

ERO Readiness Review PSKH interim progress:

Te Kāpehu Whetū -Teina

December 2014

Te Kāpehu Whetū-Teina is an initiative of He Puna Marama Trust. The school will provide education for children in Years 1 to 6, and will bridge the gap between the Trust's established early childhood provision and Te Kura Hourua o Whangarei Terenga Paraoa that opened as a PSKH for secondary students in 2014.

The school is offering places for 65 students in 2015. At this stage, 9 enrolments have been confirmed. Enrolment is expected to be predominately Māori. The Māori kaupapa-based school is committed to enabling tamariki to learn in a bicultural setting.

He Puna Marama Trust has a history as a provider of good quality early childhood education. Ongoing work with the Whangarei City Council to provide a centre for life-long learning and promoting success as Māori provides a framework of commitment and expertise that provide worthwhile support for the development of the school.

The school's vision and direction are focused on its three central goals (pou) that guide all activities in the Trust, Be Māori, Be Educated, and Be Rangatira. These pou form the basis of the school's curriculum, management and governance. The school is keen to offer a bilingual curriculum that combines the *Marautanga o Aotearoa* and the *New Zealand Curriculum*. Their ability to do this will depend on the capability of the staff they attract.

The director of learning and the newly appointed school principal from the established secondary school will extend their leadership roles into the kura teina in 2015. These leaders will draw on the experience and expertise of PSKH they have gained through Te Kura Hourua o Whangarei Terenga Paraoa. The director of learning will work closely with the newly appointed lead teacher and 2 supporting teachers to develop the school's curriculum and pedagogy.

The key mandatory policies to support the provision of a safe physical and emotional environment, as required by the Ministry of Education, have been submitted.

Te Kāpehu Whetū-Teina is making good progress towards operating and managing a Partnership School/Kura Hourua and to providing for students at the beginning of 2015. School leaders are determined that the kura teina and the Terenga Paraoa (kura tuakana) will work closely together towards their common purpose and vision.

Strengths

- The vision and direction for the school is clearly articulated and reflected in documentation. It is based on the established direction of Te Kura Hourua o Whangarei Terenga Paraoa and He Puna Marama Trust. The aim is to provide a sound foundation for students as they progress from early childhood education through their years at school.
- There is an ongoing commitment to engage with the community to best meet the needs of the students and to inform people of the purpose of the school. School leaders report that there has been positive interest and response from the community.

- There is a carefully planned induction process for students and their parents/whānau that reflects the already established Te Kura Hourua o Whangarei Terenga Paraoa processes.
- The kura teina will use the same effective and efficient management system that is in place for Te Kura Hourua o Whangarei Terenga Paraoa.
- Key teaching staff have been appointed after a careful appointments process, and leaders are considering an additional teacher appointment. The new appointments have relevant experience in reporting student progress and achievement using *Ngā Whanaketanga* and *National Standards*.
- Good systems are in place to prevent the over commitment of key management personnel.

Challenges ahead include:

- building a constructive relationship with the governance facilitator (who is yet to be appointed) so that school leaders can benefit from this support
- developing the school curriculum, and building a shared understanding of teaching and learning practices to support the school direction
- ensuring that all documentation is specific to the school, clearly defines the school curriculum and supporting pedagogy, and focuses on the provision of a safe physical and emotional environment
- clarifying assessment and ensuring appropriate assessment tools are used to monitor student progress and demonstrate success
- ensuring a suitable student management system is in place by the start of the school year
- managing the temporary premises and facilities at the start of the school year in 2015 until the proposed premises are made fit for purpose
- continuing to build the number of enrolments.

The ERO Readiness Report for this school is due at the end of Term 1, 2015.