



Mission Heights
JUNIOR COLLEGE
GROWING GREATNESS
KIA MANA AKE

CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

Triennial Election 2025.

VOTING CLOSES : 4pm on 8 September, 2025

There are 8 candidates and 5 (FIVE) vacancies.

Check your email for the electronic Invitation to Vote. If you receive a postal voting paper, it may be returned to the school office or via NZ Post. You can only vote once. Duplicate votes are declared invalid.

Sana Ur Rahman Kidwai



Kia ora,
My name
is Sana Ur
Rahman
Kidwai.
My family
and I have
proudly
called Flat
Bush
home for
the past 9
years. My

wife, Subia, and I originally moved from India 21 years ago and now feel deeply connected to Aotearoa New Zealand. We feel incredibly fortunate to be raising our two daughters here and to be part of the Mission Heights Junior School community.

With a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science from India and a Postgraduate Diploma in Business from the University of Auckland, I have built a successful career in the IT industry. I currently work as an IT Operations Manager for a leading insurance company. My professional background has equipped me with strong skills in strategic planning, analytical thinking, and financial

oversight — all of which I believe are highly relevant to the role of a school trustee.

I also bring three years of experience as a parent representative on a school board, where I gained valuable insight into the governance and responsibilities of trusteeship. As a parent, I am passionate about providing a nurturing, safe, and future-focused learning environment — both online and offline. I believe in striking the right balance between digital tools and classroom-based learning to foster well-rounded, high-quality education.

If elected, my priorities will be to:

- Strengthen communication between the Board and the school community
- Promote transparency and inclusivity in decision-making
- Foster strong relationships among trustees, staff, and whānau
- Support the effective governance of the school
- Ensure alignment with the school's strategic vision and contribute to continuous improvement
- Set clear goals and celebrate excellence in teaching and learning
- I am committed to making a positive contribution and helping our school thrive as a centre of educational excellence and community spirit.

Thank you for your support and the opportunity to serve.

Ngā mihi nui,
Sana Ur Rahman Kidwai

Carlos Lam Yang



My name
is Dr
Carlos
Lam
Yang and
some of
you may
have seen
me or

know of me from my local workplaces and media. I am also a current Board Member at Mission Heights Primary and currently have a daughter who attends MHJC.

As a parent, doctor and community-minded individual, I wish to bring my varied and extensive experience sitting on committees and boards of various public and private health-based, educational and charitable organizations to our school. I firmly believe that if selected, I will endeavour to support our Board to achieve great things for MHJC by focusing on good governance augmented by robust and honest discussion. I will aim to ensure that we have sound policies that not only benefit the majority of students and their families, but also take

into account individual and unique needs when standard options are unsuitable.

I am distinctly aware of our growing demographically-diverse student base which has particular strengths in the fields of STEM, languages and humanities, and arts and design. As a board member, I will strongly support our leadership and teaching teams "behind the scenes" to garner awareness, create opportunities, and minimize barriers in order to allow our students to participate in as many regional, national and even international competitions as possible. This will ensure that all our talented students are given the opportunity to compete against the best and potentially excel.

I am also a strong proponent of good mental health and will ensure that the school has effective and enforceable policies in place for student welfare. These policies will aim to mitigate and minimize the harm that can ensue from online and in-person bullying, social media addiction, drug and alcohol abuse, and exposure to unhealthy online content.

So for a well-rounded, professional and caring candidate with both current board experience as well as diverse sector governance experience, please tick Dr Carlos Lam Yang.

Jenny Wang



To whom it may concern,
My name is Jenny Wang. I immigrated to New Zealand 25 years ago and am proud to call this country my home. I have two children and have been teaching Chinese and Mathematics for over 30 years, with the past 25 years dedicated to education in New

Zealand.

During this time, I have consistently supported students to achieve excellence, particularly in the NCEA Level 1 Chinese course at Mission Heights Junior College, where I have taught for 15 years. It has been a privilege to see so many of my students thrive academically and grow in confidence. This is my third time standing for the school board. I am passionate about education and committed to serving our entire community. I believe that a strong partnership between families, teachers, and the school board is essential to building a supportive, inclusive, and forward-thinking school environment.

I would be honoured to continue contributing to the school's development as a board member and to represent the voices of our diverse community.

Thank you all.

Warm regards,

尊敬的社区华人朋友们：

我是Jenny,25年前移民到新西兰，我有两个孩子且从教三十余年，其中在新西兰任教已达25年。

在这段时间里，我始终致力于帮助学生取得优异的成绩，尤其在Mission Heights Junior College教授中文课程的15年。

这是我第三次竞选学校董事会成员。我对教育充满热情，愿意更好地服务整个社区。我始终相信，家庭、教师和校董之间的紧密合作，是建设一个支持性强、包容性高、具备前瞻性学校环境的关键。

我期待着继续与大家一同努力，为我们的学生共建更加美好的未来。

Kevin Toto



My name is Kevin Toto, and I am honoured to stand as a candidate for the Mission Heights Junior College School Board Committee. I currently serve as a sports lecturer at Manukau Institute of Technology, and Auckland University of Technology, with a professional

background that spans tertiary education governance, sports coaching, and community engagement. I bring a well-rounded perspective rooted in academic leadership, youth development, and a strong commitment to cultural identity and inclusion.

With several years of experience serving on executive board committees in tertiary education, I've helped guide institutional strategy and policy

with a focus on equity, accountability, and student success. In my teaching and coaching career, I've mentored and supported young people from diverse backgrounds, using sport as a powerful platform to build confidence, discipline, teamwork, and resilience.

