

Mr. Wood.

PALMERSTON NORTH HIGH SCHOOL.

[LOCAL BILL.]

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A BILL INTITLED

AN ACT to provide for the Establishment and Management of a High School at Palmerston North, or in the Neighbourhood thereof, within the Education District of Wanganui. Title.

5 WHEREAS it is expedient and desirable to make special provision for the establishment and management of a high school within the Education District of Wanganui or near the Town of Palmerston North: Preamble.

10 BE IT THEREFORE ENACTED by the General Assembly of New Zealand in Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

1. The Short Title of this Act is "The Palmerston North High School Act, 1903." Short Title.

15 2. The Board of Governors hereinafter mentioned shall establish and maintain in the Town of Palmerston North or the suburbs thereof a school or schools for the higher education of boys, or of girls, or of both, to be designated "The Palmerston North High School." "The Palmerston North High School."

20 3. The Board of Governors shall be constituted as hereunder, under the name of "The Board of Governors of the Palmerston North High School" (hereinafter called "the Board"), by which name such body corporate shall have a perpetual succession and a common seal, and may acquire and hold lands, and sue and be sued, and may do Constitution of Board of Governors.

and suffer all such things as corporate bodies may do and suffer. The said Board shall be constituted as follows:—

Two members appointed by the Wanganui Education Board ;

Two members appointed by the Campbell Street School Committee of Palmerston North ;

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Two members appointed by the College Street School Committee of Palmerston North ;

Two members appointed by the Terrace End School Committee of Palmerston North ;

One member appointed by the Palmerston North Borough Council ;

One member appointed by the Kairanga County Council.

Five members of the Board shall retire from office on the thirtieth day of April in each year, when their successors shall be elected, the order in which the members shall first retire being decided by ballot at the annual meeting of the Board or thereafter.

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Members of the Board shall hold office for two years.

In the event of any vacancy occurring on the Board through resignation, death, or otherwise, the Board shall fill the vacancy, and the person thus appointed shall remain in office for the remainder of the term to be served by the member whom he succeeds.

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First meeting of Board for election of Chairman.

4. (1.) The Board shall hold its first meeting on a day and at a place to be appointed by the Governor for the election of one of its members as Chairman of the Board ; and the Chairman of the Board then elected shall come into office on his election, and shall hold office until the day of the annual meeting, in the month of April in the year one thousand nine hundred and four, or until his successor is elected.

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Annual meeting.

(2.) The Board shall hold an annual meeting in the month of April in each year, at such time and place as the Board shall direct.

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Election of Chairman.

5. At the first meeting, as hereinbefore mentioned, and at every annual meeting to be held after the year one thousand nine hundred and four, the Board, by a majority of the members present, shall elect one of its members to be Chairman, who shall come into office on his election, and shall hold office for a term of one year only, or until his successor comes into office, but shall be eligible for re-election. In the event of there being an equality of votes, the election of a Chairman shall be decided by lot at such meeting. At such election some person appointed by the Governor shall preside, but shall have no vote.

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Procedure where vacancy in office of Chairman.

6. If the Chairman shall from any cause cease to be a member of the Board, or resign the office of Chairman, the Board shall, as soon thereafter as conveniently may be, elect another member of the Board to be Chairman in his stead, who shall hold office only until the next annual election of a Chairman as hereinbefore provided.

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Chairman to have deliberative vote and casting-vote.

7. At all meetings of the Board the Chairman, or, in his absence, such member of the Board as the majority of the members assembled shall choose, shall preside ; and such Chairman or presiding member shall have a deliberative vote, and, in all cases of equality of votes, shall also have a casting-vote.

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Board to have entire control over all schools.

8. There shall be vested in the Board the whole control and management of the high school or schools to be established under

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this Act, and also the entire superintendence over all the affairs concerns, and property thereof, with full power to appoint and dismiss all masters, teachers, lecturers, examiners, and other necessary officers and servants; and in all cases unprovided-for by this Act it shall be lawful for the Board to act in such manner as shall appear to it best calculated to further the purposes intended to be served by the establishment of such schools; and the Board shall have full power from time to time to make, alter, and rescind by-laws and regulations for defining the course of study and education on secular subjects in the said high school or schools, and also for regulating the discipline and examination of the same, the conditions upon which the scholars shall be admitted, and the fees to be paid in respect of such admission, and, in general, touching all other matters, purposes, and things regarding the said high school or schools.

9. The Board shall appoint a Secretary and Treasurer, and shall define the duties attaching to such positions.

Secretary and Treasurer.

