

15 February 2016

IM60/104/52/3


Education Report: Partnership Schools | Kura Hourua Third Quarter Reports 2015

Recommendations

We recommend that the Minister of Education:

- a. **note** for the third quarter reporting period [1 July – 30 September 2015], all sponsors apart from Ngā Parirau Mātauranga Charitable Trust confirmed they were substantively meeting the contractual requirements as set out in the Partnership Schools Agreement;
- b. **note** the Deputy Secretary, Sector Enablement and Support, appointed to administer the Partnership Schools Agreements on your behalf, has approved the 2015 Third Quarter reports;
- c. **note** the First Quarter and Second Quarter reports for 2015 have been, or will soon be, publicly released on the Ministry of Education website; and
- d. **agree** to release the Third Quarter reports on the Ministry of Education website as part of an upcoming information release on Partnership Schools in 2016.

AGREE / DISAGREE


Katrina Casey
Deputy Secretary
Sector Enablement and Support

Encls

NOTED


Hon Hekia Parata
Minister of Education

David Seymour
Under-Secretary to the
Minister of Education

21/2/16

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Education Report: Partnership Schools | Kura Hourua Third Quarter Reports 2015

Purpose of Report

1. The purpose of this report is to:
 - a. confirm the approval of the Third Quarter reports for 2015 from the Sponsors of the Partnership Schools | Kura Hourua (Partnership Schools) that opened in 2014 and 2015; and
 - b. seek your agreement to publicly release the Third Quarter reports on the Ministry's website.

Background

2. Clause 18.2(b)(i) of the Partnership Schools Agreement requires the Sponsors to complete and submit to the Minister quarterly reports by 30 April, 31 July and 31 October of each school year in relation to the previous three months of that school year.
3. On 26 November 2014 you agreed to appoint the Deputy Secretary, Sector Enablement and Support, under clause 34.1(a) of the Partnership Schools Agreement, to administer the Agreements on your behalf [METIS 894825 refers]. This appointment allows the Deputy Secretary to receive and approve the quarterly reports on your behalf.
4. You approved release of the First Quarter reports for the period 1 January – 31 March 2015 on 6 October 2015 [METIS 930174 refers], and the reports were publicly released on the Ministry of Education website on 6 October 2015 [METIS 936757 refers].
5. You approved release of the Second Quarter reports for the period 1 April – 30 June 2015 on 6 December 2015 [METIS 958588 refers], and the reports were included in the subsequent public information release on the Ministry of Education website [METIS 965616 refers].

Third Quarter Reports

6. All Sponsors submitted their Third Quarter reports to the Ministry using a template developed by the Ministry. Eight of the nine reports were received by the due date of 2 November 2015 (the specified date of 31 October was a Saturday). Ngā Parirau Mātauranga Charitable Trust subsequently withdrew its initial report and provided a revised report on 18 November. This followed from BDO's financial audit, which resulted in revised financial data for the first two quarters. The report for Te Kura Māori o Waatea was received on 4 November.
7. All Sponsors received feedback from the Ministry. This feedback identified areas of the report that could benefit from further clarification, and also asked Sponsors to resolve discrepancies in their reports. The most common discrepancies identified were with information provided regarding the previous quarter (Quarter 2) and/or with data held by the Ministry of Education on the number of stand downs, suspensions, exclusions and expulsions.

8. Sponsors were asked to review the feedback and/or discrepancies and resubmit their revised Quarterly Report and/or any appendices by Wednesday 25 November 2015. Complete reports were received from all schools.
9. Five Sponsors, representing six schools, addressed the feedback provided and clarified areas of discrepancy. There are no outstanding issues with the reports submitted for:
 - a. Pacific Advance Senior School;
 - b. Te Pūmanawa o te Wairua;
 - c. Te Kāpehu Whetū – Teina;
 - d. Te Kura Hourua o Whangarei Terenga Paraoa;
 - e. The Rise UP Academy;
 - f. Vanguard Military School.
10. Two Sponsors, representing three schools, have addressed the areas of discrepancy but have not responded to specific feedback:
 - a. Te Kura Māori o Waatea: the Sponsor did not address several comments in their reviewed report which sought clarity on statements made in the report. The content remains as submitted. All other feedback has been addressed.
 - b. Middle School West Auckland: The Sponsor did not review our minor feedback in regards to the Risks and Issues Register. All other feedback has been addressed.
 - c. South Auckland Middle School: The Sponsor did not review our minor feedback in regards to the Risks and Issues Register. All other feedback has been addressed.
11. Apart from Ngā Parirau Mātauranga Charitable Trust all sponsors were substantively meeting the contractual requirements as set out in Clause 16 of the Partnership Schools Agreement. Te Kura Māori o Waatea acknowledged it had not met the reporting deadline, but had met all remaining minimum requirements.
12. The Deputy Secretary, Sector Enablement and Support, appointed to administer the Partnership Schools Agreements on your behalf, approved the Third Quarter reports on 28 January 2016.
13. As previously advised, in making any decisions under this appointment, there will be a practice of 'no surprises'. The Third Quarter reports are attached as Appendix One.

