

Registration of Interest

Independent Trustees for Ministerial Appointment to the Board of Trustees to govern the merger of Central New Brighton School, Freeville School, and North New Brighton School

Christchurch

On 11 September 2013 the Minister of Education announced the merger of Central New Brighton School, Freeville School, and North New Brighton School. The merger will take place on 27 January 2015.

The Minister's preference is for the school to be governed by an appointed board of trustees from the date the Minister specifies, until the result of elections held within three months of the date of merger.

This board is likely to be made up of equal or close to equal numbers of representatives from each of the merging schools' communities, and an independent chairperson. The Ministry has already met with the elected boards of affected schools to seek expressions of interest for appointment to the appointed board.

The Ministry is also seeking Registrations of Interest from individuals wanting to be considered for appointment as independent trustees on this board. While it is expected that school appointed trustees will constitute the majority of board members, the board may also require independent trustees to provide further skills or experience.

The term of appointment is from the date the Minister specifies, and for up to three months following the date of merger (about November 2013 – April 2015). Appointees will be paid a small allowance, but the position is largely voluntary. Applicants should preferably have knowledge and experience of school governance.

The appointed board is responsible for overseeing the merger process, starting the development of the vision for the newly merged school, deciding on curriculum and policy matters, staff appointments, strategic plans and property issues. Trustees need to work well in a team, be able to put plans in place for the school's future, ask challenging questions, have good communication skills and represent the diversity of a school's students. The overriding focus and objective of effective trusteeship is the quality of education that each of the school's students is receiving. The appointed board also governs the continuing school in the merger from the date of appointment through to the date of merger.

For more information and an application package please contact Erika Ross on (03) 378 7356 or email erika.ross@minedu.govt.nz.

Applications, with a copy of a current CV and completed eligibility form, need to be received by 4 October 2013.