

Annual Report 2017

Community Support

Secondary education remains a high priority for families in our community. Committee members would like to thank all our supporters who share information with us and support us in other ways. We are really grateful for your ideas and encouragement. The North East Secondary Education Committee Inc. (NESE) has been actively lobbying politicians, education leaders and the Ministry of Education on secondary education issues since 2009.

School Zone Review

Christchurch secondary school zones are all currently being reviewed. Zones are officially called “enrolment schemes”. NESE believes a clear learning path should be known in each community. We believe all co-ed schools should be zoned. NESE supports single sex schools having a zone network which is separate from co-ed school zones. This zone layer would sit over a co-ed zoning layer, resulting in every home in Christchurch being zoned for entry onto both co-ed and single sex education.

In July NESE committee members met with the Ministry of Education’s Director of Education for Canterbury Coralanne Child. We had prepared a document presenting NESE’s thoughts on school zones for discussion with her. Feedback from Coralanne and other education leaders helped us shape our final document. NESE’s School Zone document has now been sent to Christchurch state secondary schools and education leaders for their consideration. Email us to receive your copy nese.newsletter@gmail.com

Thank You to our Fence Sign & Green Bin Supporters!

If you have a NESE sticker on your green wheelie bin we’d like to thank you for supporting our cause. Our stats show new people connect with our information every week thanks to you.

The Burwood Food Market – known by many locals as “the Purple Dairy” has been a great supporter with our NESE sign on their fence for many years. Check our sign out next time you’re at the dairy in Burwood Road.

People still ask us about having a NESE sign on their fence. Garry Aspinall at Classic signs in Kaiapoi helped us with a sharp price for our fence signs, stickers and our NESE banner when we first started out. Most of our other fence signs have suffered from damage over the years and we don’t have any more left.

QEII Park Land Sale & Master Plan

Christchurch City Council consulted the community on the proposal to sell 11.5 Ha at QEII Park to the Ministry of Education for the relocation of Shirley Boys’ and Avonside Girls’ High Schools. NESE made a submission. Committee members also spoke at the hearing in April 2016. Some of NESE’s subscribers independently supported our submission. The land sale was subsequently approved with some conditions reflecting NESE’s input.

A Master Plan for QEII Park will be developed using proceeds from the land sale specifically allocated for that purpose. A timeline of the master plan process will be developed for the Community Board to approve this year. Decisions on the Master Plan for QEII Park need to reflect our community’s needs. We want to contribute to that process. NESE will continue to be involved in any areas open to community input.

Traffic Management Plan for QEII Park

The Council’s Transport Working Group was investigating the traffic management requirements for the development of QEII Park. NESE sent them a transport document containing all your input. We hope our local knowledge will help develop a good traffic plan providing safe travel for pedestrians, cyclists and traffic. We plan to review and share the traffic plan with you when it is available for consultation.

Avonside Girls’ & Shirley Boys’ High Schools Community Meetings

Our community will support these two secondary schools at QEII Park, despite our community’s preference for co-ed education. Locating these schools at QEII Park will establish a much needed community facility. The two schools have been working closely together to develop a shared vision for their co-location. Their new facilities will enable collaboration, while maximising learning opportunities. The two single sex schools will each retain their independent and distinct characteristics.

The two schools hosted four community meetings in July to gather feedback on the proposal to co-locate the two schools at QEII Park. Meetings were held in Redcliffs, Parklands, at SBHS and AGHS. NESE Committee members attended these meetings. The Parklands meeting NESE promoted was very well attended. Community feedback reflected the feedback NESE had received and shared previously. This supports our role as a community voice.

Ferndale School

Ferndale School will have a small co-ed secondary unit at QEII when the schools open. Their students will have facilities built to support their learning needs. They will also have access to AGHS & SBHS for subjects suited to individual students. Both schools will be built as accessible schools to support this.

Haeata Community Campus

Committee members regularly attended stakeholder meetings in 2016. Areas where NESE participated and contributed include building design feedback, development of the school logo and their engagement workshops. Haeata's buildings were handed over to the MOE in December 2016. NESE Committee members attended Haeata's opening powhiri on 3rd February 2017.

Is Your Child Most Likely to Succeed?

Committee members attended a screening of the education film "Most Likely to Succeed" followed by a panel discussion.

Their key messages are:-

- Education empowers young people.
- We need more innovative thinkers for the future.
- We should celebrate student creativity.
- Students need a sense of purpose in their work.
- We need to focus on learning and quality teaching, not buildings.
- We need to empower students to make decisions.
- Students need to find things that energise them and things they love to do.
- To be successful in the future students will need to be innovative, curious, confident, have empathy; perseverance; good communication skills; good time management; be able to work collaboratively with others and most importantly be able to learn from criticism.
- Any job not requiring critical thinking, perseverance and creativity will vanish in the future.
- There is a shortage of Y13 students with qualifications suited to the high tech industry. Christchurch is only producing 10% of the students needed to fill these roles.

Does your child's education path lead them in the right direction? Consider these points when selecting school subjects. Your child needs to gain qualifications in areas where they will get a job, (and leave home)!

Parklands at Play

NESE had a stall at this event in February 2016. Committee members spoke to lots of people, answering their questions. We used this as a fundraising opportunity earning \$67.60 by selling drinks and truffles. It may not seem much, but every bit helps. We rely on volunteers and run on the smell of an oily rag.

Find out what's going on

Facebook allows us to quickly share information with you. We aim to be a reliable source of local information. Follow us to keep up with events as they happen. www.facebook.com/NESEInc

In 2016 our two most popular posts were:-

- Plan of proposal for schools, pools and recreation at QEII Park (3365 reached)
- Questions about QEII Park Campus? (2259 reached)

There will be several opportunities for you to influence QEII Park's development in 2017.

NESE's Management Committee 2016

I would like to thank committee members for their ongoing commitment towards achieving our community's goals. The Management Committee is a dedicated group of volunteers from the local community. NESE's Management Committee 2016 was Amanda Williams (Chairperson), Greg Morehouse (Vice Chair), Elissa Smith (Secretary) Kerri Rowlands (Treasurer) and Committee Member Rae Mills.

Amanda Williams
Chairperson