

# Wainuiomata Intermediate School

## 2019 Board of Trustees Election - Candidates Personal Statements

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### Aditya P. ANAND



My wife and I have two sons, the elder of whom, is currently enrolled in Year 7 of Wainuiomata Intermediate School. Wainuiomata has been our home since 2007.

Originally from India, my own educational background has been nomadic. I have studied in 7 different schools - American, British as well as the intensively competitive Indian school system. Having seen all the positives and negatives of various systems, I understand what can inspire and what can discourage young minds. The future of any society depends on helping the next generation achieve their full potential. I discovered my own passion for computers at an early age due to a school program, that set my path ever since. While my main subjects of interest are science, technology and maths, I am also interested in language, history, world cultures and future trends. In sports, in my time, I have represented my school, playing soccer, volleyball, basketball, as well as winning medals in shot-put and discus-throw.

Children need to be presented with opportunities and facilities to explore all subjects, as each will discover their own special aptitude somewhere within the broad spectrum. The world is moving into a set of new challenges ahead, and solutions to the way forward require critical thinking & analysis, creativity, and an independent and confident mindset. While we come increasingly to rely on digital decision-making, we need to understand how to be able to use our own minds at their best as well.

I have put my name forward to add to the successful governance of Wainuiomata Intermediate School.

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### Stephen EDGER

No statement provided

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### Bashiel ESBACH

No statement provided

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## **Matthew JELLICOE**

My name is Matt Jellicoe and I have put my hand up for nomination for the WIS Board of Trustees.

My wonderful partner Nicola and I have two boys, Regan (8) and Eli who will be joining the Intermediate next year. We really enjoy being part of this community and through school and the many sports our kids play, we have met some wonderful people and so many talented and truly awesome kids.

I would like to represent you on the Board to help the school build on their good work and create an environment that is positive and fun. A place that fosters progress and achievement and gives our children a base that will encourage them to take on the world.

I have just finished a term on the board of Trustees at Fernlea School and have learnt a lot about what the role involves and what good governance means. I value the opportunity to contribute my skills and experience in helping to make our school the best for our children.

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## **Mrs. Ellison MARTIN**

Greetings, Kia Ora, Talofa lava, Namaste

I am Ellison Martin and I am proud to have been a resident of Wainuiomata for the last 30 years. All my children have always attended Wainuiomata schools from pre-school right through to secondary school. I am passionate about children's education and strongly believe that **all** children are entitled to a quality education to help them make the most of the life choices available to them; they deserve the very best no matter what their individual challenges or circumstances may be.

I am standing for re-election for the Wainuiomata Intermediate Board of Trustees because I believe whole heartedly in this school. It has been my privilege to serve on the board for 14 years and throughout this time I have seen the dedication and commitment of the school staff and board members and would love to continue to be a part of this school's journey. This is a wonderful school that has gone from strength to strength, offering great opportunities to the students – and future - of this valley.

As a mother and current board member I want to be able to continue to be a part of a school that can only become stronger to meet the needs of both our own community and the wider region. I believe that I would be an asset to the Board of Trustees due to my past experience as a board member and my passion for excellent educational opportunities for the children of this valley. I work cooperatively and encourage discussion about various matters brought to the board. The opinion of others is important and I enjoy learning of other people's point of view. I have a voice for all families and feel that my position on the board would continue to lead the school to make positive and important decisions for all our students.

Thank you for considering me as your representative.

## Te Awa PUKETAPU



Tena koutou katoa

He uri ahau no Ngati Ruapani, Ngai Tuhoe, Ngapuhi me Te Atiawa. He uri hoki no Ngati Porou.

Ko Te Awa Puketapu toku ingoa.

Thank you for the opportunity to stand as a possible candidate for the board of trustees of Wainuiomata Intermediate. I had the privilege of being raised to be 'Wainui proud' having lived here all my life, doing small spurts of time overseas, now raising my 2 kids here.

I always dreamed about 'making it to the top' in the different sports I played growing up. I even had a back up plan if I didn't 'make it to the top.' I was going to be as close to sports as I could by becoming a Physiotherapist... instead, at the strong suggestion of my grandfather, I went to Teachers College and that was the end of that!

I started as a Primary Teacher, before moving on to Kohanga Reo, the Education Review Office (ERO), then the Ministry of Education. I now work for the Office of the Children's Commissioner as an Independent Monitor of Oranga Tamariki, and sit as part of the offices Maori caucus and the education advocacy group. I am also a current board member on the Pukeatua Kohanga Reo Trust - Atiawa nui tonu Kohanga Reo here in Wainuiomata.

These experiences allow me to bring a range of skills, but particular to this kaupapa - knowledge in governance and management, an understanding of the education system - early childhood through to secondary and beyond and how to navigate the system - for teachers, whanau and students, and an understanding of how other areas such as health, are crucial to education. I also love being able to engage in conversations about what quality education looks like in a school and community, for whanau and students and how this can be best supported to happen.

With that, if my experiences sound like they could add value to Wainuiomata Intermediate, or, if they resonant with you, then please vote for me.

Before I close, I just want to say I hold no grudges about not 'making it to the top' in sport. The real point is, I was given permission to dream. I believe aspirations and dreams are important for everyone to have. Having an opportunity to be a small part of realising these dreams is what's exciting to me.

