**Minutes of HBETA Meeting on November 26, 2015**

Held at Hastings Girls’ High School in the Library at 4.30pm

<http://hbeta.wikispaces.com/>

It was noted that the meeting was not well attended. Apologies were received from the Karamu High School teachers who were at their principal’s farewell.

1. There were no matters arising from the minutes from the last meeting. http://hbeta.wikispaces.com/
2. Thanks to Karen Wilson from NBHS for organising the John McKenzie Writing Competition 2015. The presentation of prizes was held immediately prior to the HBETA meeting. Some of the five finalists, accompanied by their proud parents, attended and were presented with their cheques and a booklet with the winning pieces and the judge’s comments. The winning piece was read by Holly Foulkes from Karamu High School and she was then awarded the trophy. Photos were taken of the students. Karen will upload a link to the handout on the HBETA wiki.

Our thanks to Sarah Rose, who is a New Zealander living overseas, for judging the writing. Her cheque is in the post. It was noted that there were only 20 entrants and prose was more popular than poetry so teachers could encourage more students to enter next year, maybe with their writing folio pieces.

1. Debating. Thank you to the current teachers in charge of debating:

Year 9 - Steven ???, St John’s College

Year 10 - Gwenda Cowlrick, Napier Girls’ (not available next year)

Year 11 - Nicola Lewis, HGHS (lw@hastingsgirls.com)

Year 12/13 - ???

Nominations are needed for next year’s gaps.

4. Big Day Out. It was decided that this should be planned in Term 1 next year and the date set for Term 4 next year, to allow sufficient time for requesting relief etc.

5. HBETA Host schools for 2016 are:

Term 1 - Hamish Crafar, Taradale High School

Topic:

Term 2 - Lorraine Venter, Westmount School, 102 Percival Street, Hastings.

Topic: Virtual teaching and self-directed learning.

Term 3 - ??? (Suggested it was the turn of Napier Girls, Sacred Heart or Woodford)

Topic

Term 4 - Amy Price, Karamu High School?

The Big Day Out? Possible workshops: Karen Wilson on using Twitter Chats for PD/educational purposes. Other workshops will be needed.

6. 2016 English Free Workshop. A reminder was made to reply to Cynthia Orr’s request for ideas for this. It was noted that the online anonymous survey did not work for one teacher who had to print and fax it.

7. Read Aloud initiative. Karen Wilson informed us of this initiative for students to work collaboratively, from Kerry Thompson at Tamatea Intermediate. The Year 9/10 page is being hosted by Karen Wilson. Go to [www.newzealandreadaloud.wordpress.com](http://www.newzealandreadaloud.wordpress.com) or Twitter #NZReadAloud for more information.

8. Retirement. It was noted that Moira Scammell is retiring as HOD at Tamatea High School and Catherine Blomkamp (NGHS) has been appointed to her position. Also, Kimberley ?? is moving to Sacred Heart College. Congratulations on the new positions for 2016.

Thank you to HGHS for hosting and provided nibbles and drinks.

The meeting finished at approximately 5pm.

*Zanita Thompson*

*Secretary, HBETA*