



BOARD BITES

Update from Whangarei Intermediate School Board of Trustees: August 2018 Newsletter

Kia ora Koutou katoa, Kiaorana, Talofa Lava, Greetings.

This is the update from your BOT meeting of 6 August 2018.

HIGHLIGHTS As per the Principal's Report

641 students = Y7:365 and Y8:276

WELCOME NAU MAI HAERE MAI

Mr Kupenga Manukau will be the new teacher in Ruma 23 for the remainder of the year. Nau mai hoki mai. Dānica Pevats who returned from maternity leave. Dānica Pevats resumed her leadership of Te Whanau o Kahurangi.

COL 2/KAHUI AKO TUARUA

The group has met and has determined the following achievements challenges across the cluster. These are yet to be approved by the MOE.

Achievement Challenge 1: Oral Language

Our challenge is to lift student oral language skills from ECE through to Year 13 by increasing their vocabulary and confidence in speaking and expressing their knowledge and ideas.

Achievement Challenge 2: Written Language

85% of students confidently and competently working at the required entry level in writing for Year 1, Year 7, and Year 9 in order to develop their knowledge and ideas and therefore access the New Zealand Curriculum.

Achievement Challenge 3: Supported Transitions

Develop a common transition framework around HEART (Hauora, Engagement, Achievement, Retention and Transition) to support and sustain student transition through their education pathway

Achievement Challenge 4: Culturally Responsive Pedagogies

Build learning capacity and achievement around the use of culturally responsive pedagogies underpinned by a growth mind-set

MID-YEAR PARENT/TEACHER/STUDENT INTERVIEWS

Mid-year interview attendance were 74% (79%) and 65% (71%) for Maori parents. A number of interviews were cancelled due to illness or holidays and there are stories of teachers taking the opportunity to have impromptu interviews at a different time. Teachers indicated they had made 118 phone calls to whanau and a number of interviews were actually completed over the phone. Some staff hypothesised that the lower turnout may have been due to the team sharing that took place the week before which may have lowered the turnout.

HAPŪ CONSULTATION

Hoana Pearson (MAC coordinator), Te Ringakaha (HOD Maori), Leanne Otene (Manaia View Principal), Bruce Crawford (Hikurangi Principal) Alec Solomon (Tikipunga High Principal) and I are planning to attend 2x Hapū Consultation hui sometime on the 22 and 23 August. We have instigated the meetings ourselves as we are planning to create a Nga Puhitanga Curriculum for all of our schools in our MAC cluster and would love input from our 13 local hapū. Our goal is for all of our schools to teach about the significant sites and their stories pertinent to Parawhau and other associated hapū.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

We plan to survey our parents either hard copy or via google surveys and will present the findings at the next BOT hui. We also survey our students at the same time albeit on google surveys.

ENGLISH MEDIUM STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Maths

Currently 64% of our Year 7 students are still below the standard. This is interesting as on standardised testing this cohort was higher than the current Year 8 group. We need to move 35% of our Year 7s to keep them on track for the end of the year. Currently 53% of our Year 8



students are below the desired target. We need to move 22% of our Year 8s to reach our desired level by the end of the year. We have two large groups in Year 7 and 8 just below the target, 44% and 32% respectively these students are the ones we have to prioritise to reach our goals. There seems to be a greater differential compared to our basic facts in regards to our Maori students 71% vs 64% below the goal for Year 7s and 61% vs 53% for our Year 8 students. Large numbers of our Maori students fall just below the desired outcome so these students should be a priority for all teachers.

Reading

42% of our Year 7 students are already at the desired level for reading, 43% more have to move for the school to achieve their goal. 52% of our Year 8 students are already at the desired level for reading 33% more have to move for the school to achieve its goal.

5% of Year 7s and 3% of Year 8s are still in the critical areas of not achieving in reading.

32% and 31 % of our Year 7 and 8 students are just below the expected level for reading.

For our Maori students there is a difference of roughly 5% lower than the main school group in Reading Achievement in Year 7 and 8. 36% of our Maori students are just below the desired level. Year 8 Maori boys are a group of concern falling much lower than their girl and main school group equivalent.

Writing

We have moved many students from the critical to below level especially in Year 7. We have huge numbers in the just below for both year groups 42% if most of these students progressed over the next six months we could achieve some excellent results. We still have far too many students in the well below areas for both year groups

PROPOSED YEAR 9 RUMAKI REO CLASS FOR 2019

Te Ringakaha spoke to his report and invited questions or queries from the Board of Trustees. Hayley and Te Ringakaha are meeting with both WBHS and WGHS in an endeavour to help them understand our pathways and the process now required to fill the need for this. Te Ringakaha asked where to from here? Derek said in his opinion that the Board needed to be more up to speed on this before we 'sell' it to the rest of the Principals. It is important that we socialise this proposal with the relevant High School Boards.

KOREA EXCHANGE

Martin Renjvisk, Anne Cooper and I have been invited to Korea with Charles Han (Korea Expert for New Zealand Schools). The trip will take place last Thursday of Term 3 and all of the first week of the October break. The goal of the trip is for us to develop an exchange between all of our schools where we will visit each other's countries next February. It is a very exciting opportunity particularly if we gain some international students as a result of our exchange.

BOARD REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

Property As school security system is 25 years old and is dying we have been given approval by the MOE to spend our 5YA to upgrade at an estimated cost of \$36,000. A very wise investment. The student council, PTA and the MOE all contributed to paying for the new picnic tables for the students to use during their break times. They look great and the students love them.

Financials Fiscally, the school is currently in a good position with the budget tracking positively. Derek has asked Hayley and Lisa to provide a 6 month forecast which should highlight any variables contrary to the predicted expenditure.

GENERAL: The BOT continues to explore ways in which we can support our great teams with professional development and other initiatives aimed at getting the results our community wants and needs. We will face some challenges next year with a roll forecast to be 740, - a good sign for Whangarei and WIS. We will shortly be consulting our community around various aspects of the school - please have your say.

2018 BOT hui dates: 10 September, 29 October, and 3 December

**Nga mihi,
Derek Slatter for the BOT**