



**Briefing Note: Visit to Rotorua Boys' High School on
Wednesday 23 August 2023**

To:	Hon Jan Tinetti, Minister of Education		
Cc:			
Date:	16 August 2023	Priority:	Medium
Security Level:	In Confidence	METIS No:	1315608
Drafter:	Margot Nielsen	DDI:	027 265 1198
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Messaging seen by Communications team:	No	Round Robin:	No

Purpose of Briefing Note

The purpose of this paper is to support your visit to Rotorua Boys' High School in Rotorua on Wednesday 23 August 2023 at 11:30am to discuss the Ka Ora, Ka Ako Healthy Lunch Programme.

A run sheet for the visit is attached. Annex 1 refers.

Proactive Release

1. **agree** that the Ministry of Education release this briefing in full once it has been considered by you.

Agree / Disagree

Jocelyn Mikaere
Hautū | Deputy Secretary
Te Mahau | Te Tai Whenua (Central)

16/08/2023

Hon Jan Tinetti
Minister of Education

23/08/2023

Rotorua Boys' High School (152)

Contact Name: Chris Ginter
Rotorua Boys' High School

Address: 1612 Pukuatua Street
Utuhina
ROTORUA

Key People

Principal: Chris Ginter
s9(2)(a)

Chairperson: Herby Ngawhika
s9(2)(a)

Ministry officials Tui Rolleston
Director of Education, Bay of Plenty – Waiariki
Te Mahau | Te Tai Whenua (Central)
s9(2)(a)

Profile Information

Authority	State
School Type	Single Sex Secondary (Year 9-15)
School Gender	Boys
Education Medium	English Medium
Equity Index Rating	502
Electorate	Rotorua
Te Mahau Region	Te Tai Whenua

The July 2022 breakdown of roll information by ethnicity is shown below:

July 2022 Roll	Number	Percentage (%)
Māori	812	74.4%
Pacific	35	3.2%
Asian	40	3.7%
Other ethnicity	6	0.5%
European/Pākehā	183	16.8%
International	16	1.5%
Total	1092	100%

Rotorua Boys' High School Context

- 1 Rotorua Boys' High School was founded in 1927 as the Rotorua High and Grammar School. It became Rotorua Boys' High School when Rotorua Girls' High School was given a new site on Old Taupo Road in 1959.

- 2 Rotorua Boys' High School is a strong and well-regarded boys' school. It is deservedly proud of its heritage, recognises and celebrates the successes of its past and present pupils and confidently looks to the future.
- 3 Its' vision is to become the outstanding boys' high school in New Zealand and has successfully embedded a strong leadership and brotherhood ethos amongst the staff and ākonga known as Raukura.
- 4 Aspects that contribute to the vision and ethos include:
 - having an onsite boarding facility, Tai Mitchel Hostel, which can accommodate up to 140 ākonga
 - offering a range of sporting and cultural opportunities including Kapa Haka and Oratory Speech, Super 8 School Events and competitions and sports academies in rugby, golf, football, hockey, and basketball
 - starting a Trades Academy in building where ākonga learn skills and gain experience by building homes as part of a partnership with Kāinga Ora. The school is the first in the Bay of Plenty to offer this programme. It also runs a Trades Academy in Engineering
 - having a low stand down rate with 11 stand-downs in 2023 (19 in 2022) and no suspensions or exclusions/expulsions this year. Three in total from 2018-2022.
- 5 Rotorua Boys' High School achieved outstanding NCEA results in 2022:
 - 95.1% of Year 13 Raukura boys achieved NCEA Level 3 (National comparison for boys 65.6%)
 - 82.5% of Year 12 Raukura boys achieved NCEA Level 2 (National comparison for boys 73.3%)
 - 85.9% of Year 11 Raukura boys achieved NCEA Level 1 (National comparison for boys 63.4%).

Given the low socio-economic community it serves, these results are particularly noteworthy.

- 6 Rotorua Boys' High School is the winner of three Prime Minister's Education Excellence Awards including the Excellence in Leading - Atakura Award in 2016 and 2019, and the Supreme Education Excellence Award - Te Tohu Nui a Te Pirimia, in 2019.
- 7 The feature linked here [Transformative leadership, impact and sustainability: Raukura Rotorua Boys' High School | Education Counts](#) explains how the school has prioritised giving practical effect to Te Tiriti o Waitangi since the awards, and how professional development and culturally sustaining leadership practices have been transformative.
- 8 The exemplar:
 - highlights the voices of Mana Whenua (Ngāti Whakaue), ākonga, whānau, Principal and Deputy Principal and transformative leaders and teachers across the school
 - features new developments that school leaders and staff have prioritised, including taking a strength-based and caring approach to making a practical difference for ākonga during COVID-19 impacts and cost of living challenges
 - explains the use of evidence for equity, excellence, belonging and wellbeing, as staff explain how they have built on what they learned from Te Kotahitanga Phase 5 and Professor Mere Berryman (including Rongohia Te Hau)
 - demonstrates the findings of both the [School leadership and student outcomes best evidence synthesis | He kura rangatira](#), which outlines how school leaders promoting and participating in teacher professional development has the highest impact on student outcomes; and Professor John Hattie's meta-analyses that collective teacher efficacy has one of the largest impacts on student outcomes ($d = 1.57$)

- highlights the ways in which the school has developed deep pedagogical change consistent with the guiding kaupapa and principles of *Te Mātaiaho: The refreshed New Zealand curriculum*, and integrated Aotearoa New Zealand histories across the school environment, curriculum, and practices.
- 9 On 1 January 2023, the Principal, Chris Grinter, was appointed a member of the New Zealand Order of Merit for services to education and to Māori.

