



# Fiordland College Newsletter

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Thursday 30 May 2019

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## From the Principal's Desk



Pasi Sahlberg is a Finnish educator and author who has worked as schoolteacher, teacher educator, researcher, and policy advisor in Finland and has studied education systems, analysed education policies, and advised education reforms around the world. He has written and spoken widely about these topics and was the opening Keynote Speaker at the recent SPANZ (Secondary Principal Association New Zealand) conference held in Wellington, which I had the privilege of attending. One clear message that came in Mr Sahlberg's address was this:

*The quality of an education system cannot exceed the quality of its teachers.*

Your sons and daughters deserve the best, and that is what our teachers are striving for with their strike action and rolling stoppages. We cannot continue to lose teachers from teaching due to burnout, and we need to be encouraging our brightest and best into the profession. So thank you for your support yesterday.

On Tuesday 04 June our teachers and teacher aides will be joining other FINSOL Schools and Early Learning Centres for our Jumbo Day in Lumsden. Consequently, school will be closed for the day and buses will not be running. Enjoy your long weekend.

E haere rā  
Lynlee Smith

## Plant Identification

Last week, Year 7 students, AJ Magness and Joshua Parkinson, walked around the school grounds with Crystal Brindle, the DOC Ranger, to identify different trees. They tied pink tags around the trees, which had their name and number on. These numbers corresponded to the signs that had been made and were then secured in front of each tree.

Thank you to DOC for coming to help with this project.



Identification Signs

AJ & Crystal identifying plants



## Quote of the Week



It's not who I am underneath, but what I do that defines me – Batman

## Extreme Science

The Year 7 & 8 Science classes were treated to Otago Museum's Extreme Science project this week.

Educators Nathalie and Catriona, demonstrated several scientific concepts including diffraction, UV and infrared light, hydrogen versus helium and a visit into the highly anticipated Star Dome. The visit was fully funded by MBIE Unlocking Curious Minds.



Liam Smith & Morgan Wallace



Riyanna Stevenson

## BoT Election Results

### FIORDLAND COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES' ELECTION

### Declaration of Parent and Staff Election Results

#### Declaration of Parent Election Results

At the close of nominations, as the number of valid nominations was equal to the number of vacancies required to be filled, the following were declared duly elected:

**Humphries, Nigel**  
**McDonald, Fiona**  
**Peacock, Madeleine**  
**Willans, Murray**  
**Wright, Kathryn**

Copies of these candidates' statements are on page 3/4 of the newsletter.

#### Declaration of Staff Election Results

At the close of nominations, as there was only one valid nomination received, the following was declared duly elected:

**Zink, Christoph**

**Reminder - Diaries to be signed and handed to form teachers on MONDAY!**

**PTO**

## Hillary Challenge

A team of eight Year 11-13 students competed for the first time at the South Island Hillary Challenge event in Geraldine, last Sunday. A strong performance saw them finish 10th in the mixed premier grade.

17 teams from 15 schools took part in a six hour series of challenges that included problem solving, strategy, mountain biking, orienteering and teamwork.



Makenzie Wilson checking the map



Esther Cole, Rosie McBride, Lucy Schuck, Todd McCorkindale, Jake Tither, Zac Pearson, Makenzie Wilson, Josh Pearson



## 7-A-Side Exchange

Half of Fiordland College travelled to Northern Southland College on Tuesday to compete in the annual 7-A-Side Tournament. There were mixed results with a few 1st, 2nd & 3rd places and one 4th place.

Our students showed great commitment throughout the day. After a mostly dry day, the rain finally caught everyone on the last round of games. The bus home had tired, wet, happy children on board! Well done everyone.

### News just in...

**Overall FC came 1st= with Blue Mountain College!**



## Aerobics

A huge congratulations to Sarah Spargo for her success last week at a New Zealand Aerobics Competition, which doubled as a trial for her.

Sarah won the event in Auckland and has qualified for the Senior (O18) event at the World Cup Series in Bulgaria, in October.

Sara now has a nervous wait to see if she will be selected - we all have our fingers crossed for her!



Sarah with her gold medal

## Kids Restore the Kepler



Kids Restore the Kepler and Southland District Council / Te Anau Library have partnered to bring the award-winning grassroots restoration project to the heart of the community.



The idea is to celebrate and share the kids' knowledge of the Kepler area and their amazing skills and to embark on audacious creative travelling projects linking the libraries and communities in Southland and beyond.

When: Friday 31st May at Te Anau Public Library, from 3:30 to 4:30pm.

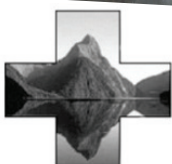
Bring your creativity and enthusiasm and remember, imagination has no limits! We will regularly meet on the last Friday of each month, place and time as per above.

For more information about this new programme, please contact: [alessandra.m@fiordlandconservationtrust.org.nz](mailto:alessandra.m@fiordlandconservationtrust.org.nz)

## Upcoming Events

Mon	03 Jun	Queen's Birthday Holiday
Tue	04 Jun	FiNSCoL Staff Professional Development Day - School Closed for tuition
Wed	05 Jun	BOT Meeting - 7.30pm
Thu	06 Jun	Northern Cross Country - Waikaia
Mon-Wed	10-12 Jun	Yr 13 Biology trip - Portobello
Wed	12 Jun	Southland Badminton
Sat	15 Jun	South Island Cross Country - Timaru

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## Candidate's Statements



### Nigel Humphries

I would like to introduce myself as a candidate for the Board of Trustees in this year's election. I have just completed a third three-term year term on the College Board and have been Chair for the last three years. I have enjoyed being on the Board and would love the opportunity to be involved again in the challenge that the College Board offers. Previously to being on the Fiordland College Board, I was on the Primary School Board for two terms, one as Chairman.

