

TE KĀHUI AKO O TE WHANGANUI A TARA

"PROMOTING COLLABORATION ACROSS OUR COMMUNITY TO SUPPORT THE WELLBEING AND OPTIMISE THE ACHIEVEMENT OUTCOMES AT ALL STAGES OF EDUCATION."

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING?

The second half of the year we have been in schools talking with student focus groups and leading conversations with staff. Staff have had opportunities to see teaching and learning across schools and have valued the experience of spending time talking about how learning is designed.

Workshops have been provided for teachers to share initiatives that support wellbeing, equity and strategies to support students to have more ownership in their learning.

During term 4, Year 9 Deans and 2020 Year 9 teachers from the secondary schools have visited primary schools to see the learning environments that students are familiar with. Year 9 and Year 10 students have visited some primary schools to talk to Year 8 students to share some tips and key information to help them at the next stage of College.

We have had a great year of building the team and gathering information that we can now use to inform our work for 2020. The Co Leaders have worked hard to establish a strong group of teachers who can encourage and influence change. Staff have become more involved as the year has continued and we are excited to see more action during 2020.

LOOKING FORWARD TO 2020

We know from the gathering of student voice that there are common threads for improvement which are very important to feeling valued and a sense of wellbeing.

- Building connections with teachers.
- Acknowledging difference in ways to learn.
- Improving communication with whanau.

Greater communication with all parents and the wider community in 2020 will assist with spreading the importance of connecting and building relationships with one another, feeling valued, and having a sense of wellbeing.

We are in the process of appointing a number of positions across the Kāhui Ako so that we are ready with a full team for the start of 2020.

HIGHLIGHTS OF STUDENT FOCUS GROUPS

We have had conversations with over 400 children from the age of 9 years through to the age of 18 years old.

We have been blown away by their honesty and enthusiasm to share ideas and opinions in the hope that we can all make a difference for our future learning and wellbeing.

A highlight has been the insight from students and their messages to us. In particular, if they return in five years time, they are interested in seeing whether we will have acted on the things they told us.

[Good teachers] allow our passions to influence the way that we respond to tasks

Remember we are just kids. We need to be reminded of what the right thing to do is, not to be told off or sent out for doing the wrong thing. It makes us feel uncomfortable.

I don't think my parents see enough of what and how I am learning.

Teachers are getting involved with us - they are not sitting at their desk. They come over and help us if we are stuck which I think is good.

[Our school values everyone having a growth mindset and trying to do your best. Be courageous and never give up is also important.

SOME FAREWELLS AND GRATITUDE

We have accepted Suzanne Pidduck's resignation from the Kāhui Ako Leadership as her husband has a promotion to Principal of Timaru Boys' High School. Suzanne has worked tirelessly and co led the foundation of our Kāhui Ako very successfully. Suzanne will be greatly missed. We wish her and the family well as they embark on new adventures in Timaru. This will provide an opportunity for another Co Leader to be appointed to continue our Dual Leadership model.

We also farewell Dave Cournane an Across School Leader who has shared his passion for positive education with many. Dave has won a new position at Aotea College.

Finally we would like to thank students, teachers, parents and all boards for their support and participation in the work throughout 2019.

KO TE AHUREI O TE TAMAITI ARAHIA O
TĀTOU MAHI
LET THE UNIQUENESS OF THE CHILD GUIDE
THE WORK

