

# SACRED HEART COLLEGE (LOWER HUTT)

## PARENT BOARD ELECTION CANDIDATE

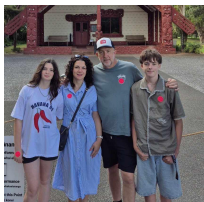
### PROFILES

#### ABBOTT, Natasha



Hello! My name is Natasha Abbott and I am standing for re-election to the Board of Trustees. I have 4 children, with our 3 daughters attending Sacred Heart, two of whom are still current students, one in Year 13 and our youngest in Year 11. I have been on our Board here at Sacred Heart College for the past 3 years, and have really enjoyed being part of a great team doing great things for our College. In my time on the Board, I have been involved in the opening of the new Mission House and our amazing new Art Space. I am standing for re-election to continue to support our staff, students and their whanau whilst also ensuring we remain committed and focussed on upholding the values of our Mission Sisters, with good governance and dedication.

#### CALIAN, Denisa



My partner Matt and I are proud parents of Hugo (14), who is at Hutt Valley High School, and Abi (15); our dog, Milo, is also a very big part of the family. Abi, has been studying at Sacred Heart College (SHC) since last year, previously having studied at Hutt Intermediate and Normandale School. Between 2019 and 2021 I have volunteered as a trustee on the Normandale School Board of Trustees, which was a very rewarding experience for me; hence my reason to stand again for the SHC Board of Trustees. Using my skills as a finance professional to give back to the community is something I value greatly; this is also evident from my current role as the CFO at Nikau Foundation, where I have worked since 2021. I have over 18 years experience in accounting and finance roles, having worked for various SMEs, Corporates and NFPs. Over the years I have gained many skills in finance, but what I am most proud of are my people and collaboration skills. Relationships are very important to me, as well as reaching goals by consensus. In my previous trustee role I enjoyed hearing the community voices through consultation but also informal conversations with parents. I have always been active in the kids' education and sports activities, which allowed me to meet many parents and hear many views and ideas. I am proud of SHC and the education and values that it provides the girls. Abi is very much enjoying being part of it and I would love to have the opportunity to support the school as a parent representative on the Board. Denisa

#### KULA, Paulo



Statement not provided

## MATENGA, Jewelle



I am proud to nominate myself for a position on the Parent Board. As a committed parent and member of our school community, I care deeply about creating an inclusive, supportive environment where all tamariki can thrive. While I haven't previously served on a board, I bring a strong sense of purpose, effective communication, and a willingness to learn. I value collaboration, and I'm passionate about building stronger connections between families, school staff, and the wider community. I also bring personal experience navigating the education system with a neurodiverse child. My son is AuDHD (autistic and has ADHD), which has given me a deep understanding of the importance of inclusive practices, individualised support, and clear communication between home and school. I know the challenges some families face, and I'm committed to being a voice that helps ensure all learners feel seen, supported, and valued. I'm organised, empathetic, and solution-focused. I believe in approaching challenges with an open mind and a calm, practical attitude. I'm particularly interested in supporting student well-being, equity in education, and initiatives that help parents feel engaged and heard. If elected, I will be a committed and present board member, prepared to listen, contribute, and work respectfully alongside others to support our kura and its values. I see this as an opportunity to give back, share what I've learned, and continue growing. Thank you for considering my nomination. Ngā mihi, Jewelle Matenga

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## PEREZ, Joanne (Jo)



Kia ora, my name is Jo Perez and I am standing for election to the Sacred Heart College Board of Trustees. I am a proud former student of Sacred Heart College, attending from 1988 to 1992. The values and education I received during those years shaped the person I am today – and I am grateful that my own daughter is now continuing that legacy as a Year 10 student at the College. I hold degrees in both Science (Physiology) and Commerce (Accounting), and I am a Chartered Accountant with extensive experience in finance, leadership, and strategic governance. Over the course of my career, I have worked closely with a range of boards and executive teams, helping guide complex organisations through growth and change. I am standing for the Board because I believe deeply in the power of our school to shape confident, capable young women. As both an alumna and a parent, I care deeply about the future success of Sacred Heart and how it prepares our girls – academically, socially, and spiritually – for the world ahead. If elected, I will bring a calm, professional and collaborative voice to the Board table, with a focus on financial sustainability, transparent decision-making, and future-focused strategy. I am committed to supporting the principal and staff, listening to the voice of our whānau and community, and ensuring that our school continues to thrive. It would be a privilege to serve and contribute to a strong, vibrant future for Sacred Heart College. Ngā mihi nui, Jo Perez

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## PROCTER, Siobhan



I am excited to put myself forward to be on the Sacred Heart college School Board. I currently have 2 daughters attending the school and I am keen to be part of ensuring that Sacred Heart College continues to support its student and wider community in offering great education within an environment underpinned by strong Christian values. I have extensive management experience having held senior and executive roles over the past 30 years, in both the electricity industry and more recently in Local Government. My most recent role was on the executive team of Wellington City Council, where I was Chief Infrastructure Officer and accountable for managing a significant annual budget and a team of over 150 staff. In that capacity, I was the chair for several project governance boards as well as being on the executive committee for the road controlling authority forum which is a national body. I would welcome the opportunity to apply my skills and experience in the areas of governance, financial management and turning strategic aspirations into a reality through effective action. I think this is a great time to join the board as it navigates an environment of significant change and potential uncertainty. I have successfully led the design and implementation of some significant change programmes so understand the principles of effective change management. I think these skills will be of critical use at this time of change, as we potentially move away from NCEA to a new qualifications' pathway. I have been very impressed with the school's focus on academic excellence as well as providing its students with a range of opportunities. As a board member, I would be fully committed to ensuring that Sacred Heart College continues to support its students to achieve excellence whilst upholding the Christian values of the school.