Summary of the Reports

14. A table of roll weekly counts as held in ENROL is provided in Appendix Two. Three schools had stable rolls throughout 2015 (South Auckland Middle School, Te Kura Hourua o Whangarei Terenga Paraoa, and Te Pūmanawa o te Wairua), two experienced a steady increase (Pacific Advance Senior School and Te Kāpehu Whetū – Teina), and two (Vanguard Military School and Middle School West Auckland [at its Henderson campus]) experienced declining rolls. Te Kura Māori o Waatea rose and fell, with an overall increase. The Rise Up Academy had an increase mid-year and then remained flat, citing difficulties in expanding its site to accommodate additional students.

Round One Schools

South Auckland Middle School (Villa Education Trust)

15. The Sponsor reported that:
- a. the school's roll was 117 at the end of the quarter, up from 116 at the end of the second quarter. Its Guaranteed Minimum Roll (GMR) is 115 and its maximum roll is 120.
 - b. it has made a new appointment to the Trust Board and is working to build the capacity and capability of board members. No other organisational changes have been made in the last quarter.
 - c. Term 3 has been very settled and the Sponsor continues to build a culture of academic and personal achievement.
16. The Sponsor has received approval to increase its Maximum Roll to 180 students for 2016, with a GMR of 150.
17. The Sponsor has advised that it has met the minimum requirements set out in Clause 16 of the Agreement for the last quarter.
18. The Sponsor advises all Objectives have been met. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] s 9(2)(g)(i) OIA
19. In terms of performance measures, the Sponsor reports that:
- a. the number of unjustified absences was well within the performance target;
 - b. there were no stand downs, suspensions or exclusions.
20. In terms of student achievement the Sponsor advises:
- a. The timetable is carefully planned for the curriculum subjects of English, technology, science, social studies, mathematics and independent learning in the morning. In the afternoon, students experience co-curricular subjects such as music, arts, physical education and community learning.

- b. It reports student achievement information to parents, family and whānau every five weeks through the project based learning in addition to the two reporting periods in the year and reporting against each student's Individual Base Plan.
 - c. Staff meet after each student assessment period and analyse and discuss the achievement data, work on strategies for improvement, and identify barriers to learning and target students.
21. 97.5 percent of students identify with one or more priority groups.
 22. No health and safety issues have been identified.
 23. The Sponsor continues to engage effectively with parents, family, whānau and iwi. The school has established Whānau Taupua Timi, which acts as an informal communication layer to parents and whānau.
 24. The Sponsor has received no complaints or challenges under the Independent Review Framework in the last quarter.
 25. The Sponsor advises there have been no new risks or issues of note, and it has mitigated those that had been identified last year through a focus on internal staff development.

Te Kura Hourua o Whangarei Terenga Paraoa (He Puna Marama Charitable Trust)

26. The Sponsor reported that:
 - a. the Kura's roll was 77 at the end of the quarter, up from 75 students at the end of the second quarter. Its GMR is 70 and its maximum roll is 300;
 - b. there have been no changes to the organisational structure since the last quarterly report;
 - c. the focus of the third quarter has been on academic achievement, and the Sponsor is making good progress towards the senior students achieving NCEA;
 - d. the Kura has participated in a number of cultural and community events during the third quarter:
 - It competed in the Tai Tokerau Regional Kapa Haka Competition;
 - The Junior Boys team won the Northland junior volleyball tournament;
 - Level 1 and 2 students have been participating in the *Leadership Through League* programme, facilitated by Northland Rugby League;
 - Students have attended various courses run through the Kura's partnerships with Northtec, Te Wānanga o Aotearoa, the Learning Place, and Taratahi Agricultural Training Centre.

27. The Sponsor has advised that it has met the minimum requirements set out in Clause 16 of the Agreement for the last quarter.
28. The Sponsor advises all Objectives have been met. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] s 9(2)(g)(i) OIA
29. In terms of performance measures, the Sponsor reports that there were no unjustified absences, stand downs, suspensions, exclusions or expulsions.
30. In terms of student achievement the Sponsor advises:
- a. it is maximising learning times for all ākonga by using co-constructed Personalised Learning Plans. The timetable and independent learning times also support these plans;
 - b. the Kura utilises a number of innovations of learning including integrating the curriculum areas into one subject that focuses on various skills. Central to this is integrating matauranga Māori across the curriculum so that ākonga can see themselves in what and how information is taught.
31. 100 percent of students identify with one or more priority groups.
32. No health and safety issues have been identified.
33. The Sponsor continues to build and develop engagement strategies based on the approved whānau engagement policy. It notes as a Māori organisation it has a number of well established relationships in Whangarei and the wider region. These personal and professional networks allow the Sponsor to engage with the immediate Kura whānau and the wider Whangarei and Māori communities.
34. The Sponsor has received no complaints or challenges under the Independent Review Framework in the last quarter.
35. The Sponsor advises there have been no new risks or issues of note, but that those previously advised remain open:
- a. The Kura's ability to attract appropriate teaching staff in a small community;
 - b. Throughout 2015 the Kura has been subject to one-sided and biased reports on its operation in the media. Kura leaders have chosen to keep a low profile where possible while still addressing the reports where appropriate. They also use their local media where possible to present what they consider a fairer view of the Kura's operation.

