

## **Annual Report 2018**

The North East Secondary Education Committee Inc. (NESE) advocates for secondary education in North East Christchurch. NESE has been actively lobbying politicians and the Ministry of Education since 2009. NESE's Management Committee members are all volunteers from our local community.

### **Building alliances in the community**

NESE committee members continually meet people in the community to share ideas and gather public opinion and feedback in education related issues. NESE Committee members consult widely to establish good working relationships with influential people and organisations. In the last year committee members met and attended meetings with representatives of other organisations, elected officials and community leaders. Some of these are detailed below. We continue to benefit greatly from their advice and encouragement.

### **NESE's School Zone Strategy for North East Christchurch**

NESE's School Zone Strategy was developed in October 2017 and submitted to the Ministry of Education to help inform the city wide school zone review. In addition, the report identified specific issues in North East Christchurch where access to secondary education could be improved through school zone implementation, road safety upgrades and bus route improvements etc.

Subsequent meetings with the Ministry of Education and other education leaders generated good discussion. One of our suggestions has already being implemented, with indications that more may follow. Email us to receive your copy of this report at [nese.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:nese.newsletter@gmail.com)

### **QEII Park Campus – New School Zones**

The Ministry of Education is reviewing the new school zone for Avonside Girls' and Shirley Boys' at QEII Park. Changes will be made to the two schools' current enrolment schemes to reflect their new location. This decision is being made in conjunction with the review of all Christchurch secondary school zones. Zone review discussions are progressing. Schools with established zones may have boundary changes with the revised zones. Schools with no current zone may have a zone implemented.

NESE advocates for a dual layer for school zones, where every home has access to both co-ed and single sex education. We know our community will have strong opinions about where zone boundary lines are. Public consultation on the new zone for Avonside Girls' and Shirley Boys' will be held in early 2018.

### **QEII Park Master Plan**

In NESE's March 2016 submission to the City Council, on the sale of QEII Park land to the Ministry of Education we asked for a QEII Park Master Plan to be created for the entire 49 Ha of QEII Park. A Master Plan will help maximise the potential of the education, aquatic and other recreational facilities

as well as enabling the incorporation of smaller projects. We also asked for the land sale agreement to include a commitment to work with the community to complete the plan. Progress on this has been slower than we hoped. We understand the community will have the opportunity to have active input in to QEII Park's Master Plan in early 2018.

### **Community Events Attended**

NESE committee members attended the "Red Zone Community Day" in March. They shared their ideas and talked to families with the aim of contributing to a community vision for the long term development of the Red Zone area.

In March committee members were invited to a Council workshop about "Safe and active travel for high school students in Christchurch". After much discussion and debate, the outcome of workshop discussions was a goal to "normalise cycling and walking as methods of transport", encouraging initiatives which make it easy for students to use active transport to get to school.

In May committee members attended the community meeting to hear the plans for Avonside Girls' & Shirley Boys' High Schools at QEII Park. There was a good community turnout with questions answered about the campus layout, school zone, modern learning environments, the availability of the buildings as a community resource and green building systems. The two new schools will open at the start of Term Two in 2019.

### **Mairehau High School**

NESE's Secretary Elissa Smith has been co-opted onto Mairehau's Board of Trustees. The Board will benefit greatly from her sound community knowledge and calm investigative approach.

### **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 at [facebook.com/NESEInc](https://www.facebook.com/NESEInc). Our most popular posts in 2017 were those sharing information on the new QEII Pool complex as well as posts about Avonside Girls' and Shirley Boys' moving to QEII Park. NESE's occasional newsletter was sent to our subscribers in February. Our documents are available on NESE's website [nese.org.nz](http://nese.org.nz) and by email on request from [nese.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:nese.newsletter@gmail.com)

### **NESE's Management Committee 2017**

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. NESE's Management Committee 2017 was Amanda Williams (Chairperson), Greg Morehouse (Vice Chair), Elissa Smith (Secretary) Kerri Rowlands (Treasurer) and Committee Member Rae Mills.

### **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 grateful for your ideas and encouragement.

Amanda Williams  
Chairperson