Kia tau te Rangimarie

## Paula RAHIRI



Kia ora koutou katoa

I am Paula Rahiri. I am a descendent of Nga Puhi, Niuean, Scottish and English heritage.

I was seconded onto this school's Board of Trustees last year and hope to sit once again.

I'm dedicated to the success of our community of which I've worked in for the past fifteen years and have lived here for over five with my husband and our beautiful family.

We have five children, our three eldest are past achieving students of Wainuiomata Intermediate School, another started here this year and our youngest can't wait until it's her turn!

We moved our tamariki (children) from a kura kaupapa (total immersion Māori) school to Wainuiomata Intermediate School. With five children, my husband and I understand how much children develop their own sense of self in the years 7 and 8. We chose WIS, because here, diversity is celebrated and there are plenty of opportunities for our rangatahi to grow. We're confident that the educational opportunities experienced by our children at WIS helped them successfully transition to college and beyond. Long after our youngest child is enrolled here (which is still a few years away) my husband and I will continue to be staunch advocates for WIS.

If elected back onto the board I will work to maintain the excellent facilities and continue to support the range of academic, and cultural opportunities and sporting initiatives there are here. I am a strong campaigner for Te Reo Māori being taught in all schools and want to make sure our school continues to provide opportunities for our Māori students to succeed as Māori.

I am eager to assist our school's students, teachers and whānau to accomplish, evolve, nourish and gain the outcomes set out in the School's Charter as well as the aspirational goals shared by our school community. I believe in the school's values and I will make sure that; Whanaungatanga, Rangatiratanga, Kaitiakitanga and Manaakitanga are featured in all aspects of school life.

I believe that I would be a great champion for all children who enroll here at WIS. I've proven experience in working closely with the school and as I work locally in Wainuiomata, I regularly interact with many whānau and local organisations in the valley.

Ngā mihi nui

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## ~~Priscilla RASMUSSEN~~

Candidate has withdrawn. Any vote for this candidate will not be included in the final count

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## **Annie ROBERTS**



Talofa Lava, I'm proud to call myself a Wainuiomata resident since 1975 give and take a short break or two.

I attended Wood Hatton Primary School, Parkway Intermediate and Parkway College – three local schools that have either closed or merged. I'm currently one of the Trustees on the Wainuiomata Intermediate School Board since initially being co-opted as a Pasifika voice in 2015. Other hats I wear include Board Trustee at Wainuiomata High School Board; WaiPESI (Wainuiomata Pasifika Education Success Initiative: purpose is to work with and empower Wainuiomata's Pasifika families and

community to achieve the best education outcomes for our children and their families). I'm a member of P.A.C.I.F.I.C.A Inc since joining in 2007 and have at various points held Executive positions at Branch, Regional and National level. At the beginning of this year I started serving as the NZEI Wainuiomata Branch Secretary.

During the day you will find me at Konini Primary School as a Teacher Aide/Office Administrator. I'm a proud Aunty to the third generation of migrant Samoan parents and my migrant American husband fell in love with Wainuiomata immediately since moving in 2001. I'm a better than average networker and will work hard to utilise those networking skills and 30 plus years of private and public sector administration skills to ensure the best outcomes for our students, school and community.

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## **Eileen SALMON**



Dear Parents and Caregivers,

My name is Eileen Salmon and I am a current Board member at Wainuiomata Intermediate School.

I have been involved with the school Board for more than 12 years, and wish to continue working with the Board. During this time I have attended as many training courses as possible, and have also been part of the regular Kahui Ako meetings with Board Chairpersons and Principals from other Wainuiomata Schools. This has been a great way of getting together and talking to one another and hearing other school's views and hopes for education pathways here in the Valley.

My work with the Board has also included being the Finance person, that role sees me checking accounts and reading the monthly financial reports before each meeting, and reporting on those at the Board meetings.

I have really enjoyed working with the current Board members, and wish any of those wanting to be re-elected good luck.

Thank you for taking the time to read the candidate statements

Kind Regards,

E Salmon

## Gary SUE



Kia ora whanau my name is Gary Sue and I am standing for the Board of Trustees for Wainuiomata Intermediate School.

My wife and I have 4 children, our eldest son is currently in year 8 at Wainuiomata Intermediate and our daughter will be starting next year. I grew up and attended school in Wainuiomata and am the current chairman for the Fernlea School Board of Trustees. I have put myself forward for the Board of Trustees to help support the school in achieving an environment that is nurturing and supportive for students and teachers to be the best they can be.

My aim as a trustee is to ensure that the quality of education at Wainuiomata Intermediate is maintained at the highest standard and that the staff has all the resources they need to accomplish this goal. I believe strongly in the concept of local community schools, nurturing their future young leaders in all aspects of life. I enjoy being able to contribute to my children's education by being part of a Board of Trustees alongside other parents and teaching professionals.

Nga Mihi

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## Sisi TUALA-LE'AFA



Talofa lava my name is Sisi Tuala-Le'afa.

I grew up in Wainuiomata and I am an ex Parkway College student who grew up in the Tu Tangata era. I have a big loving family and am active within our local community.

I am a mum of three who is passionate about Wainuiomata and advocating for our youth and whanau voice. I want to support Wainuiomata Intermediate School to continue to achieve, nurture and support all students and teachers to be the best they can be.

Faafetai lava.

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## Emma WOOLLEY

No statement provided

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