My school education was completed at a similar size rural school and I believe that there are a lot of opportunities offered at Fiordland College that are not possible at bigger schools. I am a strong believer that we have a lot to offer here and we need to make the most of that. Fiordland College is a great place for our kids to gain their education from.

I have lived in the Fiordland area for around 25 years with time in Dunedin as a Property Valuer before returning to Te Anau to run Anchorage Motel 20 years ago. Currently I am a director for our Motel Chain (Golden Chain) and the Chair of the NZ Accommodation Advisory Council which I also represent on the National Hospitality NZ Board.

My wife Fiona is a school teacher (currently on study leave). She usually works as the Guidance Counsellor/Teacher at the College. We have three children, Emily on maternity leave from a teaching position in Invercargill (yes, I am a new grandparent), Nick in Matamata running a software business and Sophia on the big OE. All went through Fiordland College from start to finish.

I look forward to working with the Board and staff ensuring that Fiordland College is a place where all can thrive.



### Fiona McDonald

11 years ago my husband, daughter and I moved to Te Anau. We love living in and being part of the Fiordland community and we have met a diverse group of people in our time here. My daughter is currently a Year 10 student at the College. I am currently employed in an administration position for Milford Sound Tourism Ltd, here in Te Anau and my husband and I have established a small excavating business.

Previous to my current job I held the position of Office Administrator at Mararoa School for 6 years. As part of this role I was the minute secretary for the Board of Trustees and prior to this I was a parent representative on the Board. This has given me a good understanding of the role of parents on a school board.

I think it is important for parents to support the school community and I feel with my experience, skills, the knowledge I have gained from my roles within the education sector and strong family values, I can offer a positive contribution as a parent representative on the Board of Trustees at Fiordland College.

I look forward to your support.



### Madeleine Peacock

I have now served three years on the Fiordland College Board of Trustees and am happy to put my name forward for re-election for the upcoming three-year term. The strengths I bring to this governance role are a working understanding of the Health and Safety at Work Act (I currently chair the Health & Safety committee at Fiordland College), a sound understanding of correct governance processes, I am not a parent and therefore bring a neutral perspective to issues, I am not afraid to ask questions to gain understanding or challenge assumptions. I will always advocate for the rights and best outcomes for students and their whanau while supporting the operational mandate of the Principal and staff.

I hold a Bachelor of Education (Teaching), Post-Graduate Diploma in Health Science (Mental Health). I have worked for seven years in the mental health and addiction sector with adolescents as a counsellor however I now work in tourism as manager of Destination Fiordland. I am a member of the Institute of Directors and have spent the past 10 months on the board of Wayfare Group in the Future Directors Programme. I have been appointed as a Guardian of the Lakes and am secretary for Fiordland Marine Search & Rescue. Fiordland is my home and I anticipate residing here for the foreseeable future.



## Candidate's Statements Continued



### Murray Willans

My name is Murray Willans, we live and farm on a property near the Key. I would like to be considered for the Fiordland College Board of Trustees.

My wife Tarn and I have 3 children currently attending Fiordland College and I am interested in contributing to the running of the College and would bring a pragmatic and strategic perspective to the Board discussions.

I have had experience on School Boards having been involved in the Mararoa Primary School Board of Trustees in the past and currently on the Fiordland College Board after being appointed in October 2018. Through this experience, I believe I have a pretty good understanding of the governance role required of Board members.

I have a strong interest and background in sport and believe exposure to a range of sporting and cultural opportunities is an important part of school life for students, and provided these are balanced with academic obligations, can greatly enhance a student's school experience.



### Kathryn Wright

I have a long and loyal history with Fiordland College.

I was a pupil there during the eighties and nineties, along with my older brothers Mark and Glenn (Deaker). We all gained an excellent education at Fiordland College, and have all subsequently gone on to lead successful careers. I have had one daughter, Tahlia, finish her schooling at Fiordland College and go on to Lincoln University. During her time there, I served one term on the Board of Trustees which I enjoyed immensely.

Now I have a second daughter there, Sophie, and I am again hoping to serve the Board.

I was born in Lumsden and raised in Te Anau – my father was one of the venison pioneers of Fiordland. After I completed my schooling, I went on to have a large and varied hospitality career, including restaurant and event management, and I have been a small business owner. Recently I have completed a double degree through Massey University in Sociology and Psychology, along with public writing papers. After the next part of my study I intend on entering the field of Human Resource Management. I also volunteer for Victim Support, Grief and Loss, and I am a Community Champion. In the past, I have been a board member, Plunket president, PTA member and much more. My husband Dave and I own a deer farm on Kakapo Road.

If I were elected to the Board of Trustees, I would bring the asset of excellent people/interpersonal and communication skills, problem solving and conflict management, as I understand people extremely well. I am an empathetic listener and I validate concerns and listen carefully when I am approached with such issues. Where your child completes their schooling is hugely important and I fundamentally understand this. We have watched the College grow into something to be proud of, in terms of its unique location, what it can offer its students and seeing the pride and commitment displayed by its teachers towards the students. Our somewhat isolated geographical location has not meant that the students miss out – quite the opposite, and I would be honoured to be a part of the team to see it grow even further and fulfil its potential.

To quote an old Māori proverb and to reiterate my position: “What is the most important thing in the world? It is the people, it is the people, it is the people”.