

Greenpark School: Acknowledging Graeme Lind's lifetime of service



RETIREMENT ANNOUNCEMENT

It is with mixed feelings that the Board of Trustees of Greenpark School formally announces the retirement of our Principal, Graeme Lind, at the end of the 2017 school year. Graeme recently submitted his letter of resignation advising of his intended retirement. We are sad to see the loss of an experienced and highly effective leader in education and of Greenpark School, while celebrating the decision he has made with his wife Vicki to embark on the next adventure in their lives.

A CAREER THAT IS TO BE CELEBRATED

Graeme has spent 46 years in education since he entered Teacher College in Palmerston North in 1972. His first teaching job was at Greerton Primary School in 1975 where he and Vicki lived at 7 Lumsden Street. At this stage, Greenpark School had only three teachers. After 1 year, they moved to Mangatoki School (between Eltham and Kaponga) for a period of two years, before moving to New Plymouth where he was the Sportsmaster at Francis Douglas College. Graeme returned to Primary teaching at Bell Block Primary School in New Plymouth, followed by a position as the District Adviser of Physical Education for the Taranaki Education Board.

Graeme then won the position as the sole-charge Principal of the school in Hurleyville. Following this role, Graeme spent three years as Deputy Principal of Eltham Primary School prior to being appointed to the role of Principal of Masterton Central School (a position that he held for 12 years). Graeme was appointed to the role of Principal of Greenpark School in 2003 following his time in Masterton. Throughout his career, Graeme has held positions of Industrial Advocate and counsellor for NZEI.

Graeme has also had a significant interest in sport and the role physical education plays in the wellbeing and development of youth. While in Taranaki, he served on the Taranaki Primary Schools Rugby Advisory Board, as well as coaching cricket and rugby at Wairarapa College. He also coached Senior A rugby, managed the Wairarapa Bush Representative Team, and was Chairman of the Wairarapa Bush Rugby Union for six years. During this time, Graeme was elected to the foundation board of the Hurricanes, which he retired from when moving to Tauranga in 2003.

While at Greenpark School, Graeme has been actively involved in International Education (which he has been Chair for the last eight years). He has been instrumental in fostering the growth of International Education in the region, and was responsible for establishing the sister school (Hansin) relationship in South Korea. Greenpark School has grown to become the school it has today under the sound leadership of Graeme. An example of this is our new Technology Suite.

Graeme has also been actively involved in the Tauranga Principals' network. He is a role-model and mentor for young principals and willingly provides his time and guidance when this is sought. His service to education is exceptional.

Graeme and Vicki intend to travel, spend more time with their grandchildren and pursue their interests. They are both young and fit and intend to make the most of the time they will gain in their day.

FAREWELL TO COME

The Board will begin to plan Graeme's farewell as the year proceeds.

APPOINTING A NEW PRINCIPAL

The Board is now implementing a Principal appointment process in readiness for the new leader to begin in 2018. We intend to consult with the community, staff and students as part of this process. We look forward to hearing your feedback in due course.

