



Education Report: Initiating consultation about redesignating Omanaia School (1060) as a designated character school

To:	Hon Chris Hipkins, Minister of Education		
CC	Hon Kelvin Davis, Associate Minister of Education (Māori Education)		
Date:	25 November 2020	Priority:	High
Security Level:	In Confidence	METIS No:	1244433
Drafter:	Mark Scott, Senior Adviser	DDI:	9(2)(a)
Key Contact:	Hira Gage, Director of Education for Tai Tokerau	Mob:	
Messaging seen by Communications team:	No	Round Robin:	No

Purpose of report

This paper seeks your approval to consult on a proposal by the board of Omanaia School (1060) for redesignation of the school as a designated character kura-ā-iwi under section 200 of the Education and Training Act 2020 (the Act). The change is proposed to take effect from Term 2, 2021.

We recommend you agree to this consultation.

Summary

- Omanaia School is a state co-educational, decile 1, Year 1 – 8 primary school in a remote rural area south of Hokianga Harbour. In 2021 the school will have been in operation for 140 years. All students, and most staff and members of the Omanaia School Board (the Board) are associated with the Hokianga based sub-tribes of Ngāpuhi iwi.
- Other than a significant drop to 14 students in 2014, the school's roll has remained between 29 and 64 since 2010 and was 48 on 1 March 2020. Between 80% and 100% of students have historically been of Māori descent. The kura moved to full level 2 Māori immersion status in 2017.
- The Board first began the process for a proposed redesignation to operating as a designated character school with Ngā Kura ā Iwi o Aotearoa around 2011. The last consultation was initiated in 2013 before internal school issues caused the process to stall.
- In late 2019 Ngā Kura ā Iwi o Aotearoa accepted Omanaia School's application for membership (see Annex 1) and will actively support a kura-ā-iwi designated character school, should this be approved.


5. The Omanaia School Board now seeks to be redesignated as a designated character school kura-ā-iwi under section 200 of the Act from Term 2, 2021.
6. The Board has already received an indication of local support for the proposal, and formally approved an investigation into becoming a kura-ā-iwi (see Annex 1).
7. In 2019 ERO reported the Board had made significant progress in implementing Te Marautanga o Aotearoa. The school is on a three year ERO review cycle.
8. Approving this proposal will support Maihi Karauna, the Māori language strategy, foster increased participation and success for Māori students through the advancement of Māori education initiatives, and aligns with Ka Hikitia. It also aligns with the national network plan to support Māori medium education in the network, which is in development.

Recommended actions


We recommend that you:

- a) **note** that the Ministry has received an application from the Board of Omanaia School to be redesignated as a designated character kura-ā-iwi;
Noted
- b) **note** that Omanaia School has also consulted locally to change the name of the school from Omanaia School to Te Kura o Ōmanaia, which is approved to take effect from 1 January 2021;
Noted
- c) **note** that before making a decision about redesignation of a school, you must first consult with the boards of all state schools whose rolls might be affected by the change under section 209 of the Education and Training Act 2020;
Noted
- d) **agree** that the Ministry undertake, on your behalf, consultation under section 209 of the Education and Training Act 2020 with all schools whose rolls might be affected by the possible change;
Agree / Disagree
- e) **sign** the enclosed letters to the school's Board informing it of your decision;
- f) **agree** that this education report be proactively released once a final decision has been made. Any information that might need to be withheld will be done so in line with the provisions of the Official Information Act 1982.

Release Not release


Katrina Casey
Deputy Secretary
Sector Enablement and Support

25/11/2020


Hon Chris Hipkins
Minister of Education

16/12/2020

Background

1. Omanaia School is a state co-educational, decile 1, Year 1 – 8 primary school in a remote rural area south of Hokianga Harbour. In 2021 the school will have been in operation for 140 years.
2. Other than a significant drop to 14 students in 2014 - 2016, the school's roll has remained between 29 and 64 since 2010 and was 48 as at 1 March 2020. Between 80% and 100% of students have historically been of Māori descent. All students, and most staff and Board members, are associated with the Hokianga based sub-tribes Ngāti Hau and Ngāti Kaharau of the Ngāpuhi tribe.
3. In 2017 the school moved to full level 2 te reo Māori immersion status. In 2019 the Education Review Office (ERO) reported a dedicated approach to the implementation of Te Marautanga o Aotearoa, including professional learning to implement and develop effective teaching and assessment practices.
4. Ngā Kura ā Iwi o Aotearoa (NKAI) has accepted Omanaia School's application for membership and would actively support a kura-ā-iwi designated character school, should this be approved.
5. Omanaia School is part of the Hokianga Kāhui Ako and has also consulted locally to change the name of the school from Omanaia School to Te Kura o Ōmanaia, which is approved to take effect from 1 January 2021 (see Annex 2).

