RANGIORA NEW LIFE SCHOOL

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Minutes of the Meeting 06 May 2026

6:50 pm, Room 21

Action Points

Part 1 Introduction

1.1 **Welcome:** Chris Joseph welcomed everyone, and the meeting commenced at 7 pm

1.2 **Apologies**: Shine Laurie, Phil Shaw

Absent:

Present:

Trustees: Chris Joseph (Chair), Stephen Walters, Stan Stewart, Dusty Eloff, Karen Rennie, Jo Simpson, Jaco Niemand, Kerry Harris, Sheryl Band, Reese Hunter, Glenda van der Walt (Minutes)

Other: Ross Nicholson

Chris spoke about the number of enrolled students for 2026, which is 484. We need to keep the students in mind, to achieve the mission statement.

1.3 **Conflict of Interest including any changes to Members Interest as disclosed in the interest register**:

None

1.4 **Devotions & Open in Prayer led by:** Stan Stewart and Dusty Eloff

Stan prayed for John Ward for healing and for the School Board for wisdom and direction.

God's Word must not be nullified.

Mark 7 'He answered and said to them, "Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written: 'This people honours Me with their lips, But their heart is far from Me.'"

Mark 7:13 "making the Word of God to no effect through your tradition which you have handed down. And many such things you do."

The verses speak about the rebuke of Pharisees and their traditions. Doing things their own way. As Christians on the Board, a Christian school, this warning and message needs to be taken seriously. As we work though the matters of the school responsible for Christian character, policy resources etc., we need to measure against one standard, and that is God's truth. We need to be through this lens.

2 Tim 3:15-17 “and that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

3 The school exists for a Christian education. As parents, as School Board Members, as Proprietors, we have responsibilities and are stewards of the children at this school, who are entrusted to us. We are not to lead the children on the wrong path. Everything should always be done for God and measured against God’s word. It is easy to talk about something, but obedience is key, with reflection of all decisions and discussions. There is a difference between honouring God in what we say and truly following in actions.

3.1 Confirmation of Previous Minutes

Taken as read.
Date of Last Meeting: 01 April 2026

Moved that Minutes of 01 April 2026 be accepted.

CJ **All in favour** **Carried**

3.2 Matters Arising from the previous minutes:

Report on Relief Budgets 2025
Done
Drama – Recommendation to be forwarded
Done

3.3 Correspondence

Inward

26/03 NZASA Conference registration link
30/03 NZSBA Annual General Meeting
31/03 NZSBA Onboard
31/03 NZEI Important changes to upcoming employment relations education leave
15/04 GovHub Board Matters Term 2 2026
21/04 PPTA Report on Teacher and Student Travel
This report was discussed.

Outward

None

Moved that: All Correspondence be taken as read. CJ **All in favour** **Carried**.

Part 2: Christian Character

The Proprietors' report is taken as read.
A meeting was held with Dusty, Chris and Stephen with regards to issues raised in the report. The matters in question have been discussed, resolved and agreed to. A regular meeting is to be scheduled to discuss any further matters arising.
No questions raised by the School Board members.

Discount for Attendance Dues

A discussion was held on the point of employee discounts with regards to Attendance Dues.
As the School Board is the employer, the matter has been brought to the board. Collaboration is sought between the Proprietors and the School Board to clarify and communicate the changes. A careful consideration is requested, as the original intent of the Proprietors was not followed and the Proprietors feel that this is not an employee benefit or entitlement, even if this could be so construed. To date, no legal direction has been sought but will be investigated. The Proprietors' policy never intended for all staff to enjoy the discount, but only teaching staff, employed at FTTE 0.8 and above.
The Proprietors are requested to amend the report to clarify who benefits from the discount and clarify from when the changes are to take place. A discussion was held with regards to the impact this would have on the staff who would lose the discount, as well as any new staff beginning in 2026. As there is currently a huge investment in buildings, the funds must be recouped via attendance dues. The Proprietors reiterated that they review and give the discount to staff and ministry related caregivers/parents.

