
From: Neill O'Reilly [principal@waitakiri.school.nz]
Sent: Friday, 11 July 2014 9:28 a.m.
To: Andrew Shipley
Subject: Our Lady of Fatima and St Pauls

Kia ora

Here is a réponse from our BOT Chair re the letter from Chris Bryany 11 June 2014

Kia ora Chris

Further to your letter of 11 June the Board of Trustees have considered the proposal, representatives have spoken with Our Lady of Fatima leadership and we have considered a letter from the Chair of the Board of Trustees of Our Lady of Fatima School. Given the information we have been provided the response from the Waitākiri School is as follows;

- The Board of Trustees of Waitākiri School is opposed to the establishment of a new school on the site of Our lady of Fatima School, rather the BOT of Waitākiri School supports the proposal that St Pauls be closed and Our Lady of Fatima continue in an expanded capacity

Our BOT consider the proposal to class both schools to be unnecessary and not in the best interests of the children of either school. It is quite clear that St Pauls School cannot operate from the site it was located on pre earthquakes. We support the proposal from Our Lady of Fatima Board of Trustees that St Pauls School be closed and arrangements made for children from this school to be welcomed to Our Lady of Fatima and provision made for staff from St Pauls to have the opportunity to join the staff of Our Lady of Fatima.

The decision to close both schools appears to be short sighted, expensive and placing staff under unnecessary stress. Additionally, the closer of Our Lady of Fatima will create significant stress and disruption to the community of that school.

Having recently experienced a merger that had questionable basis and planning we are surprised that a proposal of this nature is being contemplated in 2014.

Regards
Andrew Shipley
BOT Chair
Waitākiri School
170 Burwood Road
Christchurch

03 3832736

3 July 2014



Chris Bryant
Ministry of Education
P O Box 2522
Christchurch

Dear Chris

Re Our Lady of Fatima and St Pauls

We acknowledge receipt of your letter dated 13 June regarding the potential changes to the above schools. The Board of Trustees of Mairehau Primary School met on Monday 23 June where your letter was presented. Our Lady of Fatima School, being our closest school and a school that we have developed a positive working relationship with long before the LCC model was promulgated, we were quite concerned about the implications of this proposal.

As a neighbouring school, we have been very aware of the enormous stresses that potential changes to the Our Lady of Fatima School have caused over what seems like a very long and protracted time. This stress is also very evident among the parents/whanau who we interact with in the community. To add to this, the potential closure of the school and the consequent loss of employment of all staff at OLF is something we feel is unfair and unnecessary. We fully understand that the St Paul's School community will be feeling the loss of their entire school site and knowing this cannot be rebuilt, however that tragedy is now being extended to Our Lady of Fatima. There does not appear to be any logic to closing two schools as a solution for one school's dilemma.

Should this proposal proceed, it may well lead to redundancies. In this situation, we would question who is paying that redundancy? If it is to come from Education then we see that as being at the detriment of our school and other state schools.

We hope that a better solution can be found to address the situation but certainly not to close a community school that from our understanding, is functioning well.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "BS", written in a cursive style.

**Bronwyn Suzana
Chairperson
Board of Trustees**



25 June 2014

Chris Bryant
Canterbury Sector Enablement and Support
Ministry of Education
P O Box 2522
CHRISTCHURCH

Dear Chris

Thank you for your letter dated 13 June 2014 regarding the proposed cancellation of the Integration Agreement regarding St Pauls and Our Lady of Fatima Schools.

Our understanding is that with the closure of Our Lady of Fatima School, a new school with a new name will be built on the same site.

Would it not make more sense to close St Pauls but integrate the children and staff as part of Our Lady of Fatima School (financially as well as socially).

With the proposed plan all staff from both schools would be made redundant. The cost of redundancy pay-outs could be saved by keeping Our Lady of Fatima open.

Permanent staff from St Pauls could then take up positions at Our Lady of Fatima. This would also give staff some certainty regarding employment.

Any changes to be implemented would be best at the start of a school year.

Thank you for considering our comments.

Yours sincerely



Les Gray
Principal
On behalf of the Parkview School Board of Trustees