Education Review Office

- 10 Rotorua Boys' High School was last visited by the Education Review Office (ERO) in October 2022 where ERO identified the following:

Strengths

The school can draw from the following strengths to support its goal to evaluate the impact of strategic goals on learner outcomes:

- a well-established, collaborative and robust school-wide evaluation process
- highly effective leadership across all areas of the school
- in recent years equity concerns and academic outcomes addressed to provide a strong and positive base for initiatives
- well-established educationally powerful connections, communication and relationships, and with Māori whānau, hapū, iwi and parents, families and communities, to support student learning and outcomes.

Where to next?

Moving forward, the school will prioritise:

- implementing the new requirements of NCEA, specifically the corequisites around literacy and numeracy, and building a strong base for common assessment activities
- continuing a focus on the wellbeing of students and staff based on *Te Tiriti o Waitangi* and partnerships with whānau and parents
- further normalising *Te Reo, me ōna Tikanga* and establishing in 2023, NCEA Level 1 *Te Reo Māori* as a core subject for all Year 11 ākonga
- creating a pathway for *tikanga Māori* to be added as a core subject for all Year 12 ākonga in 2023.

Kāhui Ako | Communities of Learning

- 11 The school belongs to the Rotorua Central Kāhui Ako. It includes 10 schools and 23 early childhood centres.
- 12 The Kāhui Ako has two lead Principals, Sarah Thompson (Glenholme Primary) and Gareth Cunliffe (Otonga Primary) who share the role.
- 13 This Kāhui Ako has been particularly active since its inception. In 2021, one project was to establish transport for ākonga living in emergency housing to get to and from their school, this initiative is continuing in 2023.

Learning Support

- 14 The Rotorua Central Kāhui Ako has been allocated six Learning Support Coordinators (LSC).
- 15 There is one Learning Support Coordinator based at the school and five shared across the cluster due to the small sizes of the schools.

Participation in government programmes

School Donations Scheme

- 16 The school first opted-in to the School Donations Scheme in 2020. In 2023 the school received \$179,087. This figure is GST exclusive.

Ka Ora, Ka Ako | Healthy School Lunch Programme

- 17 Rotorua Boys' High School joined the lunch programme in October 2020. The school originally started with an external supplier and moved to an internal model of serving their own lunches in January 2022.
- 18 The kitchen is onsite, and lunches are served out of the same space as the hostel kai. This works well with different shifts and chefs.
- 19 Ākonga receive five hot meals a week served in the classrooms, additional fruit and snacks are available for the ākonga all day.
- 20 Due to the planning of the menu and knowing the needs of ākonga so well, there is very little waste or surplus school lunches.
- 21 School surveys consistently indicate that ākonga and staff consider the programme to be successful.
- 22 The school has indicated consistent improvement with student behaviour and attendance since the lunches have been in place.
- 23 Lunches are also provided to ākonga attending Awhina Activity Centre.

Creatives in Schools

- 24 Rotorua Boy's High School has not applied for any round of the Creatives in Schools programme.

Impact of COVID-19

- 25 The school used on-line learning through Google Classroom as their main teaching tool through Covid lockdowns. Challenges included disengagement over time.
- 26 The school has worked hard to re-engage ākonga back into full-time learning and to improve attendance. Good progress has been made from 36% of ākonga attending 90% of the time in Term 2 2022, to 53% of ākonga attending 90 % of the time in Term 1 2023.

- 27 Rotorua Boys' High school received Loss of Learning funding of \$74,926.17. Awhina Activity Centre, received \$3,731.54. The funding was well utilised at the end of 2022 to support ākonga through NCEA.

Property

- 28 Rotorua Boys' High School signed on to its current 10 Year Property Plan (10YPP) in 2021, with the following funding:

5 Year Agreement	\$1,368,424
AMS	\$ 200,000
TOTAL	\$1,568,424

- 29 The Board intends to complete the following projects using the above funding:

- Upgrade to Food Technology
- Roofing and Guttering
- Gymnasium Structural work
- Security Cameras, Lighting and Sound System
- Fire Work Requirement Notice (WRN) Rectification
- Weather Tightness Remediation
- Heat pump Replacement.

- 30 The above projects are progressing, with a focus on urgent priority projects.


- 31 A Ministry-led project for a new science block is due to be completed by the end of this year. Part of the old science block has been retained to address short term roll growth.

- 32 The school buildings have been regularly maintained.

- 33 The school has 53 teaching spaces, with an entitlement of 51.

- 34 The school used its School Investment Package (SIP) funding for a new Grandstand.

Other known risks or issues

- 35 s9(2)(f)(iv)
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Proactive Release

- 36 It is recommended that this Briefing Note is proactively released, with any information needing to be withheld done so in line with the provisions of the Official Information Act 1982.

Annexes

The following are annexed to this paper:

Annex 1: Run Sheet

Annex 1: Run Sheet

Time	Activity	Other details
11:30am	Minister Tinetti arrives and is greeted by Tui Rolleston. Together they proceed to the school's reception area.	Other attendees include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tui Rolleston Director of Education Bay of Plenty – Waiairiki Te Mahau I Te Tai Whenua s9(2)(a)
	The Principal, Mr Chris Ginter, to greet Minister Tinetti and take her where there will be an informal welcome.	No male speaker is required. Media are welcome to attend the visit.
	Following the welcome the party will proceed to meet with ākonga receiving their lunches.	This will be an opportunity to talk with ākonga about the Ka Ora, Ka Ako School Lunch Programme.
12:30 noon	Visit concludes	