

Tillman Avenue
Strowan
Christchurch 8052
03 352 9208



www.waimairi.school.nz

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Update on school renewal project

Kia ora,

We appreciate there is keen interest in the community around the progress of our school rebuild. Whilst it is a Ministry of Education (MoE) project, both the school management and the Board of Trustees, are keeping a close eye on progress to ensure the outcomes are as expected in terms of quality, functionality, and delivery.

I am sure you are all acutely aware of the lack of activity behind the wire fence, and as such, we thought it appropriate at this point to explain some of the "behind the scenes" activities that are underway.

The construction package has been awarded to HRS as a '*Preliminary & General and Margin*' contract. This means that whilst HRS lead the project, separate trade packages are tendered out, to ensure value for money."

Any savings they make on this can be put into adding further value into the fit out of the school. This process has indicated some large cost saving potentials which has meant a further talk with the designers to ensure these work with the building.

There has been a lot of work is being done to ensure the build will progress as efficiently as possible once the machinery is on site. They hope to have some activity on the site for you all to see within the next two to three weeks.

The MoE want to make sure the disruption with machinery on site is limited, so the time put in now to ensure everything will work means a faster programme to completion and hopefully no delays during.

Overall, the MoE are sitting about one week behind schedule, but we are confident that the extra time spent on detailed planning will mean programme savings later. On a project of this scale it is very tempting to rush in and start building. However, in my experience this inevitably leads to issues and delays as the main build progresses.

So, whilst we are all eagerly anticipating the banging of hammers on site, the background negotiations and design work currently being undertaken is critical to ensuring the very best outcome for the school community.

Finally, we would like to thank the whole school community for your support and patience as we work through this exciting project.

Jeremy Elrick
BOT Property Sub Committee