

# ST MARTIN'S SCHOOL

## Candidate Profiles Election of THREE (3) Trustees

### **BOON, Richard**

Hi. I am putting my name forward to be one of your representatives on our school board not only because I think the school's board and management are doing a great job, but because I believe I can contribute to its on-going success and development.

The school has a lot of energy, is forward thinking, and keen to embrace a culture of teacher development and process improvement. This all leads to enhanced learning and development experiences for all our kids.

Michelle and I are grateful that our girls, Hannah (year 5) and Rebecca (year 4), are learning in such an environment.

I am an accountant and believe that my experience and knowledge can help round out that of the rest of the BOT. I started out my career at Ernst & Young in Wellington, Boston, and London followed by being a business owner within the Paper Plus group. More recently I have been employed as a management accountant at the Christchurch City Council helping the Transport and Greenspace Unit, and am currently in a similar role at the Department of Corrections.

I believe the school's finances to be in a sound position however I would look to enhance the information and format of regular reporting to the BOT to enhance the governorship role it undertakes on behalf of you and of the Ministry of Education.

### **GIBSON, Margaret**

I have one son at St Martins, Isaac, in Year 3. I have lived local to the area for many years - growing up in Opawa and living many of my adult years in St Martins.

My professional background is in the IT industry encompassing many roles both technical and non-technical and including recruitment and Project Management. I have also been involved in the outdoor adventure arena as a business owner/operator. External to work I am fully involved in my son's life and maintain my own balance through endurance sports and running.

I am very keen to be included on the BOT as I see an amazing future for our children particularly with the rapid advances in technology but this is to be balanced with life lessons and physical activity.

St Martins Primary has an excellent reputation and this can be built upon for the future. My son loves attending St Martins as do all his friends. The skills I can bring to the BOT and school include excellent Project Management and organisational skills, competency in communication both verbal and written, and the ability to pull together cross-functional teams for a specific purpose. I have a passion for learning and education and like to encourage children's natural curiosity, inquisitiveness and their sense of humour!

St Martins Primary is a pivot point and the school has an important role to play within our community educating, supporting and binding together the people who reside there. As a member of the St Martins BOT I would be fully involved in project delivery and the future of the school and its students.

### **RICHARDSON, Deirdre**

I am seeking re-election to the Board having held this role since 2010, including being Deputy Chair for the last 18 months. Having helped navigate the school through a challenging few years I am keen to continue because I believe I can and do make a positive difference to our school. My re-election will ensure continuity of Board membership and of the strong constructive working relationships I have with other Board members and the school management team.

As the parent of two children, Clara Miles (Year 6 at St Martins) and Xavier Miles (Year 10 at Cashmere High) I have a long standing relationship with the school. Having children progress from new entrants to high school gives me a greater appreciation of the issues and needs of our children at all levels of schooling.

I have a passion for education and for ensuring that school and learning is a positive experience for all children. My commitment as a Board member is to ensure that St Martins School continually strives to nurture the abilities of our children and also responds to their challenges so that they can reach their fullest potential and that it is a place where families are engaged in this process.

Relevant knowledge, skills and experience I bring are from over 25 years

in social and health services having held management and clinical positions. At present I lecture part-time whilst completing a PhD in Psychological Medicine. This background means that I bring strengths in policy and service development, strategic planning, facilitation and human resource management. I am committed to a consultative approach and believe the team approach, inclusive of children and families, is the way to be successful in achieving the best school for us all.

Other board experience includes boards of Not-for-Profit organisations and as a committee member of Opawa-St Martins kindergarten. In addition, my experience working in the tertiary education sector means that I have sound knowledge of educational theory and practice.

Finally, the St Martins neighbourhood has been my home for over 15 years. As with many of you I want our school and wider community to be a safe, caring and vibrant place for families and individuals. I would welcome the opportunity to continue representing you on the Board to help achieve this goal and I hope that you vote for me.

### **TOD, Nikki**

Kia koutou. Hello to you all. My name is Nikki Tod.

I have been on the St Martins School Board of Trustees since mid 2008. I thoroughly enjoy being on the board. This enjoyment stems from my real sense of passion for working with others to provide the best opportunities for our children at St Martins School.

I am married to Steve and we have two children; Paris (Yr 6) and Lucia (Yr 4). Being a parent of two children at our school, as well as an ex staff member, I am a strong advocate for community engagement and positive school relationships. I value community consultation and the need for effective communication between home and school. Some examples of this would be community consultation as we developed our Strategic Plan and again seeking 'community voice' as we worked towards smartening up our school uniform. I also played a key part in initiating our school barbecues that encourage our school community in regularly coming together.

I am a Teacher Educator at the College of Education, University of Canterbury. A significant part of my role at the college is training Primary Teachers. I am passionate about effective teaching! Another significant aspect of my work is research. My current research project is centred around "best" practice –teaching and learning approaches that have a positive impact on student learning and achievement.

My role on the board has been complimentary to my work. I have often been invited to play a key part in the employment of staff. I believe it is important that we select the best teachers we can. Teachers who will contribute and add to the vibrancy of our school; are collaborative and who are committed to planning effective teaching and learning programmes that lead to greater student achievement outcomes.

I am a positive and goal oriented person. It is my goal to stay on the Board of Trustees so that I can continue to contribute towards making St Martins a positive, thriving and vibrant school environment for our children and school community.

### **WILLIAMS, Anselm**

I am running for a position as parent representative on the St Martins School board of trustees because I believe I have something to offer.

My wife Suzy and I are the parents of Phineas (year 0) and Oliver (year 2). Our youngest (Matilda) will be starting at St Martins School in 2015. We live in St Martins and have strong links to the local community.

I began my career as a commercial and property lawyer before specialising in criminal law. I spent 3 years with the New Zealand Police and am currently working as a Crown Prosecutor where I am part of the team which prosecutes all serious crime in Canterbury and the West Coast under the supervision of the Crown Solicitor. In addition to my professional experience I have a background in youth work and have held a number of positions on various voluntary organisations.

My family and I are committed to St Martins and intend to play an active role in the school community over the next 10 years. I have been impressed by the well rounded and high quality education offered at St Martins School and I would like the opportunity to use my skills to ensure that these qualities are maintained for the benefit of all our children.