
Geetika Aulakh

My name is Geetika Aulakh, and I am standing for the Lynfield College School Board. I have two daughters (10 yrs old, currently at Hillsborough Primary) and Simer, a Y9 student, new to Lynfield College this year. I am passionate about supporting my own children's education and of our wider community of student learners, hence eager to contribute on the board. I am currently a Treasurer for Friends of Hillsborough Primary School (charity operated by school parents) and have been a netball coach for both Primary and Intermediate school teams. I bring a positive, can-do attitude, business management and effective communication skills to the Board. Born and having spent my school life overseas, I am appreciative and supportive of the diversity and understand the challenges, support and opportunities that it may bring with it. Being a Chartered Accountant by trade, am passionate about numbers and hence understand the commercial aspects of an organisation, including financial reporting and analysis. I am a confident public speaker, relate well to people of all ages and enjoy interacting and working with the youth. I am passionate about supporting a positive well rounded learning experience for our students. I believe that kids face a variety of challenges while going through their school life, but with supportive environment, proper care and guidance, they can learn to face and deal with them effectively and in a positive manner. My current role as portfolio Management Lead within Westpac's Transformation Office enables me to effect change and deliver real outcomes. I also play an active part in our local communities by hosting events for the wider community (as part of my Events company), being the chair for our Neighbourhood Support Group and by being a volunteer for the local board. I believe that a responsive curriculum, caring leadership, positive teacher morale and a supportive and effective Board is fundamental for Lynfield Colleges continued success. I look forward to utilising my skills, knowledge, and passion to serve Lynfield College and wider community over the coming years.



Luke Jackson

Dear Parents, My name is Luke Jackson, I would be honoured if you would consider me as a parent representative for the Lynfield College Board of Trustees. I have a long, proud association with Lynfield College, having myself grown up in Lynfield and attended the college for all my secondary school years. I now have two sons, currently in years 12 and 9, who I have had the privilege of witnessing their growth during their time at Lynfield. I also have another two younger children I envisage also attending over the next few years. I am somewhat familiar with school processes, as it has been my honour to have been the Chairperson of the Hillsborough Primary School Board for the last nine years. Although I appreciate secondary school governance does incorporate additional factors. Professionally I am the General Manager of a finance company. I believe I bring to the Board an ability to pull a group of individuals together towards a common goal. I am able to manage effective ongoing relationships, and have an understanding of data and financial information. I am sure we are all well aware, the secondary school years are a crucial time in our children's' development as they progress through into adulthood. These years are also a time when many great memories and lifelong friends are made. If elected to the Board I will endeavour to ensure the ongoing safety of our children, the provision of quality education, and to carry on the proud history that has been well developed at Lynfield College. Kind regards, Luke Jackson.



Steve James

My name is Steve James and I am standing for the Lynfield College Board in the coming elections. Originally from the South Island, born in Reefton, I am a father of three and my wife has settled in New Zealand from the UK. I am also on the Board of Akospace School which is a small independent primary school that takes an alternative approach to education. My son recently finished at Lynfield College and is now halfway through his baking apprenticeship and my eldest is completing an Animation and Design degree. I am seasoned Technology and People Leader with 30 years of experience in various roles here and abroad, currently as the Head of Technology for Woolworths Zealand (Countdown Supermarkets) I thrive on working within teams that put people front and centre. Deep at the heart of why I do what I do is a desire to see the meaning behind the outcomes we need, to ignite passion in those I work alongside. As a successful member of the Lynfield team I will be seeking to support our principal to lead her team to enable tangible outcomes for the students in our care. I will champion great learning and life outcomes for ALL staff and students. I commit to respecting and upholding the principles of Te Tiriti and also ensuring the many cultures, genders, ages and learning styles will be welcomed and thrive while at the school. I look forward to serving and supporting the school in the coming term.



Mithun Lal

My name is Mithun Lal and I am standing for Lynfield College School Board. I graduated from the University of Auckland with a Bachelor of Commerce. I am a Chartered Accountant with over 10 years audit experience in public practice. I work as a Senior Audit Manager at RSM, mid-tier accounting firm and have significant audit expertise across a range of clients and sectors. These include audits of a wide variety of commercial and not-for profit entities. I also have considerable experience in the education sector and audit of state schools. I am particularly passionate about not-for profit organisations as I strongly believe in giving back to the community. Outside of work, I have volunteered to be an honorary Auditor for a local community group, and I am also the vice president of Starduz Sports Club Inc. I am very keen sportsperson and enjoy playing and watching soccer and cricket. I have a wonderful wife and two children who remind me every day of what is most important in life.



