

Briefing Note: Visit to Rotorua Girls' High School on Wednesday 23 August

To:	Hon Jan Tinetti, Minister of Education		
Cc:			
Date:	11 August 2023	Priority:	Medium
Security Level:	In Confidence	METIS No:	1315838
Drafter:	Margot Nielsen	DDI:	9(2)(a)
Key Contact:	Tui Rolleston	DDI:	
Messaging seen by Communications team:	Yes / No	Round Robin:	No

Purpose of Briefing Note

The purpose of this paper is to support your visit to Rotorua Girls' High School in Rotorua on Wednesday 23 August 2023 at 10:15am to discuss the provision of period products.

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

Talking Points for the visit are attached. Annex 2 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)

11/08/2023



Hon Jan Tinetti
Minister of Education

23/08/2023

Rotorua Girls' High School (153)

Contact Name: Sarah Davis
Rotorua Girls' High School

Address: 251 Old Taupō Road
Hillcrest
ROTORUA

Key People

Principal: Sarah Davis
s9(2)(a)

Chairperson: Mercia-Dawn Yates
s9(2)(a)

Ministry officials
Tui Rolleston
Director of Education, Bay of Plenty – Waiariki
Te Mahau | Te Tai Whenua
021 1831 961

Profile Information

Authority	State
School Type	Single Sex Secondary (Year 9-15)
School Gender	Girls
Education Medium	English Medium
Equity Index Rating	525
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	531	80.7%
Pacific	26	4%
Asian	23	3.5%
Other ethnicity	3	0.5%
European/Pākehā	74	11.2%
International	1	0.5%
Total	652	100%

Rotorua Girls' High School Context

- 1 Rotorua Girls' High School was formed in 1959 after Rotorua High School, founded in 1927, was divided into Rotorua Boys' High School and Rotorua Girls' High School.

Rotorua Boys' High School remained on the original site, and Ngāti Whakaue gifted a new site further along Old Taupō Road to establish Rotorua Girls' High School.

- 2 Rotorua Girls' High School has a strong relationship with Te Arawa Iwi and works closely with Ngāti Whakaue to better recognise and celebrate its culture and history.
- 3 The partnership has resulted in adapting the school's name to now also be known as Te Kura o Te Rautāwhiri and a return to its original house names of Rangiuru, Hinemoa, Rukuwai and Karenga.
- 4 The school has also embraced a new motto; "Whāia ko te mātauranga - seek ye from the fountain of knowledge".
- 5 Rotorua Girls' High School manages Te Āhuru Mōwai, Rotorua School for Young Parents (Teen Parent Unit) which is located on the grounds of Toi Ohomai Institute of Technology, Mokoia campus.
- 6 At the beginning of 2023, Rotorua Girls' High School opened for boarders, Te Whare Whawhao, Rotorua Girls' High School's new boarding facility also located on the Toi Ohomai Institute of Technology, Mokoia campus. Currently there are 30 ākonga boarders using the hostel.

Education Review Office

- 7 Rotorua Girls' High School was last visited by the Education Review Office (ERO) in March 2023 where ERO identified the following:

Strengths

The school can draw from the following strengths to support its goal of improving equitable and excellent outcomes for learners:

- *a strategic plan developed in partnership with Ngāti Whakaue/Te Arawa*
- *a well-established pastoral team that provides support for all students*
- *an on-going focus on developing a culturally responsive curriculum.*

Where to next?

Moving forward, the school will prioritise:

- *gathering student and whānau voice after academic mentoring sessions to inform next steps to improve teaching and learning programmes*
- *providing opportunities for students to learn and engage in their localised context*
- *using internal evaluation to review progress of the mentoring programme and the developing local curriculum.*

Kāhui Ako | Communities of Learning

- 8 The school belongs to the Rotorua Central Kāhui Ako. It includes 10 schools and 23 early childhood centres.
- 9 The Kāhui Ako has two lead Principals, Sarah Thompson (Glenholme Primary) and Gareth Cunliffe (Ōtonga Primary) who share the role.

- 10 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

- 11 The Rotorua Central Kāhui Ako has been allocated six Learning Support Coordinators (LSCs).
- 12 There is one learning Support Coordinator based at Rotorua Girls' High School, and five are shared across the cluster due to the small sizes of the schools.

