facilities and Financial Strength, each have a series of supporting strategies which have continued to be detailed and implemented by the Board and staff over the course of the year.

Roll

The school roll started at a healthy 221 boys and grew throughout the year to 227 boys (2014: 226 boys). This was pleasing as the departing year 8 group from 2014 was large. Boarding numbers were particularly strong with 36 boys (2014: 30 boys) in the hostel at year end. The school began the 2016 year with an opening roll of 230 - with two year groups full.

Staff

I wish to extend the thanks of the Board to Headmaster Steve Fiet, Deputy Headmaster Matt Webb and the rest of the staff of the school for their support during a year of changes. Matt Webb ably stepped in as Acting Headmaster during term 2.

At Hereworth all the staff throughout the different areas of the school provide the boys not only with academic leadership. They are also actively involved in the sporting activities and the pastoral care of the boys. Their efforts are much appreciated.

Late in the year the school administration function was restructured. This enabled the appointment of a full time accounting and business management position and an increase in the marketing resource. These roles have been filled in the new year.

Finance

The financial result for the year is a deficit of \$196,313 significantly higher than the prior year deficit of \$46,359. This result is affected by the costs associated with an employment dispute, Headmaster recruitment and relocation and increased teaching and coaching resource at the school.

Despite reporting a deficit the Board managed positive operating cash flows of \$227,258 (2014: \$296,541) during the year enabling \$150,000 of bank debt to be repaid.

The financial position of the Trust Board remains very strong and with a growing roll it should remain so.

School support groups

Both the Hereworth Old Boys Association and the Hereworth Parents Association continue to provide valuable financial and voluntary support to the school. They form a very important part of the Hereworth family. In particular the refurbishment of the Pavilion on the main field benefited from the support, physically and financially, of these groups in 2015.

Governance

Changes around the board table during the year include the appointment of Bishop Andrew Hedge as a Waiapu Diocesan representative to replace Reverend Steve Hayes who returned to England.

I would like to record the Board's sincere thanks for Steve's input during his time as a Trustee and also personally thank all Trustees for their continued support during what has been a busy year.

David Todd
21 April 2016