Proposal for designation

6. We have received an application from the Board of Omanaia School to be redesignated as a designated character kura-ā-iwi.
7. A change to the designation of a school takes place under section 200 of the Act. Under this section, the Minister may designate a state school become a designated character school.
8. Section 204 (designated character schools) applies to an existing school that is being redesignated in the same way as if it were first being established as a designated character school. Under section 204 of the Act, a designated character school must meet the requirements in section 204(3) of the Act. The key requirements are:
 - the designated character school will have a character that is in some specific way(s) different from the character of ordinary state schools
 - it is desirable for students (whose parents wish them to do so) to get such an education
 - students at the school will get education of a kind that differs significantly from the education they would receive at an ordinary state school.

Designated character

9. The school would become a kura-ā-iwi designated character school. This model has already been recognised as meeting the requirements of section 204 of the Act.

10. The proposed designated character includes a bespoke approach to teaching and learning. This is detailed in the application as follows:
- The school would integrate Māori medium education into all aspects of the school in the local dialect.
 - The school will ensure that, alongside Te Marautanga o Aotearoa, it will operate in accordance with the cultural practices local hāpu Ngāti Hau and Ngāti Kaharau as well as the Ngāpuhi iwi.
 - The school's curriculum would specifically reflect the mātauranga and tikanga of the tangata whenua of Omanaia and iwi of Ngāpuhi. This fits within the Ka Hikitia education strategy for Māori to achieve education success as Māori.
11. The described character meets the legislative criteria for being different from that of an ordinary state school and delivering an education of a kind that differs significantly from the education students would get at an ordinary state school. This will better deliver on the language, culture and identity demand becoming increasingly common across Māori communities of Tai Tokerau.
12. The Ministry considers that the application has detailed that:
- the designated character school will have a character that is different from the character of ordinary state schools, in that the kura-ā-iwi model is already established as having such character.
 - it is desirable for students (whose parents wish them to do so) to get such an education, as it fits within the Ka Hikitia education strategy for Māori to achieve education success as Māori.
 - the kura-ā-iwi model provides education of a kind that differs significantly from the education students would receive at an ordinary state school.
 - The kura curriculum would specifically reflect the mātauranga and tikanga of the tangata whenua of Omanaia and iwi of Ngāpuhi.
13. Approving this proposal will support Maihi Karauna, the Māori language strategy, foster increased participation and success for Māori students through the advancement of Māori education initiatives, and aligns with Ka Hikitia. It also aligns with the national network plan to support Māori medium education in the network, which is in development.

Education at the school

14. ERO last reviewed the school in February 2019. Its report states:

"There has been a dedicated approach to the implementation of Te Marautanga o Aotearoa (TMoA). The school's curriculum design is responsive to the aspirations of students, whānau, hapū and iwi. Together they have identified authentic and meaningful contexts for learning, and the environmental conditions required for children to learn."

"Teachers have undertaken effective professional learning about teaching and assessment practices. They have implemented new assessment tools. These continue to be further modified to support the implementation of TMoA and to help teachers provide positive outcomes for children."