John Maka

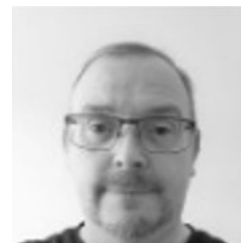
My name is John Maka and I am standing for the Lynfield College School Board. Currently we have three children who attend Lynfield College and I believe that I can contribute towards building a strong communication link between all parties concerned through to our Pasifika community. I am a retired Qualified tradesman specialising in the field of Plumbing and Drainage. Therefore my knowledge of organising and communicating throughout both large and small jobs to completion is all in a normal day's work to appreciate progress with minimal problems. I am a delegate for both the Auckland Athletics Junior and Senior Track and Field Sections. Over the past 6 years I have been a registered official helping out with track and field events held throughout the Auckland area. Due to the success and hard work of our children, my wife and I have set up our own Athletics Club to further encourage our two sons' efforts who have broken 8 World Youth Age Records in Discus and so many Auckland Records. Before the pandemic, we have been fortunate enough to be able to use Lynfield College as our club nights/training venue. We are in the midst of reapplying for another season at the school. My goal is



to assist with the smooth running of the school by supporting the Principal and staff to improve communication throughout the many connecting levels of school. Previously, during my three years of employment as an Attendance/Security Officer at the school from January 1996 to September 1998, I am aware of the school protocols. Please consider my application as I believe I can be of great assistance towards maintaining and promoting the basic principles directed by the Principal of our school.

Keith Morton-McPhail

Hello everyone. As a parent of a Year 9 student, I am passionate about standing for a position on Lynfield College Board of Trustees and fully understand the commitment and responsibility required. I am originally from Glasgow, Scotland, where I grew up and attended school. After graduating as an Occupational Therapist, I moved to North Wales and then subsequently to New Zealand in 1995. I have worked in the Mental Health and Education (mainstream and special education) sectors for over 32 years in New Zealand and the UK. I have always sought to be a team member - striving to do my very best for the many people I have helped. This experience has brought me into contact with an amazingly diverse population from all angles – health wise, ethnically, and in age too. From my experience in the school system, both as parent and a staff member, my participation in professional development and post graduate study, and keeping abreast of 'hot topics' on Education in the News, I am aware of the complex challenges facing today's schools. These exciting challenges take many forms, including the impact of the pandemic and the catch up; staffing and funding matters and new thinking in education and how caregivers/parents best participate in this. An example being from the latest research on 'Visible Learning' conducted by New Zealand's very own Professor John Hattie (world renown educational expert). Achieving effective collaboration between student, parent and school staff ultimately enables our children to transition across High School and enter the adult world as happy, wise, successful learners/workers, whilst also being healthy, resilient, responsible and kind citizens for tomorrow's world. I will strive to my best ability, to represent YOU as fellow caregivers/parent, and in collaborating with the school's Senior Leadership Team around such matters as above and to ensure Lynfield College maintains its stance as a top school! I have a beautiful and intelligent wife from India who equally respects and cherishes education and I am very proud of my 14-year-old son for his positive attitude towards and achievement in learning, as well as social and football endeavours in such tough times. Away from work, I love world travel, exotic Italian cars and watching football – especially when my son scores! Thank you for your consideration.



Ravi Nyayapati

Hello! My name is Ravi Nyayapati and I am standing for the Lynfield College Board. My wife and I have been locals for 21 years, and our younger son is still at Lynfield. I am a current Board member for Lynfield College as well as Blockhouse Bay Intermediate. It has been fantastic working with the principals and staff at these schools, and a real privilege to serve our students and represent the parents. I am standing only for the Lynfield BoT this year. I was born in India, raised in Africa, and have made New Zealand my home for over 20 years. Having lived and schooled across continents, I can relate first-hand to the challenges faced by teenagers in a diverse environment. I have a passion to ensure we have a school environment where every child feels safe and welcome - and I look forward to supporting Cath and her team, who are doing a great job in this area. As a fellow parent, I am aware of the current concerns faced, and mindful of the outcomes the school needs to achieve, keeping in mind the aptitude levels of our



