

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE READERS OF HAWERA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL'S FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016

The Auditor-General is the auditor of Hawera Christian School (the School). The Auditor-General has appointed me, Steve Waite, using the staff and resources of BDO Taranaki, to carry out the audit of the financial statements of the School on her behalf.

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of the School on pages 2 to 18, that comprise the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2016, the statement of comprehensive revenue and expense, statement of changes in net assets/equity and statement of cash flows for the year ended on that date, and the notes to the financial statements that include accounting policies and other explanatory information.

In our opinion the financial statements of the School:

- present fairly, in all material respects:
 - its financial position as at 31 December 2016; and
 - its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended; and
- comply with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand and have been prepared in accordance with PBE Accounting Standards Reduced Disclosure Regime.

Our audit was completed on 24 May 2017. This is the date at which our opinion is expressed.

The basis of our opinion is explained below. In addition, we outline the responsibilities of the Board of Trustees and our responsibilities, and we explain our independence.

Basis Of Opinion

We carried out our audit in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards, which incorporate the Professional and Ethical Standards and the International Standards on Auditing (New Zealand) issued by the New Zealand Auditing and Assurance Standards Board. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Responsibilities of the auditor section of our report.

We have fulfilled our responsibilities in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Responsibilities Of The Board Of Trustees For The Financial Statements

The Board of Trustees is responsible on behalf of the School for preparing financial statements that are fairly presented and that comply with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand. The Board of Trustees is responsible for such internal control as it determines is necessary to enable it to prepare financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Board of Trustees is responsible on behalf of the School for assessing the School's ability to continue as a going concern. The Board of Trustees is also responsible for disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting, unless there is an intention to close or merge the School, or there is no realistic alternative but to do so.

The Board of Trustees' responsibilities arise from the Education Act 1989.

Responsibilities Of The Auditor For The Audit Of The Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements, as a whole, are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion.

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit carried out in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements are differences or omissions of amounts or disclosures, and can arise from fraud or error. Misstatements are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the decisions of readers taken on the basis of these financial statements.

For the budget information reported in the financial statements, our procedures were limited to checking that the information agreed to the School's approved budget.

We did not evaluate the security and controls over the electronic publication of the financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. Also:

- We identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- We obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the School's internal control.
- We evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Board of Trustees.
- We conclude on the appropriateness of the use of the going concern basis of accounting by the Board of Trustees and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the School's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the School to cease to continue as a going concern.
- We evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

- We assess the risk of material misstatement arising from the Novopay payroll system, which may still contain errors. As a result, we carried out procedures to minimise the risk of material errors arising from the system that, in our judgement, would likely influence readers' overall understanding of the financial statements.

We communicate with the Board of Trustees regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Our responsibilities arise from the Public Audit Act 2001.

Other Information

The Board of Trustees is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the Analysis of Variance, the Kiwi Sport Statement, the National Standards Report, the List of Trustees and Statement of Responsibility which form part of the Annual Report, but does not include the financial statements, and our auditor's report thereon.

Independence

We are independent of the School in accordance with the independence requirements of the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards, which incorporate the independence requirements of Professional and Ethical Standard 1 (Revised): *Code of Ethics for Assurance Practitioners* issued by the New Zealand Auditing and Assurance Standards Board.

Other than the audit, we have no relationship with or interests in the School.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Steve Waite', is located above the printed name.

Steve Waite
BDO Taranaki
On behalf of the Auditor-General
New Plymouth, New Zealand