As a parent, I'm deeply connected to the Mission Heights Junior College community. I have two daughters currently attending the school in Years 8 and 9, and my youngest daughter will be joining in Year 7 next year. Over the past two years, I've actively supported the school's kapa haka group, and have proudly worked alongside Matua Leroy in preparing the hāngī for Matariki Day.

Beyond school activities, I've played an active role in helping my daughters embrace and share their Niuean culture through dance, culminating in their performance at the Moana Nui a Kiwa Festival—an experience that celebrated cultural pride and Pacific identity in our school and wider community.

If elected to the board, I will:

- Champion inclusive and culturally responsive education, with strong support for Māori and Pacific learner success
- Advocate for sports and physical education as vital components of student wellbeing and engagement
- Support high-quality STEM learning and smooth transitions from secondary to tertiary education
- Strengthen community voice in school decision-making and build partnerships with whānau and iwi
- Prioritise the wellbeing and professional development of teachers, ensuring they are supported to do their best work

I believe education should nurture the whole child—academically, culturally, physically, and emotionally. With a strong background in education, sport, governance, and family involvement at MHJC, I am ready to serve and contribute meaningfully to our school's future.

Thank you for your support.

Kevin Toto
Sports Lecturer, Manukau Institute of Technology

Noble Jose



Kia ora,

My name is Noble Jose, proud parent of Amelia Anna Noble (9F2), and two younger children currently at Mission Heights Primary who will eventually join MHJC.

While I'm fairly new to New Zealand, I bring 22 years of experience in creative industries, business, and community engagement.

Professionally, I've worked with global brands like IBM and Dell, and now run a small branding, marketing, and web design agency here in Auckland. I'm also part of local business networks and take on side hustles like Uber driving to stay connected with the community and explore our beautiful city. Previously, I was an active member of the Parent-Teacher Association back in India.

My wife, Saumya Mathew, is a senior Registered Nurse working in the Emergency Department at Middlemore Hospital. As a family, we are strongly rooted in our local community and committed to giving back wherever we can.

I also serve as a sub-committee member of a New

Zealand Indian cultural club, contributing to cultural events and community outreach, with a strong focus on inclusion and diversity—values that align closely with MHJC's vision.

I'm passionate about problem-solving, creativity, and making life easier and better for others. My personal motto is: "It's a beautiful world, let's be beautiful." That mindset guides all I do.

I am committed to respecting the cultural and distinct values of this country, and am genuinely fascinated by the richness of Māori and Polynesian culture. I'm continuously learning and embracing these traditions, and would be honoured to support MHJC in upholding its responsibilities under Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

Although my daughter has only one more year at MHJC, I'm fully committed to the three-year term, with two more children on their way to join the school. I would be honoured to contribute meaningfully to the school's governance and future growth.

Paul Hale



I am currently the deputy presiding member on the Mission Heights Junior College board of trustees, as I am also for the Mission Heights Primary School.

If re-elected this will be my 3rd term to serve on both boards.

Being associated with both schools provides me

with a great insight and oversight of the education of our children (of which I have one at each school).

I look forward to being of service to our local community with your support.

Thank you and regards

Anjuman Gautam



Greetings, I, Anjuman Gautam would like to be part of the Mission Heights Junior College school board. My daughter Adiva Gautam is currently a Year 7 student at the school. I have been part of the Everglade

Primary School board for the last 3 terms.

I am self employed, running an hospitality business for the last 14 years. I have an extensive experience in HR, Accounting and Business Management.

Thank you and look forward to it.

Anjuman Gautam

Namulau'ulu Anne Singh



Our Tamariki are important. They are our future. I want them to have a safe and strong sense of belonging holistically whereby education is the foundation of every aspect of their lives.

Namulau'ulu

Anne Singh is a passionate servant leader of our community. She has lived in Mission Heights area for more than 13 years, is married and has a son attending MHJC since Mission Heights Primary school new entrance. With a wealth of knowledge and experience of over 17 years in the ECE sector, Anne is an Early Childhood Education Complex Manager with a full Teacher registration from the Teaching Council and Health and Safety. Anne is multilingual whom speaks fluently in Samoan, Te Reo, Punjabi, Hindi and a working knowledge of New Zealand Sign Language; with a strong foundation in health, safety and wellbeing - having been appointed formerly as a representative at a cluster and regional level for Auckland Council.

Anne has strong links to the community being the current and first Pacific woman to be elected as Presiding Member for the Board of Mission Heights Junior College whom is working with the Property Subcommittee, and a Trustee on the Board of Mission Heights Primary School for the last 3 terms, a former Rotarian, former trustee of Leataata Preschool, Co-Founder of the Indian Kiwi Positive Ageing Charitable Trust, White Ribbon

Ambassador, Ambassador for Peace and currently serving as an Independent Marriage Celebrant and as a Justice of the Peace.

Our Board's focus in the last 3 years was on establishing a robust Board and having a close relationship with our Principal, our Priority Learners - Maori and Pacific tamariki's learning outcomes alongside all students, staff wellbeing, property projects, putting people in the right seats, processes and systems; and being involved and present at every school event including the Beautification Trust - Eye on nature wearable arts and the ASB PolyFest celebrating 50 Years 2025.

If re-elected again, our focus would hopefully be to maintain professional and close relationships with the Principal and Board Members, Whanau, finish off the property projects that is currently underway, continuous promotion of staff wellbeing, continuous engagement and involvement in school events and to focus not only on our Priority Learners but also on our Ethnic Tamariki and ALL akonga to also thrive together - NELPS 1: All learners are at the centre of everything, and we are ensuring their learning environment is safe holistically.