



Briefing Note: Visit to Dairy Flat School

To:	Hon Jan Tinetti, Associate Minister of Education (School Operations)		
Cc:	Hon Chris Hipkins, Minister of Education		
Date:	1 September 2022	Priority:	Low / Medium / High
Security Level:	In Confidence	METIS No:	1294305
Drafter:	Stacey Furse	DDI:	09 638 0234
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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 Dairy Flat School in Auckland on Wednesday 7 September 2022. A run sheet for the visit is attached.

Dairy Flat School Information

Dairy Flat School [1258]

Contact Name: Katie Hills (Principal)

9(2)(a)

Address: 1220 Dairy Flat Highway
Dairy Flat
Auckland

Key People

Principal: Katie Hills

9(2)(a)

Chairperson: Michael Neufeld

9(2)(a)

Ministry Officials: Te IwiNgaro Dunn
Education Manager, North Auckland
09 632 9301

Profile Information

Authority	State
School Type	Contributing (Year 1-6)
School Gender	Co-Ed
Education Medium	English Medium
Equity Index Rating	Decile 10
Electorate	Whangaparāoa
Te Mahau Region	Te Tai Raro

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

July 2022 Roll	Number	Percentage (%)
Māori	24	6.8%
Pacific	11	3.1%
Asian	41	11.6%
Other ethnicity	35	9.9%
European/Pākehā	241	68.5%
Total	352	100%

Dairy Flat School Context

- 1 Dairy Flat School is a semi-rural school north of Auckland that caters for learners in Years 1 to 6. The school was established in 1878, when it was called Pukeatua School.
- 2 The school's vision 'Striving for excellence while caring for others' is practised by students, staff, and the community. Values of being 'respectful, responsible, resilient, considerate, honest and fair' support the vision and the holistic growth and wellbeing of students and staff.
- 3 Katie Hills was appointed as Principal in July 2021. This is Katie's first appointment as a Principal.
- 4 The school recently completed their Learning Conversations appointments with students, their parents/carers, and teachers to reflect on student growth as learners.
- 5 This term the school is implementing Moving Smart (MSPMP) a hands-on movement programme to help develop motor and sensory skills using funding from the Settling Five and Six years old initiative which is part of the Flexible Funding project.
- 6 The school partners with Music Education Centre to provide one to one instruction to students on site.
- 7 The school is holding a cross-country sponsored fun run on Friday 9 September and Ag Day on the 29 October.

- 8 Voting for the Board of Trustees' parent election close on Monday 12 September.
- 9 The establishment Principal of Ahutoetoe School, Wendy Sandifer, and other senior leaders are temporarily located at Dairy Flat school.

Education Review Office

- 10 Dairy Flat School was last visited by the Education Review Office (ERO) in 2018 where ERO recommended that:

For sustained improvement and future learner success leaders have set relevant priorities for further development in continuing to strengthen internal evaluation and professional inquiry, build consistency of practices across the school to sustain initiatives, strengthen home-school partnerships.

ERO is likely to carry out the next external evaluation in four-to-five years.

Kāhui Ako | Communities of Learning

- 11 The school belongs to Ōrewa Community of Learning Kāhui Ako which consists of six Schools and eight Early Learning Services. Two new schools will join the Kāhui Ako when they open early in 2023.
- 12 Cameron Lockie, Principal at Silverdale School, and Gillian Bray, Principal at Wainui School are co-leaders.

Learning Support

- 13 The Ōrewa Community of Learning Kāhui Ako doesn't have any Learning Support Coordinators (LSC) allocated. They have designated an Across School Lead to work in the "Hauora" space, who has become a key facilitator working alongside the Ministry's Learning Support Service Manager to implement the Learning Support Delivery Model.
- 14 Current Active Learning Support: One student is receiving In Class Support (ICS), two students receive a Communication Service, and two students receive a Behaviour Service.
- 15 Waiting for service: One student is waiting for a Communication Service.