Te Pūmanawa o te Wairua (Ngā Parirau Mātauranga Charitable Trust)

36. The Sponsor reported that:

- a. the Kura's roll was 36 at the end of the quarter, down from 39 students at the end of the second quarter (however it had risen again to 40 by early November). Its GMR is 40 and its maximum roll is 128. There has been an increase in the number of local students attending the Kura;
- b. new trustees Brandon Edwards and Karen Sewell have been appointed to the Trust with De-Ann Brown appointed as the Chairperson. At the Kura, a restructure has led to the disestablishment of three administration positions, and the appointment of an Education Director (0.4 FTE), a Curriculum Manager (0.4 FTE) and an Executive Officer (0.6 FTE);
- c. the driveway has been re-metalled. No property renovations have occurred in the last quarter and none are planned for the remainder of 2015;
- d. it has ended the relationship with two external providers: one due to programme suitability and the other due to police vetting issues. A new paddle boarding provider has been engaged, as part of the Physical Education curriculum;
- e. the risk of closure is significant for the school, with the Specialist Audit having been carried out in October and the Minister's final decision on the future of the Kura pending.

37. The Sponsor has advised that it has not met some of the minimum requirements set out in Clause 16 of the Agreement for the last quarter, however it has resolved other requirements that were previously unmet:

- a. All teaching staff now hold some form of registration;
- b. The Sponsor has submitted the 2014 audited Annual Financial Statements to the Ministry (received 13 November);
- c. The percentage of Curriculum time taught by registered teachers has increased to 75%, but is short of the minimum requirement of 79%.

38. In terms of performance measures, the Sponsor reports that:

- a. the number of unjustified absences exceeded the performance standard considerably and increased in the last quarter;
- b. there were no stand downs;
- c. one student was suspended. The trustees met with all parties involved and elected to let the student remain at the Kura with an implementation plan to address his needs;
- d. There were no exclusions or expulsions.

39. In terms of student achievement the Sponsor advises:
- a. two students have achieved NCEA Level 1, one student has achieved NCEA Level 2, and one student has achieved NCEA Level 3. In addition, a total of 799 credits were achieved by students during the third quarter;
 - b. professional development has occurred this quarter with training in e-AsTTLe, and with NZQA. Staff competence and confidence in evaluating data and utilising results to drive learning is improving. All staff development is focussed on student achievement. The focus in Term 3 was specific to improving staff competence in data evaluation.
40. The Sponsor has advised that it has reviewed and updated all previously-supplied financial information in regard to the Kura for Quarters 1 and 2. Changes to the information previously supplied have been noted in the report.
41. 100 percent of students identify with one or more priority groups.
42. No health and safety issues have been identified.
43. In terms of parent and community engagement:
- a. the Sponsor has engaged the Ngātiwai Education Unit to conduct Whānau Education Plans with students and their whānau. These plans (and planning sessions) were well received by whānau;
 - b. the local Police have visited the school and presented an Anti Bullying Program to all students and staff. Staff have also received training in Non Violent Crisis Intervention;
 - c. The Kura hosted parent teacher evenings to discuss students' progress and achievement, with a total of 28 parents/ caregivers attending. The Kura used the opportunity to interview whānau on their *Whānau Education Action Plans*.
44. The Sponsor has received no complaints or challenges under the Independent Review Framework in the last quarter.
45. The most pressing risk for the Kura is that of closure following the Deloitte and Education Review Office review in October 2015 and the Minister's decision. The Sponsor notes the Trust is seeking to address all Deloitte Audit Report findings from May 2015 and is working at implementing the Remedial Plan.
46. The Deloitte Audit Report also identified that the current administration block is unsuitable to work in. The Sponsor notes the administration block needs attention and has received a number of quotes for different options: to secure a Portacom, a total rebuild, and the third opting to the use existing local school buildings). Until a decision on the Kura's future is made, the Sponsor is not in a position to commit to any improvements in this area.

The Rise UP Academy (Rise UP Trust)

