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Mr. Weston.

WESTLAND HIGH SCHOOL.

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A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to provide for the Establishment and Management of a High School Title.
on the West Coast of the Middle Island of New Zealand.

WHEREAS it is expedient and desirable to make special provision for the Preamble.
5 establishment and management of a high school for the education of boys and girls, and for the use and benefit of the inhabitants of the west coast of the Middle Island :

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

- 10 1. The Short Title of this Act is "The Westland High School Act, 1882." Short Title.
2. The Board of Governors to be composed and appointed as hereinafter Board of Governors.
provided shall be and they are hereby constituted a body corporate, by the name of the Westland High School Board (hereinafter called "the said Board"), by which name such body corporate shall have a perpetual succession and a common seal, and may hold lands, and may sue and be sued, and may do and suffer all 15 such things as corporate bodies may do and suffer.
3. The said Board shall consist of six persons, of whom two shall be appointed Constitution of Board.
by the Governor of the colony, and of whom one shall be appointed by the Westland, Grey, Buller, and Inangahua County Councils respectively; and the first 20 elections and all subsequent elections by the Governor and by such bodies, whether annual or to fill a vacancy, shall be held on such days, and conducted in such manner in all respects, as they shall respectively from time to time by resolution direct.

25 Provided that the first election by each of such bodies shall take place within three months after the passing of this Act, and all subsequent elections within

- one month after the vacancy in respect of which such election is necessary has been notified, as hereinafter mentioned, to the body entitled to elect.
- Rotation of retiring members.** 4. On the first day of February, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-four, and on the same day and month in every year thereafter, one of the members elected by the Governor and each of such bodies respectively shall retire, and a person shall be elected in his place; the members to retire on the first day of February, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-four, being previously determined by ballot of the said Board, and on the first day of February in every subsequent year the one member shall retire who has served longest on the Board without re-election, but a retiring member may be re-elected: Provided always that, as between two or more members who were simultaneously appointed to the Board, the member to retire shall be determined by a ballot amongst themselves. 10
- Disqualification.** 5. If any member of the said Board shall cease to reside on the west coast of the Middle Island for a period of six months, or shall by writing under his hand resign his office, or become bankrupt, or be convicted of any indictable offence, he shall immediately thereupon cease to be a member of such Board. 15
- Vacancies.** 6. In the event of any vacancy or vacancies occurring by reason of the death, resignation, or otherwise of the elected members of the said Board, such vacancy or vacancies may forthwith be filled up by the election of a new member or members by the Governor and the said County Councils of Westland, Grey, Buller, and Inangahua, according as the vacancy shall have occurred in the case of a member who has been elected by the Governor and the said County Councils. 20
- Notification of vacancy.** 7. It shall be the duty of the Chairman of the said Board, or some other officer authorized for the purpose by it, immediately on a vacancy occurring, to notify the same in writing under his hand, and post it addressed to the Governor or to the Chairman or other principal officer of the body entitled to elect to such vacancy. 25
- Governor may appoint in case of neglect or refusal of County Councils.** 8. In the event of the refusal or neglect of either of the said County Councils to elect a member of the said Board within the time specified by this Act for such election, the Governor may appoint a member in lieu of the member who should have been so elected. 30
- First meeting.** 9. 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 a Chairman, and the Chairman then elected shall hold office until the said first day of February, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-four. 35
- The Board shall hold an annual meeting for the like purpose in the month of February in each subsequent year.
- At every such meeting the Board, by a majority of the members present, shall elect one of its number to be Chairman, who shall hold office for a term of one year only, but he shall be eligible for re-election. 40
- In the event of there being an equality of votes, the election of Chairman shall be decided by lot at such meeting.
- Vacancy in office of Chairman.** 10. If the Chairman shall from any cause cease to be a member of the said Board, or resign the office of Chairman, the Board shall, so soon thereafter as conveniently may be, elect another member of the Board to be Chairman in his stead, who shall hold office until the next election of a Chairman as hereinbefore provided. 45
- Chairman has deliberate and casting vote.** 11. 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. 50

12. It shall be lawful for the said Board to establish and maintain in one or more of the towns or suburbs of the west coast of the Middle Island a school or schools for the higher education of boys, or of girls, or of both, and to designate the same by distinctive names, all of which schools, however, are throughout this Act included in the term "high school" or "Westland High School." Provided always that the site of the first school shall be fixed upon and selected by the Governor.