"Most students in the school have had less than two years in total immersion learning. Their achievement outcomes progress steadily during their time in this setting. Appropriate systems are in place for data management. The principal analyses student achievement well to identify next steps to support learning progress." (Page 3)

"The board and staff have implemented a strategic approach to ongoing improvements. Good internal evaluation processes are in place to guide strategic development. The implementation of TMoA has been evaluated and this process is ongoing." (Page 4)

15. The school is on a three year ERO review cycle.

Impact on the schooling network

16. Omanaia School is part of the Hokianga Kāhui Ako, which includes four other full primary schools and two area schools.
17. We consider that the proposed change in designation of the kura would have a minimal effect on the schooling network.
18. Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Te Tonga o Hokianga (the KKM) is a co-educational composite Year 1 – 15 kura, situated south-west of Omanaia School. The kura had a July 2019 roll of 93 students. Omanaia School has kept the kura fully aware of their intention to transition to operating as a Māori medium kura, including expressing a desire to create a primary-secondary schooling pathway to the secondary school of the Kura Kaupapa Māori.
19. Kaikohe is the nearest centre to Omanaia, situated approximately 30 minutes to the North. There is a range of primary, intermediate and secondary schools in Kaikohe, but it is unlikely any would be affected by this proposed change for Omanaia.

Property implications

20. There would be no change in property requirements.

Financial Implications

21. The single change in resourcing concerns Māori Language Provision funding (MLP). Currently the whole kura operates at MLP 2, generating \$31,150.90 (GST incl) of funding. The kura intends to transition to MLP 1 in 2021. Based on 48 students the projected MLP 1 funding would be \$56,597.76 (GST incl) using 2021 funding rates. Once the Maori Medium Immersion level change comes through in the March 2021 roll return the adjusted funding entitlement will then be paid in April 2021.

Transport

22. Currently the kura generate zero transport funding. A redesignation to operating as a Māori medium school entitles the kura to qualify for Māori Medium school transport funding. The per-student rate is \$9.34 plus \$3.35 per student per quarter admin rate for a rural based decile 1 school for eligible students.

Staffing implications

23. The redesignation would not have any staffing impact.

Consultation

24. Section 209 of the Act requires you to consult the boards of all state schools whose rolls might be affected before deciding whether to change a school's designation. The Ministry would undertake this consultation on your behalf.

Conclusion

25. The Ministry's recommendation is that you approve the request to consult on this proposal. We have come to this view because:
- the Board has had an indication that their local community supports the proposal.
 - the school has gained level 2 Māori immersion status.
 - the Board and teaching team have proactively driven a review to design a localised curriculum to reflect its pending designated character.
 - alongside *Te Marautanga o Aotearoa*, it is intended a localised curriculum aligned to its community and Ngāpuhi sub-tribes, Ngāti Hau and Ngāti Kaharau, will better deliver on the language, culture and identity demand becoming increasingly common across Māori communities in Tai Tokerau.
 - as a kura-ā-iwi the school would also have the support of Ngā Kura ā Iwi o Aotearoa.

Next steps

26. If you agree to initiate consultation on the proposal, please sign the letter to the Board (see Annex 3) and return it to the Ministry to be provided to the kura.
27. We will consult with the boards of all state schools whose rolls might be affected by the proposed change in designation of the school. We will also consult with sector bodies, local iwi, and community groups as appropriate.
28. Following consultation we will prepare a final report for your consideration and decision.

Proactive release

29. As this report seeks to initiate consultation, the results of which you will need to consider, it is intended that this report be proactively released only once a final decision is made. Any information that might need to be withheld will be done so in line with the provisions of the Official Information Act 1982.

Annexes

- Annex 1: Omanaia School's application for membership with Ngā Kura ā-Iwi o Aotearoa and Record of local support for the application
- Annex 2: Approval to change name of school
- Annex 3: Letter to the Board

Annex 1: Omanaia School's application for membership with Ngā Kura ā-lwi o Aotearoa and Record of local support for the application

Proactively Released

NGĀ KURA Ā IWI O AOTEAROA

Te Tihi o Angitu | Mō tātou, mā tātou, e ai ki a tātou



2020 Affiliation Application

Tēnā koutou e ngā Kura, e ngā Hapū, e ngā Iwi o te motu. Tēnei te mihi o Ngā Kura ā Iwi o Aotearoa ki a koutou. Outlined below is Membership Entry Criteria and Process for Kura to become a Kura ā Iwi. For further information, please contact the Pou Kōkiri – Watson Ohia via email: watson@kuraaiwi.maori.nz

Ngā Kura ā Iwi Membership Entry Criteria:

1. Unconditional acceptance of and commitment to the fulfilment of the Ngā Kura ā Iwi Constitution.
2. Mana Whenua highly visible in all aspects of the Kura - operations, governance and management.
3. Endorsement and approval by the Iwi (Rūnanga) for the Kura to join Ngā Kura ā Iwi.
4. On a 3-5 year ERO review cycle. *Note:* Every two years, only one Kura on a 1-2 year ERO review cycle can be invited to join Ngā Kura ā Iwi. However, the Kura must have confirmed Ministry of Education funding support to address the issues raised in the ERO Review Report.
5. Māori Medium Immersion Level 1. *Note:* If the Kura is not a Level 1 Immersion Kura, upon application the Kura must have started an implementation plan to be Level 1 Immersion with all students speaking Māori within four years.
6. In the case of a Kura Kaupapa Māori 155 Te Aho Matua, the approval of Te Rūnanganui o Ngā Kura Kaupapa Māori o Aotearoa.
7. Clear focus on aho and whenu as per 'Tū Rangatira Māori Leadership'.

Ngā Kura ā Iwi Application Process:

- ☐ **Initial Contact and Discussion:** Tumuaki or Board Representative to contact the Pou Kōkiri of Ngā Kura ā Iwi to look at the possibility of becoming a Kura ā Iwi. A Kura ā Iwi Representative to meet with the Kura to discuss the kaupapa further and explain the membership entry criteria and process.
- ☐ **Interview Process:** Pou Kōkiri to meet with the Kura to answer any further queries and ensure the Ngā Kura ā Iwi Membership Entry Criteria is met.
- ☐ **Completion of the Ngā Kura ā Iwi Affiliation Application:** Kura to complete the Affiliation Application endorsed by the Tumuaki, the Board Chair and Mana Whenua Representation. The completed application, written evidence and supporting documentation is to be emailed directly to admin@kuraaiwi.maori.nz by 27Sept19 for tabling at the Executive Board meeting 8Oct19. The Pou Kōkiri will present the completed application to the Executive Board meeting 8Oct19 as a formal application for the Kura to become a Kura ā Iwi.

- ❑ **Feedback from the Ngā Kura ā Iwi Executive Board:** For 2020 entry, the Kura will be informed of the result following the Executive Board meeting 8Oct19.
- ❑ **Formal Welcome into Ngā Kura ā Iwi:** Approved Kura are requested to attend the Ngā Kura ā Iwi Te Maru meeting (collective of Kura ā Iwi, Iwi, Kaumātua and Whānau) to be held **22Nov19 in Rotorua**. A formal whakatau will take place to welcome all new approved Kura into the Kura ā Iwi kaupapa. Approved Kura will then sign the Ngā Kura ā Iwi Membership Agreement. On behalf of Ngā Kura ā Iwi the agreement will be signed by the Pou Kōkiri and the Chairperson.
- ❑ **Ratification:** Te Maru will then ratify the membership of all new Kura for 2020 into Ngā Kura ā Iwi o Aotearoa Incorporated.

Conditions of Affiliation:

- Commitment to Ngā Kura ā Iwi Kaupapa.
- Active Participation in Ngā Kura ā Iwi Kaupapa.
- Attendance at wānanga and events as provided by Ngā Kura ā Iwi.
- Tumuaki attendance at Ngā Ringa Raupā meetings held throughout the year.
- Kura agree to payment of yearly affiliation fee (roll-based fee) to Ngā Kura ā Iwi.
- Kura to submit data and summarised reports when required, as agreed upon by Ngā Ringa Raupā o Ngā Kura ā Iwi Governance Board.

Omanaia School - Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday 5th December 2018