47. The Sponsor reported that:
- a. the School's roll was 86 at the end of the quarter, up from 69 students at the end of the second quarter. Its GMR is 100 and its maximum roll is 200. The Sponsor notes it is finding it challenging to expand the current school site to accommodate 100 students and is aiming towards meeting the GMR in early 2016;
 - b. no organisational changes have been made in the last quarter;
 - c. as advised previously, the Sponsor has identified that the funding model for year levels 1-8 is not sustainable due to the small size of the School and its operating model. It is developing curriculum plans to support its application to offer year levels 9 and 10 from 2016. (Note that Rise UP applied for this increase for 2015 but its provision was extended to Year 8 only, with the recommendation that it prepare to reapply for 2016 for Years 9 and 10);
 - d. growing the roll of the School is a priority for the Sponsor now that it is a Year 1-8 school. The Sponsor is currently developing property and curriculum plans to support an application to offer year levels 9 and 10 at a later date and has sought Ministry of Education assistance with their application;
 - e. extensions to the current property space are of real concern to the Sponsor. As a result, the Sponsor has decided to defer the introduction of an additional new entrants' class in 2016 due to the safety risks from ground works and limited space;
 - f. external funding has been sought to resource the whānau engagement programmes. The recent three-way parent conferences saw a 97% turnout;
 - g. the Sponsor has engaged the Student Achievement Function from within the Ministry of Education and joined the Mutukaroa initiative, a home-school learning partnership that seeks to accelerate learning progress and achievement for students in years 1, 2 and 3.
48. The Sponsor has advised that it has met the minimum requirements set out in Clause 16 of the Agreement for the last quarter.
49. The Sponsor advises all Objectives have been met or are in the process of being met. Student attendance is not yet at the targeted level, the Sponsor continues to work on generating other income streams and developing the property to meet the maximum roll, and to increase student performance against National Standards.
50. It has advised that for the measure of one objective (Excellent teachers) teachers have received limited support from the RTLB due to local priorities in the cluster being very high. The Sponsor has asked for Ministry support to help address this.

51. In terms of performance measures, the Sponsor reports that:
- the number of unjustified absences was significantly higher than the performance target but has decreased slightly from Quarter 2;
 - there have been no stand downs, suspensions or exclusions.
52. In terms of student achievement the Sponsor advises:
- student achievement is a primary focus by teachers to ensure students are meeting the expected national standards. Teachers plan according to students' needs, and identify the importance of having a 'learning-focussed relationship' that allows students to demonstrate effective ways to manage themselves and their learning so that they are achieving;
 - progress is measured according to the stages of where the student should be at according to national standards and curriculum levels. Staff identify students who are below target, and work with students and parents to provide, and frequently monitor, action plans to accelerate progress. Students who are tracking at or above expected levels are supported to maintain or extend their learning goals;
 - teachers have been involved in whole school staff development with Evaluation Associates 'Assessment for Learning' and 'SAF' Student Achievement Function.
53. 100 percent of students identify with one or more priority groups.
54. No health and safety issues have been identified.
55. The Sponsor has a comprehensive programme of parent, family, whānau and community engagement, including whānau education. Parents and whānau have a real voice in school teaching programmes. Parents have found the Mutukaroa programme valuable and informative.
56. The Sponsor has received no complaints or challenges under the Independent Review Framework in the last quarter.
57. The Sponsor advises there have been no new risks or issues of note. The continuing issue is the need to increase the school roll to be financially viable.

Vanguard Military School (Advance Training Group Limited)

58. The Sponsor reported that:
- the School's roll was 85 at the end of the quarter, down from 123 students at the end of the second quarter. Its GMR is 144 and its maximum roll is 192. Of the students who left school this quarter, 32 out of 38 left after graduating with their NCEA qualification. These students either entered full time employment, or are enrolled in further education. Of the six students that left without their NCEA qualification(s), four moved out of the area and two were expelled;

- b. there have been no changes in the roles of the Sponsor, governance, and management functions of the School. The Sponsor has employed an additional two registered teachers for the 2016 School Year;
 - c. the property continues to be well maintained by the Sponsor and the landlord. The Sponsor advises it has begun to look for a permanent home for the School that does not require it to be leasing a property;
 - d. there are no additional requirements for the property to deal with the estimated roll of 170 next year, which is above its anticipated target, and the current classrooms and facilities are all supporting the delivered curriculum.
- 59. Students continue to leave the school once they have graduated with their NCEA qualifications. The Sponsor reports a good working relationship with New Zealand Defence Force with former students being accepted for service.
- 60. The Sponsor has advised that it has met the minimum requirements set out in Clause 16 of the Agreement for the last quarter.
- 61. The Sponsor advises all Objectives have been met with only NCEA Level 1 achievement progressing towards being met. It is projected this will be met by the end of the year. The NCEA Level 2 achievement target has already been met.
- 62. In terms of performance measures, the Sponsor reports that:
 - a. the number of unjustified absences was within the performance target;
 - b. five students were stood down for one day each;
 - c. two students were suspended, which resulted in their expulsion from the school;
 - d. there were no exclusions.
- 63. In terms of student achievement the Sponsor advises:
 - a. nearly all of the Level 2 and Level 3 students have now gained their NCEA qualifications and can concentrate on external exams. Level 1 students are on track for achieving a similar result to that gained in 2014;
 - b. the Sponsor is on track for a number of students to achieve University Entrance this year;
 - c. the Sponsor considers the above results exceptional given that students enrolling in the school are generally one and half curriculum levels below the New Zealand Curriculum expected average.
- 64. 76 percent of students identify with one or more priority groups.
- 65. No health and safety issues have been identified.