entire student base. As parents, we all care about our children and want a bright future for them. The guardrails we need at schools are not only for academic interests, but also for ethical and social interests. My occupation for the last 29 years has been in technology, and I hold a Masters degree in Computing. For the past 12 years, I have been an independent transformation consultant. I currently consult with Ernst & Young (EY) and doing work at Fonterra. I am also a Chartered Member of the Institute of Directors and sit on several boards. I would love to give back to the community. It would be my honour to bring my governance experience to our school and support other trustees. I pledge to work with the team in getting the best possible outcome for the school through professional and high-quality governance. On your behalf, I look forward to serving again on the board with zest and dedication.

Corinne Piu

My son started Year 9 in Lynfield College this year coming from Blockhouse Bay Intermediate. Education of my children is very important to me and involving in the decision-making, working closely with the Tumuaiki of the school to achieve a common purpose is what I stand for. Each student is unique and are gems with inestimable value in which good education would bring out these values and enable the child and community to benefit therefrom. I'm a residing member of Wesley Primary School Board for the past seven years where my son attended for and would continue to serve as a new build is in progress for opening next year. Being on the board has given me opportunity to get an insight and influence not only the decisions for my own child's education but in the education of families around me. I enjoy the collaboration, sharing, respect to name a few explaining our working relationship with the school. I enjoy working in a group situation, and with my experience as a civil engineer, I hope to make more constructive and positive contribution to Lynfield College and support the school in ensuring that it assist every student to reach the best of their abilities. I would also ensure that the staff are supported in their in their role and we do the best we can to help them continue to work at their full potential. Malo 'aupito.



Izak van Niekerk

My name is Izak van Niekerk and I am standing for the Lynfield College Board. I am married to Stephanie, a teacher at Lynfield college, and have two children with one attending Lynfield College year 9. I am passionate about education, and my governance experience includes parent Board of Trustees representative for Kawarau South School (deputy chairman) and Tarawera High School (deputy chairman) in Kawarau, Bay of Plenty. I am currently working as a senior manager at the University of Auckland in strategic business transformation, and have a specific interest in the use of technology & intelligent robotics and how it will shape the future of New Zealand and education. I can offer leadership, knowledge and experience to benefit the students and the wider community of Lynfield. I am also studying and will complete my Masters in Business Management (MBM) - Strategy in 2023.



Kristelle Varney

Kia ora koutou, my name is Kristelle Varney and I am standing for re-election to the Board of Trustees for Lynfield College. My Board experience spans 15 years, having also served 12 years on the Halsey Drive School Board with 6 years as Chair. It has been my privilege to serve on the Lynfield College Board through what has been an extremely challenging time for everyone. As a Board, we have worked cooperatively to support Lynfield with strategic planning, property development (including Student Services building renovation, new turfs, weather-tightness to buildings including the lower gym, new noticeboard), financial stability in these uncertain times, educational advancements to help students develop 21st Century skills, honouring Te Tiriti, continued extra-curricular opportunities - including the recent VEX Robotics World Championship in USA, and general moral support for staff as they navigated teaching online while still making progress with the NZ Curriculum refresh, preparing for the new NCEA qualification requirements, pioneering cross-curriculum teaching and learning, and managing new systems development such as the new timetable, Innovative Learning Programme (ILP), and Hui Mai form classes. Specific responsibilities I have held on the Board include being on the Disciplinary Subcommittee and interview panels for staff appointments at a leadership level. As a former student of Lynfield College (Head Girl 1988), I have a strong affinity with the school. Currently, I am working part time as a Secondary Mathematics teacher at Elim Christian College, Mt Albert. My husband, Martin, and I have been married for 28 years. As an architect, he partners a successful architecture company. All three of our children have made the most of the vast range of opportunities Lynfield offers and are enjoying the benefits. Nathan is now an engineer with Fisher & Paykel Healthcare, Jessika (Head Girl 2019) is studying architecture, and Danyon is in Pounamu and 10ILP. Thank you for considering my application to be one of your Board of Trustees representatives.