Participation in government programmes

School Donations Scheme

- 16 Dairy Flat School is ineligible for the scheme as they are a Decile 10 school.

Ka Ora, Ka Ako | Healthy School Lunch Programme

- 17 The school has not opted-in to the programme.

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

- 18 Dairy Flat School has opted-in to the initiative and have ordered period products.

Creatives in Schools

- 19 Dairy Flat School was successful for Round 2 of Creatives in Schools (CiS). The name of their project is “Whakaaio Whenua Mindfulness Garden” which involves students from Year 1 to 6 and their creative is Eliza Donald.

Impact of COVID-19

- 20 The school received the following funding to support it through COVID19 in 2022:
- \$12,000.00 Wellbeing Funding – First Time Principal
 - \$4,054.16 Regional Response Fund and
 - \$3,107 COVID19 Distance Learning Grant
- 21 The school received the following funding to support it through COVID19 in 2021:
- \$15,600.00 Urgent Response Fund
 - \$1,442.55 Rapid Response Fund
 - \$3,000 Counselling in Schools

Property

- 22 Overall, the school property is in fair condition.
- 23 The school has a current 5 Year Agreement (5YA) allocation is \$500,000 – which includes supplementary 5YA funding of \$220,000 – and an annual maintenance grant of \$30,000.
- 24 The current 5YA budget will be utilized towards projects to address targeted roofing works to 3 blocks, toilet and electrical upgrades, and the rationalisation of the school’s former dental building and an old prefab building.
- 25 The school also received \$200,000 from the Accelerated Modernisation Scheme (AMS) and \$200,000 from the School Investment Package (SIP). The school’s AMS funding will be used to refurbish classrooms and upgrade Block 1 to meet Designing Quality Learning Standards (DQLS) while the school’s SIP allocation has been used to modernise the toilets in Block D.
- 26 The school was pleased to receive two new modular classrooms which were funded by Short Term Roll Growth (STRG) capital.
- 27 The constrained nature of the school site is expected to hinder future roll growth. The Ministry is working on a plan to accommodate roll growth identified in the region.
- 28 The school has experienced several issues regarding water “loss”, the cause of which is still unknown.
- 29 As of 26 August, the school has been sent a total of 5 portable air cleaners through all three distributions under the Ministry’s COVID-19 ventilation response. The school have also received 5 CO2 monitors, 2 from the term 1 and 2 distributions at the start of the year and 3 from the term 3 distribution.

Other known risks or issues

- 30 The Principal has raised ongoing concerns regarding the safety of students on the school site. The gates are not secured consistently, and they are on an 80km highway. There is no current indication that Property Modifications could be accessed through the Learning Support risk assessment pathway that could meet the immediate needs of current students. Earlier Property Modification recommendations were unable to be started while the student was attending the school and the project was abandoned.
- 31 There is tension regarding the Ministry's contribution towards Teacher Aide (TA) time for supported learners and how the school uses the TA. The school couldn't afford to provide necessary cover for the rest of the school day.
- 32 The school has raised concerns with the Ministry's transport team regarding overcrowding on school buses and lack of transport from the Milldale area to the school. Some students are resorting to public transport when the bus is full. The Ministry is holding an internal discussion to consider possible interim options and will then meet with the school. Milldale (Ahutoetoe) School is a new school and due to open in 2023 which may alleviate some of the current transport issues.
- 33 Ongoing water issue with no water connection to half of the school – water has been lost with no obvious leaks and this has been, and continues to be, under investigation. Students have limited access to toilets. The Ministry's property advisers continue to support the school to ensure appropriate health and safety protocols are maintained. Refer number 27 above.

Proactive Release

- a **agree** that the Ministry of Education release this briefing once it has been considered by you and the visit has occurred.

Agree Disagree



Tanya Harvey
**Director of Education for Auckland
Area 2 – Southwest, West, North
Te Mahau | Te Tai Raro**

31/08/2022



Hon Jan Tinetti
**Associate Minister of Education
(School Operations)**

04/09/2022