

Briefing Note: Visit to Ridgway School

To:	Hon Jan Tinetti, Minister of Education		
Cc:	Rt Hon Chris Hipkins, Prime Minister		
Date:	Friday 12 May 2023	Priority:	High
Security Level:	Budget Secret	METIS No:	1310205
Drafter:	9(2)(a) [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	DDI:	9(2)(a) [REDACTED]
Key Contact:	Andrew Stitt – General Manager	DDI:	9(2)(a) [REDACTED]

Purpose of Briefing Note

The purpose of this paper is to support your visit to Ridgway School in Wellington with the Prime Minister on Monday 15 May.

You will be met at the school by Kathryn Smith (Principal) and will be supported by Roy Sye (Director of Education – Wellington) and Kathryn Yorke (Regional Infrastructure Manager) from the Ministry.

The Prime Minister last visited the school in mid-2022, as the Minister of Education, to attend the official opening of the new school building. The project at Ridgway School is an example of how this Government is delivering quality learning environments for students and teachers.

At this visit you will be making a pre-Budget 23 announcement about investment in school property.

A run sheet for the visit and draft press release will be provided separately.

Summary of investment to be announced

Budget 2023 makes a major commitment of \$400 million towards funding the National Education Growth Plan, to meet both current roll growth pressures and future demand. The summary is outlined in the below:

- \$400 million to address the expansion of New Zealand's school network:
 - \$200 million of this funding will provide permanent roll growth, delivering around 4,400 student spaces;
 - \$100 million of this funding will provide short-term roll growth, delivering around 2,200 student spaces; and
 - \$100 million of this funding will go towards new school projects (either new or existing projects).

School property investment to be announced separately

A separate announcement is planned for investment in Māori Medium property.

Proactive Release

1. **agree** that the Ministry of Education release this briefing in full once it has been considered by you, following the release of Budget 2023 on 18 May 2023.

Agree / Disagree



Scott Evans
Hautū
Te Pou Hanganga, Matihiko

12/05/2023



Hon Jan Tinetti
Minister of Education

13/05/2023



Kayne Good
Acting Hautū
Te Tai Runga
12/05/2023

Core School Information

Te Kura o Tawatawa - Ridgway School (2980)

Contact Name: Kathryn Smith (Principal)
(At institution) 04 939 8771 or 027 589 3662

Address: 120 Mornington Road
Brooklyn
Wellington 6021

Key People

Principal Kathryn Smith
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Ministry Officials: Roy Sye (Director of Education – Wellington)
9(2)(a)

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Profile Information

Authority	State
School Type	Full Primary (Year 1-8)
School Gender	Co-ed
Education Medium	English
Equity Index Rating	370
Electorate	Rongotai
Te Mahau Region	Wellington Te Tai Runga

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

2022 Roll	Number	Percentage (%)
Māori	27	12.8
Pacific	8	3.8
Asian	19	9.0
Other ethnicity	16	7.6
European/Pākehā	141	66.8
International	0	0
Total	211	100%

School Context

- 1 Te Kura o Tawatawa - Ridgway School is a full primary school in a catchment with an intermediate school (South Wellington Intermediate).
- 2 In 2019 Te Kura o Tawatawa - Ridgway school opened the first French-English bilingual class in the city. The school is a Positive Behaviour for Learning School and an Enviroschool promoting sustainable environmental practices and learning.
- 3 In 2020 we approved a new enrolment scheme due to a risk of overcrowding. Traditionally, the majority of Year 7 and 8 students left the school and attended South Wellington Intermediate School (SWIS), however this pattern changed with more Year 7 and 8 students choosing to stay at Te kura o Tawatawa - Ridgway school. This has caused some tension between SWIS and Te Kura o Tawatawa – Ridgway School. The situation has been further complicated by SWIS implementing a new enrolment scheme, which is currently out for community consultation. The current proposed zone for SWIS does not include Te Kura o Tawatawa - Ridgway School.

Education Review Office

- 4 The school was last visited by the Education Review Office (ERO) in October 2019. ERO recommended that the school priorities for further development are in:
 - building evaluation capability in all areas including evaluating successful practices to ensure that their impact is replicated over time
 - developing clear school curriculum and assessment guidelines to ensure continuity and consistency of effective teaching practice and support sustainable improvement.
- 5 ERO's overall evaluation judgement of Te Kura o Tawatawa - Ridgway School's performance in achieving valued outcomes for its students is: Developing.

Kāhui Ako I Communities of Learning

- 6 The school belongs to the Capital City Kāhui Ako.
- 7 The Kāhui Ako was slow to establish but went from strength to strength once a leader was appointed. There has recently been a change in leadership and the Kāhui Ako has appointed the principal of Te Kura o Tawatawa - Ridgway School, Kathryn Smith.
- 8 The Kāhui Ako has refreshed their Achievement Challenge 2022 and their areas of focus are Cultural identity strong and secure, Hauora and Teaching for ākonga agency.

Learning Support

- 9 The school is part of the Capital City Kāhui Ako which has not been allocated any Learning Support Coordinators.
- 10 There are currently five students receiving learning support services. One student is High Health, one student is ORS verified, two students are receiving behaviour support and one Speech Language Therapy support

Participation in government programmes

School Donations Scheme

- 11 The school is not eligible to opt-in to in the School Donations Scheme due to its Equity Rating of 370.

Ka Ora, Ka Ako | Healthy School Lunch Programme

12 The school is ineligible for the programme.

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

13 The school has opted-in to the programme and to date have ordered some products.

Creatives in Schools

14 Te Kura o Tawatawa - Ridgeway School has not applied for any round of the Creatives in Schools program.

Impact of COVID-19

15 The school applied for \$4,388 from the Urgent Response Fund and \$2,388 was approved on 16 October 2020. The application was to support 34 students in a programme to build resilience and strategies to manage behaviours and anxiety to re-engage back in a learning environment.

16 Capital City Kāhui Ako received \$30,000 from the Regional Response Fund in November 2022 to support five of its seven schools (Te Kura o Tawatawa - Ridgeway, Newtown, Island Bay, Owairo Bay, Houghton Valley). The Kāhui Ako intends to use the funding to further build on partnerships with whānau groups and individual families to provide identified support to strengthen their attendance initiative goal of 100% Attendance, 100% Belonging.

Property

17 Overall, the school's property is in excellent condition.

18 The school has undergone a major project to construct a new building with 9 teaching spaces and multipurpose space. The new building was handed over to the school on 7 July and has completely replaced the school's 3 existing blocks (demolition of the last of these blocks will commence on 11 July).

19 Weathertightness issues were the main drivers behind the replacement of the 3 blocks. The project had a total construction budget of \$9,000,000 and was funded from Redevelopment Capital.

20 The school plan to use \$145,000 of their School Investment Package (SIP) funding to construct a treetop walkway and adventure play area. The project is in the initiation stage.

21 The school are pleased with the outcome of their recent major project and the Ministry enjoys a positive relationship with the school.

Annexes

1. Annex 1: Talking Points
2. Annex 2: Run Sheet [will be provided separately to Minister's Office]
3. Annex 3: Press release [will be provided separately to Minister's Office]

Talking Points

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