66. In terms of parent engagement, a parental survey and the school wellbeing survey were conducted in 2014. Reporting to parents provides information four times a year on a students' progress. Parent/Teacher evenings have also been held. Newsletters are sent out every month and emails are sent directly to parents regarding any urgent matters. The School's pastoral care system with section leaders also allows parents to have a direct point of call for their child's learning.
67. The Sponsor has received no complaints or challenges under the Independent Review Framework in the last quarter.
68. The Sponsor advises there have been no new risks or issues of note, although has relisted a previous issue concerning the definition of 'priority learner' and the contractual requirement that 75% of students enrolled must be 'priority learners'. The Sponsor is concerned this figure is difficult to maintain and has requested a meeting with Ministry officials in Wellington to confirm if the school is able to target specific groups (priority learners) or if they must enrol all students who apply for entry.
69. [REDACTED]

s 9(2)(f)(iv) OIA

Round Two Schools

70. ERO has conducted its New School Assurance reviews of these four schools. Apart from Middle School West Auckland, the reports are not yet available.

Middle School West Auckland (Villa Education Trust)

71. The Sponsor reported that:
- a. the School's roll was 113 at the end of the quarter, down from 123 students at the end of the second quarter. Its GMR is 160 and its maximum roll is 240. [Ministry comment: The roll appeared to have steadied after some transitional changes, following resolution of the situation with Ngā Kakano Christian Kura. However, it has since fallen to 106, indicating that the loss of students was not entirely due to the situation with Ngā Kakano];
 - b. it has entered into a sole lease arrangement at the satellite site in Henderson and ended the co-sharing arrangement with Ngā Kakano, following a breakdown in the relationship and increased tensions between the parties;
 - c. it has made a new appointment to the Trust Board and is working to build the capacity and capability of board members. At the Henderson site, several incumbent staff chose to move on with Ngā Kakano. A new Community Liaison Manager and Office Manager have been appointed;
 - d. the resourcing of the School continues to be monitored well and the Trust continues to utilise economies of scale and strong supplier relationships. The School continues to be solvent and budgets are well managed;

- e. operationally the School continues to meet all requirements under the Agreement, and interactions between the Villa Education Trust and staff continue to work well. The Trust has begun to expand its numbers and there is a focus on growing the capability of the Trust for the betterment of its schools, staff and students.
 - f. the Trust is currently working through options for the fourth Villa to be established in 2016.
72. The Sponsor has advised that it has met the minimum requirements set out in Clause 16 of the Agreement for the last quarter.
73. The Sponsor advises that its policies have been completed and all other Objectives are ongoing, with good progress being made. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] s 9(2)(g)(i) OIA
74. In terms of performance measures, the Sponsor reports that:
- a. the number of unjustified absences was well within the performance target;
 - b. eight students were stood down between one and five days each. One student was stood down twice. The total number of stand down days for the quarter was 26;
 - c. one student was suspended, however the Board met late so the suspension was invalid;
 - d. there were no exclusions.
75. In terms of student achievement the Sponsor advises:
- a. the timetable is carefully planned for the curriculum subjects of English, technology, science, social studies, mathematics and independent learning in the morning. In the afternoon, students experience co-curricular subjects such as music, arts, physical education and community learning;
 - b. it reports student achievement information to parents, family and whānau every five weeks through the project based learning in addition to the two reporting periods in the year and reporting against each student's Individual Base Plan;
 - c. staff undertake professional development appropriate to either the curriculum area, the project based integrated curriculum, or the individual needs of students.
76. The Sponsor has advised it has reviewed and updated previously-supplied financial information for total income and expenditure in regard to the school for Quarters 1 and 2. These new figures replace those previously supplied.
77. 90.3 percent of students identify with one or more priority groups.
78. No health and safety issues have been identified.

79. The Sponsor continues to engage effectively with parents, family, whānau and iwi:
- a. Several whānau hui have been held, which has resulted in the employment of additional staff to teach Te Reo language classes and the creation of a touch rugby team;
 - b. The Community Liaison Manager continues to work closely with families and children, and with local agencies such as the Salvation Army; Child, Youth and Family; Police youth workers, and Te Whānau o Waipareira;
 - c. The first Villa Education Trust Speech competition was held at Middle School West Auckland and included speakers from all three Villa schools. The event was attended by more than 180 people;
 - d. The Sponsor advises that while anecdotal feedback suggests they are engaging with a large number of parents, family and whānau, this is a priority area for the Sponsor. It is committed to regular feedback and communication with parents, caregivers, whānau and families.
80. The Sponsor has received no complaints or challenges under the Independent Review Framework in the last quarter. In Quarter Two, the Sponsor received two complaints and has been asked to detail the progress to date against these complaints, and confirm if they have been resolved:
- a. A complaint from a group of parents of children enrolled at the Henderson Villa: The complaint raised concerns over the behaviour of some staff towards the children, a lack of cultural awareness for things Māori within the school, and allegations of a growing bullying and drug culture at the school. Over a period of six weeks the Ministry mediated between the parties to develop a plan, which was implemented in Term 3. The Sponsor advises there have been no further concerns, and the agreed actions are ongoing.
 - b. A complaint from a parent questioning the School's policies for behaviour management: The school hosted a family meeting with an independent mediator to resolve the concerns raised by the parent.
81. The Sponsor advises there have been no new risks or issues of note and those previously identified are being mitigated:
- a. internal staff development with greater responsibility at principal/academic leader level has mitigated the potential loss of capacity through the absence or loss of key personnel;
 - b. a new Trust member has been employed to increase the capability and capacity of Board members;
 - c. the breakdown in relationship between the Sponsor and Ngā Kakano Christian Kura has largely been resolved following confirmation of the lease arrangements for the Sponsor at the Henderson site and the departure of Ngā Kakano Christian Kura.