Participation in government programmes

School Donations Scheme

- 13 Rotorua Girls' High School first opted-in to the School Donations Scheme in 2020. In 2021 the school received \$99,600, in 2022 it received \$94,800 and in 2023 the school received \$106,651. These figures are GST exclusive.

Ka Ora, Ka Ako | Healthy School Lunch Programme

- 14 Rotorua Girls' High School joined the lunch programme in November 2020 and selected Ka Pai Kai as their preferred lunch provider. Ka Pai Kai remains their provider.
- 15 The school receives both hot and cold meals and has implemented a grab and go system for ākonga to collect lunches anytime from 11:00am.
- 16 Surplus lunches are stored in a large fridge provided by the programme and are then made available to students to eat during the day or to take home.
- 17 In a school survey completed in Term 1 ākonga and teachers indicated they are very happy with the supplier with a rating of 5 out of 5 with consistent indications that the programme is successful.
- 18 The school has also identified an improvement with student engagement and behaviour since the lunches have been introduced.
- 19 Te Āhuru Mōwai, the Teen Parent Unit based at Toi Ohomai Institute of Technology also receives lunches from Ka Pai Kai.

Ikura | Manaakitia te whare tangata – Period products in schools initiative

- 20 Rotorua Girls' High School opted into the initiative in October 2021, and have ordered almost 4,000 packs of product.
- 21 The school has three dispensers installed.

Creatives in Schools

- 22 The school was successful in Round 1 (2020) and Round 2 (2021) of Creatives in Schools. Both projects have been completed. The school did not apply in Round 3.

- 23 The name of the first project was "Mahi Rāanga", and their creative was Anna Hayes.
- 24 The name of the second project was "Same Same but Different", which involved 60 students from Year 9-13 and their creative was Fiona Collins.

Impact of COVID-19

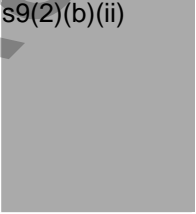
- 25 The school used on-line learning through Google Classroom as its main teaching tool through the COVID-19 lockdowns. Challenges included lack of devices and internet connections.
- 26 An issue has been re-engaging ākonga back into full-time learning at school and Rotorua Girls' High school is working hard to improve attendance.
- 27 Rotorua Girls' High school received Loss of Learning funding of \$64,588.35.

Property

- 28 Rotorua Girls' High School signed on to its current 10 Year Property Plan (10YPP) in 2022, with the following funding:

Carry over 5 Year agreement 2012/13
Carry over 5 Year agreement 2017/18
5 Year Agreement 2022/23
Supplementary 5 Year Agreement
AMS
TOTAL

s9(2)(b)(ii)



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

- Roofing
- Stormwater
- Heating
- Toilets
- Security
- Carpets

- 30 At the latest annual visit in May 2023, the Principal discussed the school's long-term goals for improved learning spaces. She felt the technology teaching spaces could be improved to allow for easy transition and utilisation.
- 31 The school buildings are in reasonable condition, with many being built in the early 1960s.
- 32 The school has seven surplus teaching spaces.
- 33 The school used its School Investment Package (SIP) funding for a netball court refurbishment and a toilet refurbishment project.

Other known risks or issues

34 9(2)(f)(iv)

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Proactive Release

- 37 It is recommended that this Briefing Note is proactively released, without 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 2: Talking Points

Annex 1 Run Sheet

Time	Activity	Other details
10:15am	Arrive and make your way to the reception area where you will be greeted by the Principal. As the Minister was formally welcomed at her last visit in February 2022 the Principal advises that there will not be a formal welcome.	Other attendees include: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tui Rolleston Director of Education, Bay of Plenty – Waiariki, Te Mahau Te Tai Whenua (Central)
	The Principal will have a small group of girls ready to talk with the Minister.	
11:15am	Visit concludes	

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Annex 2: Talking Points

- 9(2)(g)(i) [Redacted]


- 9(2)(g)(i) [Redacted]
- [Redacted]

- 9(2)(g)(i) [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]

- 9(2)(g)(i) [Redacted]
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- 9(2)(g)(i) [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]

9(2)(g)(i)



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