Time: 3pm - 5.30pm

Venue: School Staff Room

Agenda

Topics	Minutes/Notes/Reflection	Action / Person
Administration:		
Karakia Timatanga	Jon Smith	Tātou
Present	Tanya Filia, Jon Smith, Teinia Smith, Angela Pomare, Carla Robinson, Eliza Ingram	
Apologies	Nil	
Strategic Decisions		
Mihi		
Principals Report	<p>The Principals report was sent out to all BoT last week.</p> <p>Budget Draft budget was tabled and discussed. Prioritise funding for next year, including funding applications for new kapa haka uniforms and a playground. Seek clarification from Foundation North regarding funding for schools.</p> <p>The budget has a deficit of \$1,027.00</p> <p><i>Move that the budget for 2019 be approved and accepted.</i> <i>Moved: Tanya Filia Seconded; Eliza Ingram ALL AGREED</i></p> <p>EoY Data There are some positives and some areas that we need to work on. We will have our PLD facilitators in 2019 in Literacy and Numeracy. The facilitators will be coming into school and working with both the teachers and our students.</p> <p>The EoY Reporting format to parents has been redesigned. BoT were very happy with it. The report will be going home next week.</p> <p>We have a school app, parents will be informed about the app and invited to download it and use it to contact the school. App is Skool Loop. Very easy to use.</p> <p>Nga Kura a Iwi Jon presented information regarding Omanaia School becoming a Kura a Iwi. Omanaia school learning is already heavily based around Ngapuhitanga and Omanalatanga so there is a natural progression to this pathway.</p>	

	<p><i>Move that Jon Smith proceed with investigating Omanaia School becoming a Kura a hui.</i></p> <p><i>Moved: Angela Pomare Seconded Tanya Filia ALL AGREED</i></p> <p>Angela does have historic information that may be useful for our new application. Angela will forward this information to Jon.</p> <p>A whamaw/community hui is to be held next year at Omanaia Marae regarding this.</p> <p>Inform other schools in our area that we will be proceeding with this option.</p> <p>Charter Charter to be updated. Jon to present an updated charter at the next meeting.</p> <p>ERO Good ERO visit. Good verbal report back. Hopefully looking positive to go back on the 3 year cycle.</p> <p><i>Move that the Principal's Report be accepted</i> <i>Moved: Jon Smith Seconded: Tanya Filia ALL AGREED</i></p>	
Funding Application	<p>School Playground There is an urgent need for a school playground. Carla to obtain a quote for the playground and make funding application.</p> <p><i>Move that we apply to Pub Charity for funding of a school playground up to the value of \$56,000.00</i> <i>Moved: Angela Pomare Seconded Tanya Filia ALL AGREED</i></p>	
Strategic Decisions	<p>Policies ERO were happy with how things are progressing. We do need to include 2 policies:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Anti bullying 2. H&S Vulnerable Children <p>Jon tabled the 2 policies.</p> <p><i>Move that the tabled policies, Anti bullying and H&S Vulnerable Children's Policies be accepted.</i> <i>Moved: Angela Pomare Seconded: Eliza Ingram ALL AGREED</i></p>	
Fire drill	Have a fire drill	
School Class learning	<p>Busy last week of school</p> <p>Monday - Nano Girl Science show</p>	

Kura a Iwi - Ngati Kaharau me Ngati Hau ki Omanaia

Dallas Williams <williams.king@live.com>

Sat 23/03/2019 1:05 PM

To: jonbriansmith@live.com <jonbriansmith@live.com>; Jon Smith <principal@omanaia.school.nz>;
mark.scott@education.govt.nz <mark.scott@education.govt.nz>

Kia ora korua,

Happy to say that the support for Ngati Kaharau me Ngati Hau to establish a Kura a Iwi in Omanaia was unanimous.

The korero was laid on the floor or Tauteihiihi Marae, Kohukohu, Hokianga by me, supported by Whaea Hinerangi Puru, and carried unanimously.

The co-chairs will ensure I receive a letter of support and a copy of the minutes which I will forward to you both.

Noho ora mai, na

Dallas Williams
Hapu Kaikorero
Ngati Kaharau me Ngati Hau ki Hokianga

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NGA NGARU O HOKIANGA TAKIWA MEETING

Date: 18 March 2019

Venue: Whakarongotai Marae

Karakia: Mike Korewha

Mihimihi: Piripi Reihana-Ruka

Time: 5.30pm

Present: Mike Korewha, Helene Leaf, Piripi Reihana-Ruka, Sophie Kire, Clinton Dearlove and Lorraine Cassidy.

Apologies: Piripi Moore, Nicole Anderson, Cheryl Turner, Tanya Filla, Justin Blakle, Larry Alexander, Dion Akuhata, Alan & Gilda Hessel.

Motion: Apologies be received.