Pacific Advance Senior School (PASS) (Pacific Peoples Advancement Trust)

82. The Sponsor reported that:
- a. the School's roll was 62 at the end of the quarter, up from 59 students at the end of the second quarter. Its GMR is 100 and its maximum roll is 250;
 - b. no organisational changes have been made in the last quarter;
 - c. part of the most recent school holidays were used to provide students with a chance to develop their financial literacy skills. Planning is underway to offer students other additional learning experiences once they have completed their NCEA examinations in November;
 - d. attendance was at 83 percent during the third quarter. The School is working hard to improve attendance and address absenteeism;
 - e. the School property meets all building and safety requirements to accommodate up to 175 students, and one large space remained to be refurbished, as a hall and study room. This was completed in time for the Kura's opening in 2016, as planned.
83. The Sponsor has advised that it has met the minimum requirements set out in Clause 16 of the Agreement for the last quarter.
84. As the school programme includes practises of faith as part of the special character of the School, the Sponsor sought clarity in their second quarter report on the difference between religious education (not permitted) and religious instruction (permitted) to ensure the school complies with its contractual obligations. As the Agreement refers to both education and instruction, this is being clarified in the 2016 contract variations for all Partnership Schools.
85. The Sponsor advises it has met the objectives of having effective processes for engaging Kainga when students are enrolled, and integrating Pasifika-centred education activities into curriculum/teaching programmes; and is progressing towards the remaining objectives.
86. In terms of performance measures, the Sponsor reports that:
- a. the number of unjustified absences was within the performance target;
 - b. two students were stood down for one day each. (Note that this has not been recorded in ENROL. The Sponsor has confirmed that the two stand downs did take place in Quarter Three and has subsequently been advised to enter this into ENROL);
 - c. there were no suspensions, exclusions or expulsions.
87. In terms of student achievement the Sponsor advises:
- a. it continues to monitor the progress of each student towards attaining national qualifications. To improve students' chance of success, teachers are offering regular tutorial classes and they regularly work with students one-on-one or in small groups;

- b. as of 11 September, 50 percent of the students had achieved both their L1 literacy and numeracy credits, a 6 percent increase from July 2015. A further 22 percent of students achieved their L1 literacy credits only;
 - c. two staff members have started a course of study, with the assistance of scholarships from MindLab, to build their teaching capacity in digital and collaborative learning.
- 88. 100 percent of students identify with one or more priority groups.
- 89. No health and safety issues have been identified.
- 90. The Sponsor continues to build links in the community and increase awareness of the school's Objectives. The Sponsor has invited the principals from 15 local high schools to the school so that they can learn more about the school, including how it can serve Pasifika who choose to disengage from their local school despite the school's best efforts and advice, and the student not having any concrete plans for further education, training or employment.
- 91. The Sponsor has received no complaints or challenges under the Independent Review Framework in the last quarter.
- 92. The Sponsor has identified the following risk:

The need to achieve the Guaranteed Minimum Roll (GMR) for 2015, to avoid having its GMR and associated funding reduced in 2016, continues to be the key issue for the school. The Board has developed a 2016 recruitment plan, which is now led by the PASS administration and the Co-Principals. Neighbouring schools have been invited by the Board to consider PASS for any students they cannot reach. The recruitment team has begun its advertising campaign for 2016 and open days have been scheduled.

Te Kāpehu Whetū – Teina (He Puna Marama Charitable Trust)

- 93. The Sponsor reported that:
 - a. the School's roll was 59 at the end of the quarter, up from 52 students at the end of the second quarter. Its GMR is 65 and its maximum roll is 150;
 - b. no organisational changes have been made in the last quarter;
 - c. it has employed another full time teacher and a teacher aide to support the recent enrolments in the School;
 - d. the new building is progressing well and will be completed by the end of Term 4, ready for the 2016 school year. This includes refurbishment of two prefabricated classrooms, the building of two new classrooms and an ablution block. These facilities will support the growth of the School in the coming years as it works towards its maximum roll.