Animals in buildings

No animals, except service dogs are allowed on school property. This is due to potential allergies to certain animals. A question was asked whether this includes fish tanks, with the answer being yes. From a Health and Safety point of view, fish tanks are to be earthquake proof. A discussion ensued regarding the MOE rules and regulations regarding animals in schools. The Principal, from a management point of view, may allow, on a case-by-case basis, animals on site for educational purposes. A discussion was held with regards to the roaming cats that do come on site, with the advice that no animals are to be in the buildings. The matter has been discussed with the staff and actions have been taken to resolve this issue.

Moved that: The Proprietors report be taken as read. DE / JN **All in favour** **Carried**

Part 3: Strategic and Leadership

Part 4: Reports

4.1 Principal's Report – taken as read.

Attendance
The attendance data has been added in addition to the report, with the final attendance summary for Term 2 included.
In Term 1
76% attending 90% of the time regularly with the national figure at 68% and a reminder that the government target in 2030 is 80%.
As the cold and flu season is coming up, the expectation is for the attendance to dip.
2025 vs 2026 attendance data is on page two of the report.

Behaviour
Stephen is currently working with a group of students. A meeting was held on Tuesday 05 May, with the relevant caregivers and students, which was led by the Disciplinary Committee. Two students we suspended and minutes will be generated. (public excluded). Summary of disciplinary meeting was given. PB4L process was discussed including stand down, referral to School Board, decision made, then action taken. The School Board Disciplinary Committee was thanked for their recent work, with the school being both firm, disciplined and not condemning, but being encouraging to grow and develop the students.
The issue with regards to Christian Character and Māori, raised by a parent, is a management issue but shared with the Board as an FYI.

Moved that The Principal's report be accepted. SW / SS **All in favour** **Carried**

4.2 Student Report – taken as read

Good feedback has been received with regards to the prayer group, with students being encouraged and being prayed for. The focus is to be more centred around Christ.

Moved that: the Student' report be received. RH / SW **All in favour** **Carried**

4.3 Health and Safety Report

No report, as no meeting was held due to the school holidays. Next meeting is scheduled for 13 May 2026.

4.4 Uniform Report

None for this meeting.

Part 5: Operational, Policies and Procedures (SchoolDocs)

31/03 SchoolDocs Advisory: End-of-term updates
01/04 SchoolDocs – We are Lightn Ltd reminder
21/04 SchoolDocs Advisory: Term 2 review and board assurances

The use of cell phones and devices on buses was discussed. Buses are generally self-policed, and students engage with principal on issues. This is a management issue, not a governance issue and will be dealt with by the Senior Leadership Team. There is a need to protect younger children to limit access to older students' screens. The Government Advisory Group recommendation to government is to limit social media use up to 16 years of age. The School Bus policy is to be reviewed. A further discussion was held on the possibility of including bus monitors / prefects on the buses. Currently approx. 40% of RNLS students travel by bus. A further discussion was held on the current government cost cutting efforts by reducing some school buses.

Policy Committee is still to meet.

A discussion was held on fizzy drinks. The Policy Committee is to review the policy and to ensure that practice aligns with it, with feedback given once reviewed. The current policy does not mention sugary drinks specifically.

Part 6: Financial – <u>taken as read</u>.

Reports for March 2026 and graphs.
Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense
Additional Reports
Minutes of the 30 April 2026 meeting

Glenda thanked for her work in Finances. Finances are tracking well. Ended 2025 with a surplus.

Moved that: The Financial Report for March 2026 be received and the April 2026 Finance Minutes be accepted. KR / DE **All in favour** **Carried**

Part 7: General Business

The Head of Curriculum Drama has been communicated with regards to the following production.

The Proprietors would like to be involved with the school and Board, on clarity of items going forward.

A discussion was held regarding the move into the new classrooms, with certain cupboards being removed without due process being followed. Communication should have been had with the principal, regarding the issue and not necessarily emailed to all the board members. A discussion ensued.

The Proprietors' chair, the Board Presiding Member and the Principal will be meeting regularly.

Capital works planning is taking place, with consultation with the School and the Board. Meetings will be scheduled with the Associate Principal – Primary and some teaching staff on the planning of the proposed playground. The Admin building is scheduled to be handed over on 3 July, end of Term 2.

Part 8: In Committee (public excluded)

None

Review of Learning Areas and Education Outcomes

17 June
22 July

Devotions at the next meeting: Stephen Walters
Stephen closed the meeting in prayer.

The meeting closed at 8.10 pm.

Next meeting – 03 June 2026