Moved: Mike Korewha **Seconded:** Piripi Reihana-Ruka

Carried

AGENDA:

- a) Confirm Minutes – 11 February 2019
- b) Matters Arising
- c) Correspondence
- d) Financial Report
- e) Land Navigation Project
- f) Sustainable Housing
- g) General Business

a) Confirmation of minutes 11 February 2019 Meeting

Moved that the minutes of 11 February 2019 are true and correct with the amendments listed below.

Moved: Sophie Kire **Seconded:** Mike Korewha

Carried

b) Matters Arising:

i) PSGE:

Resolved that the Takiwa still require information about the amount spent on PSGE development to date.

Moved: Piripi Reihana-Ruka **Seconded:** Mike Korewha

Carried

c) Correspondence:

Email from sonny Tau re Takiwa Reports and resolving outstanding issues was read to the hui.

Moved: This is not a reflection on our Takiwa, this is a reflection on the Board not addressing Nga Ngaru o Hokianga Takiwa issues and concerns.

Moved: Lorraine Cassidy **Seconded:** Clinton Dearlove

Carried

d) Financial Report

- Bank balance at 28 February 2019 is \$6184.12
- Next hui will distribute koha to all marae as was done last year.
- Travel payments for Marae Representatives were paid.

Move that the financial report be received and payments approved.

Moved: Helene Leaf **Seconded:** Piripi Reihana-Ruka

Carried

NGA NGARU O HOKIANGA TAKIWA MEETING

e) Land Navigation Programme (Te Waka Tauihu e Pareparea Ana)

- Presented by Piripi and Lorraine
- Frustration as to finding whanau land by our people
- Programme developed by Joeline Walters to support finding a way through the MLC processes
- How our whanau do succession
- What do you want to do on your whenua
- Identify find and utilise resources
- Records through archive programmes
- Maori liaison contacts in Auckland, connect them up
- Research centres, archives, MLC history, connections and understanding
- Empowers whanau, engages the generations
- Programme runs over a 12 week period
- Clarifies claims processes
- Running since 2016
- Free for our whanau; have to carpool, LINDS and LANDCARE connections on all Maori Land info in NZ
- Need to support this programme
- Becoming available to all our whanau.
- How can we support this?
- TPK are rolling out a programme like this. Funded this in the beginning but have turned down approx. 5 applications for funds. Where else could we apply to. Whanau to discuss.

f) Sustainable Housing

- Up to 7,000 houses to come out of Auckland
- Contact Auckland – link re project manager, Ricky Houghton has applied for 25 for the Far North
- Murray painting did korero about this at Mokouiarangi
- Lorraine sending details through
- Takiwa; exciting korero about this, ready to follow up.

g) General Business

- Next weekend 23 March Kahui Kaumatua Kohukohu

Motion: That \$200 be funded toward the Kaumatua Kula Hui

Moved: Sophie Kire **Seconded:** Helene Leaf

Carried.

- From 12 May 2019, 1 Raihara Street will be tenanted by Kaitiaki Roopu Trust Education (includes administration programme and Kaumatua drop in space.
- Justin's letters to be discussed with Clinton Dearlove and Nicole Anderson to ensure hapu lead initiative not Ngapuhi led.

Moved: Piripi Reihana-Ruka **Seconded:** Sophie Kire

Carried

- Database take needs to be followed up as well Nga Ngaru Takiwa not happy this was not discussed and approved with Takiwa before TRAION moved forward, follow up on next Takiwa Report.
- Kura A Iwi: Mike Korewaha attended as mandated Takiwa representative for Ngati Kaharau and Ngati Hau ki Omanaia. As requested by whanau at Omanaia he updated the Takiwa about Te Kura o Omanaia's intention to make application to become a Kura A Iwi. The Takiwa congratulated Mike and Omanaia on this pathway for their tamariki and fully supported the application to become a Kura A Iwi.