94. In regards to concerns raised by ERO as part of the Readiness process, the Sponsor advises that it has employed a suitable curriculum leader, and notes this was in place at the time of the ERO visit. Since April 2015, the Sponsor has employed another fulltime pouako in line with roll growth. The Sponsor has continued work on developing systems and processes and is confident it has addressed all the concerns raised by ERO. ERO has since conducted its new school assurance review and confirms that the Kura has addressed the concerns raised in its Readiness Review.
95. The Sponsor has advised that it has met the minimum requirements set out in Clause 16 of the Agreement for the last quarter.
96. The Sponsor advises all it has met the student attendance Objective, stability of roll, and student engagement. It is too early to determine student achievement, but the Sponsor details measures it has in place to meet the learning needs of its students. The minimum roll has not been met, due to delays in property development, but progress is being made.
97. In terms of performance measures, the Sponsor reports that:
- a. there were no unjustified absences;
 - b. one student was stood down for three days (Note: this has not been recorded in ENROL. The Sponsor has confirmed that the stand down did take place in Quarter Three and has advised it will amend this in ENROL);
 - c. there were no suspensions or exclusions.
98. In terms of student achievement the Sponsor advises:
- a. learning time is maximised for ākonga by placing them in competency-based learning groups, rather than year groupings, for reading, writing and maths;
 - b. test data is used to inform initial decisions and planning, then the school uses formative and summative testing and on-the-job training to ensure that student achievement is always the focus;
 - c. it is using a range of pedagogies that align with the concept of ako but in particular focuses on developing tuakana – teina relationships within the learning;
 - d. the main learning innovation is the use of place-based education to link ākonga and kura to the local area and bring matauranga Māori into the curriculum.
99. 100 percent of students identify with one or more priority groups.
100. No health and safety issues have been identified.
101. The Sponsor is working hard to build the culture of the Kura and engage with whānau through:
- a. holding individual pōwhiri for each new ākonga;

- b. making sure all whānau have a whānau handbook that includes all of the procedural and systemic information such as the complaints policy;
 - c. sending out a weekly pānui that give an update on events and the learning that has been going on.
- 102. The Sponsor has received no complaints or challenges under the Independent Review Framework in the last quarter.
- 103. The Sponsor advises there have been no new risks or issues of note but that those previously advised remain open:
 - a. the Kura's ability to attract appropriate teaching staff in a small community;
 - b. the buildings have not been completed yet. Work is progressing and the Sponsor expects a completion date in early Term 4.

Te Kura Māori o Waatea (Manukau Urban Māori Authority (MUMA))

- 104. The Sponsor reported that:
 - a. the Kura's roll was 50 at the end of the quarter, up from 37 students at the end of the second quarter. Its GMR is 60 and its maximum roll is 200. The Sponsor is confident of meeting the GMR by the end of Term 4;
 - b. no organisational changes have been made in the last quarter. The Board has received support from the Ministry governance facilitators to ensure that all necessary policies and procedures are in place. Management and governance are functioning well;
 - c. the focus of teaching staff is beginning to shift to student achievement. The Sponsor is confident that it is creating a strong basis of trust and engagement amongst the students which it believes is the foundation for achieving breakthrough results;
 - d. there have been delays in completing the new classroom duo, mostly due to the consent process. While the Sponsor anticipated construction starting in August and September, building of new classrooms, play areas and staff resource rooms will commence in November 2015. The first classroom block is planned to be ready for the 2016 intake and thereafter additional classrooms will be added. The existing facilities are serving the school well and the Sponsor has a number of options available to ensure the delay does not impact school operations;
 - e. it has introduced a financial literacy programme (funded by the Financial Capability Commission) and a Young Engineers programme (funded by the Tainui Trust Board).
- 105. Regarding concerns raised by ERO as part of the Readiness Review the Sponsor has:
 - a. developed the vision and mission of the kura to ensure a clear understanding by the teaching staff and trustees;

- b. planned to introduce ICT into the classroom in 2016;
 - c. run professional development programmes for staff to assist them in assessing and evaluating students' progress and achievement;
 - d. in its opinion, made significant improvement in its ability to assess, analyse and report on, student achievement; and its use evidence-based data to shape, plan and drive the curriculum, learning programmes and professional development;
 - e. established the processes required for reporting on student progress in relation to National Standards. The Sponsor is confident that the reporting process is robust and appropriate;
 - f. purchased reading materials and reference books to support the learning programme;
 - g. engaged the Kura board, management and teachers, the Governance Facilitator and obtained professional advice from other schools, to ensure it is well placed to meet the contractual obligations in regards to student achievement;
 - h. developed the curriculum consistent with the Sponsor's vision. Decisions and actions are informed and shaped by core values and principles;
 - i. delivered an internal professional development programme for staff with access to external development opportunities that enhance their teaching practice;
 - j. reviewed its enrolment policy and confirmed it is inclusive of all learners, including those with special education needs;
 - k. established appropriate assessment regimes are in place. These have been reviewed by RTLBs and the Kura's Governance Facilitator. The Sponsor notes they have deliberately raised their level of capability in this area and consider it an area of strength.
106. The Sponsor advised it had met all minimum requirements set out in Clause 16 of the Agreement except providing reports on time. The due date coincided with ERO's New School Assurance review. It appears that other pressures, unrelated to operation of the Kura, are impacting on this deliverable. The Sponsor needs to prioritise reporting as required under the Agreement.
107. The Sponsor advises all Objectives have been met except the engagement of fully qualified teaching staff. One current teacher was awaiting confirmation of their full registration.
108. In terms of performance measures, the Sponsor reports that:
- a. the number of unjustified absences exceeded the performance standard;
 - b. there were no stand downs, suspensions, exclusions or expulsions.

