



# CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

## STUDENT BOARD of TRUSTEE ELECTIONS

### 2019



**HARIS KHAN (Year 12)**

My name is Haris Khan and I am one of the nominees for this year's student representative on the Board of Trustee panel this year. As a Year 12 student I felt that Whanganui High School has given a lot these past four years, and it is my time to give back to Whanganui High School.

I have a passion in voicing out my opinions around my school life at Whanganui High School. With experiences of being a representative around boards such as the Rural Community Board and Welcoming Communities Team, I feel that I have what it takes to be a reliable Student delegate on the Board. I understand that there is a need for someone who is convincing, brave and hardworking to present the voice for all students. I will work to my greatest ability to make sure that school is an enjoyable place for all. I hope that you consider me as your next student representative for the 2019/2020 term.

*If awarded the opportunity to lead, I will represent all students at Whanganui High School and consider new ideas.*



**MADDISON MCKENZIE (Year 10)**

Hello, I'm Maddi McKenzie, and I'm running to be the Board of Trustees Representative. When seeing the Kamar notice about this, I was intrigued. I'll be an active contributing part of the Board and I'm not going to just to take up a seat.

I have experience as a leader at previous schools and in programs I attend outside of school. I was Junior Class leader 2018-2019. Last three years I've been in debating, so with the right words I can help to get your message through. I'm an AWA house representative on Student Council and we're already working for you.

Board of Trustees, you can trust me. I promise to be so good at fighting for your voice that I'll stand up for you whilst sitting down.

*"I don't want to be a product of my environment, I want my environment to be a product of me." - The Departed*



**HINEKURA PAURO (Year 10)**

Hi there, my name is Hinekura Pauro and I am a Year 10 student. In my spare time I like to read novels and sing. I also have a big passion for Martial arts. What I do in Martial arts is learn about discipline of the mind and body. What I have achieved this year was being form class leader and coming top 6 in the Year 10 speech competition.

I am running for the role of Student Representative, as I believe it is important for the student's voice to be heard at the board's level. Now it is time to give something back. I am not afraid to voice your ideas to the Board of Trustees and would encourage you to make sure your voice can be heard. I will take your ideas seriously and with respect as being the Student Rep, it is a big responsibility which isn't taken lightly.

I want to make a positive change for the student's and I hope that you will vote for me for this big opportunity.



Hi to all, my name is Lauren Phillips. Currently I am a year ten student and feel that I would bring in a fresh, exciting approach to this role.

I really enjoy dancing and performing arts as well as sports, academia, working with others and striving to achieve aspirations. I believe that through one confident voice, hundreds of views and ideas can be not just expressed, but well heard, and I would happily take up the opportunity to do so for our school. I am very comfortable with public speaking and interacting with peers and adults, I have been involved with debating and am a current member of the school council. I believe I can confidently share student voice and provide a caring and approachable bridge between the board of trustees and students.

I like to see myself as an optimistic, caring and friendly person who would be easy to approach at any time and I know how to listen carefully to others. I thoroughly enjoy being in positions of leadership and I have been attracted to this role for how it includes the chance to advocate for change and reward growth and achievement. I feel that I have good communication skills and would take up this role with pride.

I feel that I can bring a non-biased approach to the role and see importance in all issues. I would be very grateful for the opportunity to take up this prestigious role of Student Trustee and would give it my best effort at all times.



### **REBEKAH PHILLIPS (Year 12)**

Hello, my name is Rebekah Phillips and I am a year 12 student. Since starting Whanganui High School I have desired having a student representative role that allows me to become more involved within the school and give back to the students. As well as diving into the school books, I find myself heavily involved with WHS in sports and performing arts aspects including netball, volleyball, dance, singing, and athletics. A lot of my extracurricular time is spent within these activities as well as representing in polocrosse, a sport played on horseback. Looking into 2020, I would like to utilise my communication skills and ability to listen, in a role as Student Trustee.

I think I would be suited to this role as I am a motivated, hard-working student who can relate well to teenagers and my peers. I am confident with public speaking, advocating for change and I am not afraid to voice what needs to be raised to our board. I feel I am an easily approachable person and a very good listener, something this role requires as I am voicing all of you. I like working with people and building relationships so I think I could build a stronger sense of connectivity between the student voice and the board. If I was Student Rep, I would encourage everyone's thoughts as your opinion in this school matters.



### **TAINN SIMPSON (Year 11)**

Hello my name is Tainn Simpson. I go to Whanganui High School which is in Whanganui, New Zealand. A little bit about me, I play minecraft. Only a little bit I like taking a lot of photos and the social medias. I'm #relatable.

I believe I have the necessary skills, knowledge, smarts and know how to become a Student Board of Trustee. I think I will be a great voice for the students and I think I represent the majority of students. I want to make school better for everyone. I want to be on the Board so my voice can be heard and so I can represent.

Overall I think I am the only person who can do this job the best it can because I am willing to put in all the effort to perform the job the best it can.



### **ZOE VAN DER WEES**

Hello! My name is Zoë van der Wees. The reason I am standing for the position of Student Representative is because I want to play an active role in the ongoing improvement of our school and its many facets. I care about the school and believe that there is a disconnect between board members and the needs of students - one which I hope to get rid of.

I believe it is important that our school be an inviting area where everyone feels safe and proud to be themselves regardless of their gender, religion, race, etc. As Student Representative I would listen to everyone's opinions and would strive for decisions in everyone's best interests. I will actively seek improvement in inclusiveness, environmental awareness and priority funding.

I am currently part of the school librarian team, peer mentoring, JA2 netball team and am working on my bronze Duke of Edinburgh award. Being a part of these teams has taught me to work cooperatively with others, to appreciate other people's opinions and values. Although I am year 10 I believe I would be an excellent representative on the Board of Trustees and could potentially have a long term position as student rep.