Next Meeting: Monday 15 April 2019, Omanaia Marae

Mihimihi: Clinton Dearlove

Karakia: Mike Korewaha

Meeting closed 8.30pm



Ō Te Kura o manaia



"Whata e koe le iti kahurangi, ki te tuohu koe, me he maunga teitei"

Whanau Consultation Hui

Wednesday 13th March 2019

Powhiri 6pm

Marous Rogers, Buck Korewha, Apono Pomane, Steve Morunga (Taumata Korero)

Tanya Filia (Kaikaranga)

Mark Scott (Ministry of Education: Senior Advisor for Maori medium kura for Tai Tokerau)

Hirini Wikaira, Jon Smith (Kaikonero)

Kaupapa o te wa:

Mark Scott opened the kaupapa by giving the background to Kura kaupapa Maori and the model that Pem Bird used on his visit to language immersion schools in Wales. That model was then implemented into our current education system which birthed the first Maori immersion language school developed since Kohanga Reo.

Mark then introduced how Kura a Iwi started with Pem Bird in Murupara being in the midst of Tuwharetoa and Te Arawa. While acknowledging both iwi but still being uniquely their own under their hapū. Using examples of other kura a iwi such as Waikare and how they have developed over the years.

Kura a Iwi is a generalized term for designated special character schools under the Section 156 of the education act. Pem Bird's idea was how can we protect the status of our kura identity that can be unique to any other school and found it through section 156.

Kura a Iwi can also be specified as hapū – hapū are mana whenua of the kura.

Ngati Kaharau and Ngati Hau within Hokianga, Ngapuhi can be uniquely devised to create a kura a iwi with hapū status. The curriculum can sit under the hapū of that iwi and not necessarily the iwi as a whole in itself.

Questions asked by whanau:

1. What will the situation for the buses be if the school becomes a special character school?

The school under the Education act 156 allows buses to operate in a wider catchment if there is a cluster of children outside of the region wanting to attend Omanaia school. Under Kura a Iwi, students catching these bus routes (e.g Kaikohe) will not have to pay for the bus because of its status as a special character school.



Te Kura o Mānau



"Whāia e koe te iti kahurangi, ki te hohu koe, me he mauunga tēte"

Omanaia school as a kura a iwi will also provide protection in that the ministry can never close the school as long as it is a designated special character school. This means that no other kura is able to offer what our school can offer thereby allowing our school to retain its roll without closure.

1. If my children are not Māori, or from Omanaia, how will that affect them being that Omanaia school sits under Ngāti Kaharau and Ngāti Hau?

Any child that attends Omanaia school will be able to retain the reo, knowledge and tikanga of that hapū, iwi, likewise they should be given the opportunity to learn of their own identity regardless of who they are and where they come from.

1. Does the hapū have a say into what and how they want their children to learn?

The hapū is the mana whenua of the kura. The lines shouldn't be blurred into thinking that the hapū govern the school but they are able, through wānanga and consultation, discuss what makes Omanaia tangata and how this will be implemented into the school. Nothing much will change if Omanaia opens up as a kura a iwi next year. But hui needs to happen with the hapū and kura to determine the local histories, kupuna and tikanga of Ngāti Hau me Ngāti Kaharau. The board will continue to be the governing body of the school and the staff will continue their roles as normal.

3 key points to be noted in this hui:

Do you want Omanaia to be a kura a iwi?

What will the name of your kura be?

Supporting the option to open to year 9-10 in the future?

- Looking at supporting the kura moving forward, Dallas will table this discussion at the next hui with surrounding hapū on behalf of Ngāti Kaharau, Ngāti Hau.
- Everyone in attendance at the hui supported the kaupapa for Omanaia school to become a kura a iwi
- Principal and delegation will attend the KURA A IWI AGM hui in Turangi on Friday 21st March
- The principal will meet with neighbouring hūmaki as a courtesy to let them know what path we are wanting to take and ask that each of them provide a letter of support.
- Future dates for hui to discuss the name of the kura and other matters that were discussed but not decided upon at this hui.
- Board to begin the process of the tōno to NKAI at next board meeting

Attendance Register 13/3/19

9(2)(a)



Ō Te Kura o
Omanaia



"Whaitia e koe te iti kahurangi, ki te tuohu koe, me he maunga teitei"

Whanau Consultation Hui

Tuesday 17th October 2019

Powhiri 5pm Te Piiti Marae

Steve Morunga (Taumata Korero)

Hirini Wikaira, Jon Smith (Kaikorero)

Kaupapa o te wa 1:

Jon - Announcement of our approval as a Kura a Iwi for 2020. Awesome reception from the whanau. Discussion around the powhiri in Rotorua on 22nd November. Opened up to the hapū to discuss their thoughts about who should go down and support on behalf of the hapū and kura. Do we want to take all the tamariki down or a small group, who from our hapū is likely to travel down etc... We will only take one bus as agreed upon by our board and will book a marae in Rotorua for whanau and tamariki.