109. In terms of student achievement the Sponsor advises:
- a. self-review, moderation and appraisal systems are directly aligned to student achievement goals and targets. Teachers regularly review their classroom management skills to more efficiently use their time to maximise student learning. The Sponsor's main goal is to increase the time that students are engaged and working;
 - b. the main focus of the Kura is to raise student achievement so that every student succeeds. School activities and all scaffolding support are harnessed to achieve this outcome;
 - c. students are assessed each term on numeracy and literacy. Previous term results have been used to determine each child's progress and the degree of shift or improvement. The assessment results are calibrated to National Standards reporting and the Kura can see how each student's progress aligns to the relevant NZ Curriculum levels;
 - d. professional development focussed on student achievement is provided to staff every week and includes both internal and external support from RTLB and several other schools.
110. 100 percent of students identify with one or more priority groups.
111. No health and safety issues have been identified.
112. The Sponsor is implementing the parents, family, whānau, iwi and community engagement policy and reports:
- a. Of the 33 whānau with students at the Kura, 28 are registered with Whanau Ora services. The Sponsor is well known, and benefits from its reach into the community;
 - b. Although it is incorporating information gathered from parents, family and whānau, it needs to seek more regular feedback about what, and how well, the Kura is doing;
 - c. It uses a range of mediums to communicate key information to parents including monthly whānau meetings, the website, Kura newsletters, and regular conversation. The Sponsor has identified it needs to improve on how it conveys achievement and curriculum information to parents and whānau in a way that fully engages them in their child's learning;
 - d. It needs to survey parents, family and whānau to confirm the extent to which they are satisfied with the information they receive from the Kura;
 - e. It recognises the Kura will struggle getting real engagement by families, particularly in terms of curriculum support for their child(ren), until they have a process in place that addresses "deficit issues as well as productive outcomes". The Sponsor is developing strategies to raise the Kura's level of effectiveness in this respect.

113. The Sponsor has received one complaint in the last quarter, from two parents of a child enrolled at the Kura. The parents also lodged their complaint with the Ministry. The complaint raised concerns over the alleged use of unreasonable physical force on a student by a teacher, and the teacher breaching privacy. The teacher is undergoing professional development to strengthen classroom management strategies and an experienced classroom educator has been provided as a mentor to share best practice advice. The parents have since enrolled their child at another school and all corresponding issues have now been resolved.
114. The Sponsor notes a number of risks and issues:
- a. The Sponsor identified a number of property-related issues and risks, all of which are being, or have been, addressed. Many of the health and safety risks identified have been resolved.
 - b. The Sponsor plans to replace the current Property Adviser due to poor performance as there have been several delays with the building process. While the ability of the Kura to operate has not been compromised by the delay, it has caused unnecessary distraction and uncertainty.
 - c. The Sponsor advises that Partnership Schools are excluded from the Tamaki Principals' Association, limiting opportunities for networking and personal development. The Sponsor has requested Ministry assistance with resolving this. The Sponsor advises there is a risk of quality teaching staff not being secured due to negative media around Partnership Schools.
 - d. A significant issue for the Kura is the enrolment and retention of students. The Kura has not yet met its Guaranteed Minimum Roll for 2016, but the roll has stabilised at 50 students, after a loss of 13. High whānau mobility continues to be a concern and pressure from the Auckland housing market causes some families to move further south to areas like Papakura, Manurewa and Pukekohe. For those families whose children continued to be enrolled in the Kura, but are now living a considerable distance away, there is a direct impact on student attendance.
 - e. There is also a risk of poor student attendance due to transport constraints. The Kura has two vans and a bus to assist students get to school and has requested the Ministry investigate any funding options available to support the transport costs. Transitory whānau pose a risk to maintaining roll numbers. The Sponsor has a number of strategies to address this.
 - f. The Tumuaki is facing considerable pressure to meet the reporting requirements for the Kura and other external contracts that the Sponsor holds.
115. Since the Quarter Three report was provided, ERO has since conducted its new school assurance review and confirms that the Kura has addressed the concerns raised in its Readiness Review.

Appendix One

Third Quarter Reports: 1 July – 30 September 2015

Round One Schools

1. South Auckland Middle School (Villa Education Trust)
2. Te Kura Hourua o Whangarei Terenga Paraoa (He Puna Marama Charitable Trust)
3. Te Pūmanawa o te Wairua (Ngā Parirau Mātauranga Charitable Trust)
4. The Rise UP Academy (Rise UP Trust)
5. Vanguard Military School (Advance Training Group Limited)

Round Two Schools

6. Middle School West Auckland (Villa Education Trust)
7. Pacific Advance Senior School (Pacific Peoples Advancement Trust)
8. Te Kāpehu Whetū – Teina (He Puna Marama Charitable Trust)
9. Te Kura Māori o Waatea (Manukau Urban Māori Authority)

Appendix Two

Unofficial roll counts for Partnership Schools as listed in ENROL. These might not match official rolls at a given time but provide trend information.