Board may establish schools for higher education.

13. There shall be vested in the Board the whole control and management of the said high school, and the said Board shall have full power to appoint and dismiss all professors, masters, teachers, lecturers, examiners, and other officers and servants for the management of the said high school; and also the entire management and superintendence over all the affairs, concerns, and property of the said high school; and, in all cases unprovided for by this Act, it shall be lawful for the said 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 a high school: And the said Board shall have full power from time to time to make by-laws and regulations for defining the course of study and education on secular subjects in the said high school, and also for the discipline and examination of the same, the conditions upon which 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.

Control and management thereof vested in Board.

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

Regulations for conduct of business of Board.

15. Minutes of the proceedings of the said Board shall be regularly entered in a proper book to be kept for that purpose, and at every meeting of the said Board the minutes of the previous 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 whatsoever.

Minutes of proceedings.

16. 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 the month of January in each year, cause the same to be audited by such person as the Governor may appoint; and copies of such accounts, when audited, shall be forwarded to the Minister in charge of the Department of Education, together with a report of the proceedings of the said Board during the previous year; and such report and accounts shall be laid before the Assembly at its next session.

Accounts.

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

Acts to be done in pursuance of resolution passed.

18. The reserves to be vested in the Board in pursuance of the provisions hereafter contained, and all other real and personal estate which may be purchased by the Board, or granted as a site or sites or otherwise for the benefit of a high school, or given, devised, or bequeathed to the said Board for the benefit of the said high school, without any trusts or powers of a different nature being expressed in the instrument so giving, devising, or bequeathing to the said

Reserves vested in Board to be under "The High School Reserves Act, 1880."

Board, and all reserves of land that may be hereafter made by the Queen for the benefit of the said High School shall be held and dealt with by the said Board under and subject to the provisions of "The High School Reserves Act, 1880," the Westland High School being hereby declared to be a high school under that Act.

Application of rent and profits.

19. The rent, profits, and annual income of all real and personal estate which may be vested in the said Board, together 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, together with any annual allowance that may be made by the General Assembly of New Zealand or the Government of such colony shall be applied by them for the maintenance of the said high school, and the payment of all salaries and expenses connected therewith, and for prizes, exhibitions, and scholarships for the students therein: Provided that the said Board shall have power to set apart, if it shall see fit, out of the said rent, profits, and annual income, such part of as it shall consider advisable either as addition to the capital fund, which shall then be invested in manner as hereafter mentioned and dealt with as part of such capital fund, or as a reserve fund to meet extraordinary expenses, which shall be invested and dealt with in such manner as the said Board shall direct.

Investment of moneys.

20. With respect to any moneys bequeathed or given to the said Board for the said high school, or being rent, profits, and annual income set apart under the preceding section, the said 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 of any municipality established within such colony, and from time to time vary any such investment.

Reserves vested in Board

21. It is hereby enacted that the reserves hitherto set apart for secondary education in the Provincial District of Westland under and by virtue of "The Education Reserves Act, 1877," together with the cash proceeds of so much thereof as may have been sold and disposed of under "The Kumara Education Reserve Act, 1879," shall vest in the Board that may be from time to time appointed under this Act, and shall be taken to be a reserve and an endowment within the meaning of "The High School Reserves Act, 1880:" Provided always that nothing herein contained shall be taken to repeal the said "Kumara Education Reserve Act, 1879," except in so far that the Board shall, upon their appointment, enjoy and execute all the powers and privileges that are vested in the School Committee in the said Act referred to.

Expenditure in erection of buildings for high school authorized.

22. 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, expend any sum or sums not exceeding in the whole the sum of *three thousand* pounds in erecting suitable buildings for use as a high school, upon the site to be selected by the Governor in terms of section *twelve* of this Act.

High school to be subject to inspection.

23. The Westland High School shall be subject to inspection by an Inspector appointed by the Minister of Education.