Tanya - clarified that while we wish to open this up to the hapū - the school won't be able to afford paying for whanau to travel down for support although we would like to have everyone there.

Ange - shared at our last board meeting we discussed all the scenarios and shared that handing it over to the hapū to decide was important.

Poppit - Shared a whakatauki - Ka mimiti te tai ki Hokianga ka toto ki Taumarere; and asked to consider that we invite Taumarere to support us at the Powhiri. Poppit also shared that it would be good to get the quotes of prices for bus and accommodation. She also shared that it would be unfair on the kura to pay for hapū and whanau to travel down and suggested that it should be up to the school to decide how many tamariki we bring down.

Dallas - Considered that we could take a Taonga down to Rotorua so that we fulfil the tikanga of taking and giving. A taonga could be something tangible or intangible that we could leave with them as a token of our acknowledgement and aroha.

Steve - Felt it was right that the hapū come down and support, Kaumatua, Kuia, Parents and Kaiako.

Hirini - Stated that as a kapa haka kaiako for Omanaia - he felt it was right that our whole school go down - all our tamariki and leave none behind. We are a kura a iwi because of them. They are our taonga.

** That evening an email was sent by NKAI - Confirming that up to 25 people from each school attend the powhiri. The principal will then work out the numbers of children and adults attending the powhiri.

Kaupapa o te wa 2:

Jon - Discussed that as we change from a state school to a designated special character school we should consider a name change. Our school is registered as: Omanaia School. There has been discussion in



Te Kura o Maniaia



"Whāia e koe te ili kahurangi, ki te tuohu koe, me he maunga tēte!"

3. Get quotes and prices for trip to Rotorua and then feed back to hapū what the costs will be and the whanau can decide for themselves and afford their own transport and accommodation down there
4. Start organising a timetable to meet with certain kaikorero to interview them.
5. Collate information from the feedback on our marau and start framework for our marau.
6. Plan towards next whanau hui

Attendance Register -

15/10/19

9(2)(a)

Attendance Register -

15/10/19

9(2)(a)

Annex 2: Approval to change name of school

Proactively Released



MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
TE TĀHURU O TE MĀTAURANGA



Angela Pōmare
Chairperson
Omanaia School Board of Trustees
Omanaia Road
RD 3
KAIKOHE 0473

5 November 2020

Tēnā koe Angela

Proposal to change name of school

Thank you for your proposal to change the name of your school from Omanaia School to Te Kura o Ōmanaia.

I have considered your proposal under section 147(4) of the Education Act 1989, and agree to the change.

The change will take effect from 1 January 2021 once your board passes a resolution to adopt the new name.

Please advise Mark Scott, Senior Education Advisor when this has taken place.

Ngā manaakitanga

Hira Gage
Director of Education
Te Tai Tokerau

cc Ngā Kura ā Iwi o Aotearoa

Proactively Released



Angela Pomare
Chairperson
Omanaia School Board
Omanaia Road
RD 3
Kaikohe 0473

Dear Angela

Thank you for your application to redesignate Omanaia School as a designated character kura-ā-iwi. Before making a decision, I must undertake consultation, under section 209 of the Education and Training Act 2020, on your proposal. The Ministry of Education will undertake this consultation on my behalf.

The Ministry will consult with the boards of schools whose rolls might be affected by the proposed change to your school's designation. They will also consult with appropriate sector organisations and groups such as local iwi. As part of this consultation, the Ministry will advise you of replies and provide an opportunity for your response.

When consultation is complete, the Ministry will inform me of the feedback received and advise me on your proposal. When I have considered this advice, I will then make final a decision.

The Ministry will continue discussions with your board about the proposed change. Please contact Mark Scott, Senior Adviser at the Ministry's regional office, on 09 436 8910 or by email at mark.scott@education.govt.nz if you have any questions about this process.

Yours sincerely



Chris Hipkins
Minister of Education

cc Hira Gage, Director of Education for Tai Tokerau