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## SOMANATH, Manu



I am writing to express my interest in serving as a Parent Elective on the College Board. I am the parent of Manvi Nath, who is currently a student in 9MI, and I am eager to contribute to the school community in a meaningful way. With a professional background in operations and finance, I bring strong skills in strategic planning, budgeting, and problem-solving. I believe these strengths can support the board in making informed decisions that enhance both student experiences and operational efficiency. In my current role as an Operations and Quality Assurance Co-ordinator I am privileged to work closely with 64 schools across Wellington and have valuable experience in property, maintenance and day to day operations. As a parent, I am deeply invested in the educational environment and overall student experience at Sacred Heart College. We admire the College's dedication to encouraging each student to aim for excellence and nurturing them to pursue their full potential. I believe that active collaboration between the college and families strengthens student outcomes, and I am eager to represent the voice of fellow parents while working closely with faculty, administrators, and fellow board members. Thank you for considering my application. I would be honoured to support the board's important work and contribute to the continued growth and excellence of the school community. I welcome the opportunity to further discuss how I can be of service.

## SMITH, Davina



My name is Davina Smith, and I am seeking election to the Sacred Heart College Board of Trustees. I am married to Blair and we have four children, with our youngest currently attending Sacred Heart College. I am also a proud old girl of SHC. For the past 21 years, I've worked as a youth health nurse at Vibe, supporting students across multiple Hutt Valley colleges. In this role, I've provided accessible, youth-friendly health services in school settings—spaces where students feel safe, respected, and supported. I have also been involved in wider health system leadership through maternity governance and quality groups, and I contribute to some community initiatives such as Kura Kai. I am in a unique position to have first-hand insight into the challenges young people face today, and I'm passionate about using this experience to help shape a school environment where all students can thrive. I understand that the role of the Board is to provide strategic leadership and oversight, working in partnership with staff, students, and whānau to guide the direction of the school. I believe my skills in youth engagement, community collaboration, and problem solving thinking would bring a valuable perspective to this mahi. I'm committed to giving back to my community, and I can't think of a better way to do that than by serving on the Board of Trustees of Sacred Heart College.

## TIME-SCRIMSHAW, Bernie



I want to serve a bridge between student communities and the board – bringing youth concerns into policy conversations, ensuring decisions reflect life needs and aspirations of the next generation.

## THOMPSON, Jamie



Tena koutou katoa Ko Jamie Thomson toku ingoa Ko Lower Hutt te kāinga Ko Pihanga te maunga, Ko Tongariro te Awa Ko Taupo nui-a-tia te Moana Ko Ngati Turangitukua te hapu Ko Ngati Tuwharetoa te Iwi. Hello, my name is Jamie Thompson and I am submitting my name for election as a parent representative onto the Sacred Heart Board of Trustees (BoT). I moved from Wellington to the Hutt Valley 23 years ago to buy a house and section to raise my family. Since then, my two daughters and son have attended Waterloo Primary, Hutt intermediate, St Bernards and Sacred Heart. During that time, I have been on the Board of Trustees at Hutt Intermedial and St Bernards (where I was deputy chair and chaired the BoT Policy subcommittee) and now wish to bring my experience to Sacred Heart. I was privileged to be part of St Bernard's continued development and growth, becoming what I believe to be a school of choice in the Hutt Valley. I was proud to play a small role in the impressive results achieved by the students and teaching staff, continuing to achieve high quality NCEA results during what have been difficult times over recent years. In addition to my BoT experience, I consider my work experiences in negotiation, policy development and governance; life experiences as a parent, coach of school sports teams along with my wish to see Sacred Heart continue to grow, will serve me well if elected to the BoT. Through my previous experience on boards of trustees I am aware of the governance role a board takes and the separation of governance from management, which is the responsibility of the school's leadership team. Fundamental to Sacred Heart's continued growth is providing all students with the learning environment they need to achieve to the fullest of their potential, whether that be academically and/or in other areas, for teachers to be enabled and supported and for support staff to have the resources and time to do their job. I look forward to working with the school's management team, fellow BoT members, and the whole school community to continue developing this environment.

## TAMIHANA, Nathan



Kia ora tātou, ko Nathan Tamihana tōku ingoa. As a proud parent of three children – including two daughters currently in Year 9 and Year 11 at Sacred Heart College – I am committed to the values and vision of the school. I take an active role in all aspects of my children's education and sports, and I believe strongly in supporting all students to reach their full potential – academically, socially, and spiritually. I am passionate about fostering an environment where our young women are empowered and well-prepared to meet the challenges of an ever-changing world. Previously, I served as a Board of Trustee at Beach Haven Primary on the North Shore, where I gained valuable experience in school governance and community involvement. I currently serve in the Royal New Zealand Navy, where I have the privilege of mentoring, coaching, and influencing the next generation of leaders. This experience has deepened my commitment to supporting youth development and being an active, positive presence in our school and wider community. Ngā Mihi