



Christchurch North East Secondary Education Committee Incorporated

Annual Report 2011.

This is NESE's inaugural AGM. This report includes information on NESE's activities from its formation, not just events since NESE's incorporation in 2010. The NESE committee was formed in December 2008 following growing concern in the local community about high schooling options in North East Christchurch. NESE's Management Committee members are all parents and grandparents from a wide cross section of the local community.

NESE's Management Committee 2010

- Chairperson, Amanda Williams
- Vice Chairperson, Neil Lawrence
- Secretary, Amanda Hill
- Treasurer, Kerri Rowlands
- Helen Haggitt
- Bridget Hanrahan
- Rae Mills
- Greg Morehouse
- Elissa Smith
- Vanessa Tappenden
- Angela Wilson
- Aaron Gilmore MP

NESE's aims and objectives:-

- To promote and advocate for the advancement of secondary education in the North East of Christchurch.
- To be an advocate for parents and children in the North East of Christchurch.
- To be impartial in its investigations and to address the majority of the community's needs in its recommendations.
- To promote and advocate for the development of a new high school in the North East of Christchurch.
- To raise funds for the development of a new high school.
- To support the development of a new high school through fundraising to provide extra resources, facilities and opportunities.

Achievements to date.

We began by collecting petition signatures in January 2009. The petition asked Parliament to investigate the need for a new high school in North East Christchurch. We then looked into ways to optimise the current high school options and investigated the viability of a new high school. The result was a "Proposal to Build a New High School in the North East of Christchurch".

The Proposal and petition supported by 3664 signatures, were presented to Parliament by MP Aaron Gilmore on 17 June 2009. Parliament referred it on to the Education Select Committee.

NESE Committee members traveled to Wellington to present our case to the Select Committee on 21 April 2010. Our presentation was well received. The Select Committee recommended that the Ministry of Education conduct an "Area Review".

Instead Hon Anne Tolley, Minister of Education, directed the Ministry of Education to complete an "Area Report". NESE was able to have input into this report and produced a 19 page document with new supporting information. The Area Report has not yet been released and we are still waiting for Anne Tolley's decision on it.

Petition, Proposal and other documents.

In the last two years Committee members have spent many hours researching and preparing documents to present to the Government and its agencies. The documents include:-

- Petition, 3664 names and addresses entered into a data base and double checked for accuracy
- Proposal to Build a New High School in the North East of Christchurch
- Proposal Summary

- Coloured pamphlet for the Science and Education Select Committee
- North East High School - a model for community partnership
- Report to the Ministry of Education for Consideration in Conjunction with the Area Report on North East Christchurch

Committee Status

NESE became an Incorporated Society on 21 January 2010. NESE became a registered charity on 9 June 2010.

Fundraising

In 2009 we received money raised by the Christchurch East branch of the National Party's Seaside Garden Tour. In 2010 we received funds from the Eureka Trust and the Christchurch City Council towards running costs and signage. We also received community post envelopes from New Zealand Post. If the new high school project moves forward this year, we will need to establish a large fundraising working group to raise a substantial amount of money.

Forming alliances

The NESE Committee consults widely to establish good working relationships with influential people and major organisations. In the last two years committee members have met Prime Minister John Key, Christchurch Mayor Bob Parker, Christchurch City Councillors, Council employees, Burwood Pegasus Community Board members, Education Minister Hon Anne Tolley, MPs on the Science and Education Select Committee, Ministry of Education officials, representatives from Ngai Tahu, local principals and other business and community leaders. We have benefited greatly from their advice and encouragement. The community has a strong vision and desire for a local high school.

Marketing and Publicity

NESE has engaged the local community on this issue. We want to hear people's ideas and we believe everyone should have an opportunity to have their say. Whenever we achieve a milestone we contact the media. We have featured in newspapers 26 times in the last two years. We have been interviewed by local television once and been on the radio several times. We had a stall at the Burwood Community Fair in September 2009 and held a public meeting in October 2010. NESE's newsletter has 1100 subscribers. We published three newsletters in 2010. A publicity campaign led to 40 NESE signs on local fences and 60 large stickers on green wheelie bins. We also give out promotional stickers. We have a Facebook page and our Website www.nese.org.nz has had 750 visitors since January 2010.

Thanks

The Management Committee is a dedicated group of people. I would like to thank committee members for the commitment and enthusiasm they bring to this project.

We would also like to acknowledge the many volunteers who have contributed in other areas. We are extremely grateful for the support we have received from the community. We have been fortunate to have many people volunteer their skills. Thank you all so very much. We really value your contributions.

2011

We are making good, steady, progress. Our Committee constantly works hard to meet very tight time frames. We have made excellent progress by always preparing for the next phase ahead of time so it is not NESE holding up the next stage. 2011 will be a busy year where we hope to make further significant progress towards our community's goal of a local high school.

Amanda Williams
Chairperson