10. The Board shall make, and may from time to time revoke, vary, and make fresh, regulations for the conduct of business at the meetings, for determining how meetings shall be convened, and what number of members shall constitute a quorum thereof, and for such other like matters as may be requisite for the conduct of business of the Board.

Regulations for conduct of business.

11. Minutes of proceedings of the Board shall be regularly entered in a proper book to be kept for that purpose, and at every meeting shall be read over and signed by the chairman of the meeting at which the same shall be read, and the minutes when so signed shall be held to be a true statement and record of the proceedings of the Board for all purposes whatever.

Minutes of proceedings.

12. The Board shall keep full and accurate accounts of all its receipts, disbursements, assets, liabilities, and engagements, and shall, on or before the thirty-first day of January of each year, cause the same to be audited by such person as the Governor shall appoint; and copies of such accounts, when audited, shall be forwarded to the Minister of Education, together with a report of the proceedings of the Board during the previous year; and such reports and accounts shall be laid before the General Assembly at its next session.

Statement of receipts and expenditure.

13. All things required by this Act to be done by the Board shall be done in accordance with and in pursuance of a resolution passed at a meeting of the Board, and no act of the Board shall be invalid or liable to be questioned on the ground that one or more than one of the members thereof was or were incapacitated, or had ceased to hold office, or on the ground that the seat of any member was vacant.

Transactions of Board.

14. The rents, profits, and income of all real and personal estate which may be purchased or held by the Board, or granted or acquired as a site or sites or otherwise for the benefit of the said high school or schools, or given, devised, or bequeathed to the Board for the benefit of the said high school or schools without any trusts or powers of a different nature being expressed in the instrument so giving, devising, or bequeathing to the Board, and all reserves of land that may be hereafter made by the Governor for the benefit of the said high school or schools, shall be held and dealt with by the Board under and subject to the provisions of "The High Schools Reserves Act, 1880,"

How property held by Board to be dealt with.

the Palmerston North high school or schools being hereby declared to be a high school under that Act.

How funds of Board to be applied.

15. The rents, profits, and annual income of all real and personal estate that may be vested in the Board, with all funds which may from time to time be derived from fees or payments made in respect of scholars or students attending the said high school or schools, together with any annual or other allowance that may be made by the General Assembly of New Zealand or the Government of such colony, shall be applied by the Board for the maintenance of the said high school or schools and the payment of the salaries and expenses connected therewith, and for prizes, exhibitions, and scholarships for the students therein: Provided that the Board shall have power to set apart, if it sees fit, out of the said rents, profits, and annual income such part as it shall consider advisable, either as an addition to the capital fund, which shall then be invested in manner hereinafter mentioned and dealt with as part of the capital fund, or as a reserve fund to meet extraordinary expenses, which shall be invested and dealt with in such manner as the Board shall direct.

Proviso.

Power to Board to invest moneys.

16. With respect to any moneys bequeathed or given to the Board for the said high school or schools, or being rent, profits, and annual income set apart under the *preceding* section, the Board shall have power to invest the same in the purchase or upon mortgage of freehold lands in New Zealand, or upon the stocks, bonds, bills, or debentures of the Government of the Colony of New Zealand or issued by any local authority therein under the Act of the General Assembly, and may from time to time vary such investments.

Board empowered to purchase land and erect buildings.

17. The said Board may, out of such moneys as shall come into their hands by virtue of this Act or otherwise for the benefit of the said high school or schools, expend any sum or sums in purchasing land and erecting and maintaining suitable buildings and premises thereon for the use of the said high school or schools, and for residences for the masters, teachers, and other officials employed in connection therewith.

Colonial Treasurer to make quarterly payments to Board.

18. The Colonial Treasurer, without further appropriation than this Act, shall, out of the Consolidated Fund, pay quarterly to the Board for the purpose mentioned in section *fourteen* hereof the sum of six hundred and fifty pounds; such payment to be made during the months of October, January, April, and July in each year, commencing from the first day of October in the year one thousand nine hundred and three.

Inspection of schools.

19. The said high school or schools shall be subject to inspection by an Inspector appointed by the Minister of Education.

Certain land to be vested in Board.

20. The piece of land described in the Second Schedule of "The Palmerston North Reserves Act Amendment Act, 1901," and the buildings thereon, are hereby vested in the Board constituted under this Act as an estate in fee-simple, and shall cease to vest in the Wanganui Education Board.

Amendment of "The Manual and Technical Instruction Act, 1900."

21. The First Schedule of "The Manual and Technical Instruction Act, 1900," is hereby amended by the addition of the words "The Palmerston North High School."