



Briefing Note: Visit to Merivale School to open two new modular classrooms on Monday 12 September 2022, from 8am - 9am

To:	Hon Jan Tinetti, Associate Minister of Education		
Cc:	Hon Chris Hipkins, Minister of Education		
Date:	7 September 2022	Priority:	High
Security Level:	In Confidence	METIS No:	1294731
Drafter:	Vianney Douglas	DDI:	9(2)(a)
Key Contact:	Dawid de Villiers	DDI:	
Messaging seen by Communications team	Yes	Round Robin:	No

Purpose

This briefing and speech notes provides information to support the Associate Minister of Education, Hon Jan Tinetti attend and speak at the official opening of two modular classrooms at Merivale School, on Monday 12 September 2022 at 7.45am.

Proactive Release

- a **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)

07/09/2022



Hon Jan Tinetti
Associate Minister of Education

10/09/2022

Merivale School – Te Kura o Tūtara Wānanga (1825)

Contact Name: 9(2)(a) [redacted]
[redacted]

Address: 9(2)(a) [redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted]

Key People

Board chairperson: 9(2)(a) [redacted]
[redacted]

Principal: 9(2)(a) [redacted]
[redacted]

Ministry Official/s: Dawid de Villiers
Director of Education Waiariki - Bay of Plenty
9(2)(a) [redacted]

COVID-19 compliance requirements for the visit

- 1 The expectation is individual responsibility for mask wearing, social distancing and hygiene practices.

Background information about Merivale School

Issues

- 2 The Merivale catchment is one of five, including Gate Pā, Pukehinahina, Greerton, and Greenpark that have been identified for growth as part of the Tauranga City Council's developments. Kāinga Ora has also purchased significant pieces of land and identified these areas for medium and high-density residential development that is expected to occur at pace and scale.
- 3 In January 2021, the Board of Trustees of Merivale School, citing roll growth pressure, terminated its agreement with Tauranga Specialist School, that allowed the specialist school to operate a satellite of the specialist school at Merivale Primary School. The room occupied by the specialist school was needed urgently for 2022 to accommodate current and future students, and to allow better utilisation of the school's property.

Profile Information

Authority	State: Bay of Plenty - Waiaariki
School Type	Contributing (Year 1-6)
School Gender	Co-Ed
Education Medium	English and Level 1MMI (42 students)
Decile	1
Electorate	Bay of Plenty

- 4 The July 2022 breakdown of roll information is shown below:

July 2022 Roll	Number	Percentage (%)
Māori	135	71.8
Pacific	26	13.8
Asian	3	1.6
Other	0	
European/ Pākehā	24	12.8
International	0	
Total	188	

Impact of COVID-19

- 5 Merivale School provided hard packs of learning for students during the COVID-19 lockdown and a key focus for the students and community was well-being.

- 6 The school applied for two Urgent Response Funds. Both were approved.

\$6,210.00 was approved in August 2020.

- The application was for 60 senior students relating to social and emotional needs. It funded 54 hours of teacher aide time to support the reduction of behavioural incidents and anxiety in senior school.

\$14,560.00 was approved in November 2020.

- The application was for 40 Māori and five Pacific students, to address achievement. It funded the continuation of a male mentor to reduce the anxiety of students within the classroom and to increase levels of engagement and learning.

Education Review Office

- 7 The school was last visited by the Education Review Office (ERO) in 2019. ERO found that for sustained improvement and future learner success, the school can draw on existing strengths in:

- a curriculum that enables a sense of belonging and wellbeing for students
- an inclusive culture for learning that supports children with additional learning needs
- leadership for learning that is focused on improving outcomes for student

The priorities for further development are in:

- internal evaluation and targeted action to accelerate learning and raise overall levels of achievement for all students at-risk
- building collective capacity to improve outcomes for students
- empowering students in learning pathways to accelerate achievement

Kāhui Ako | Communities of Learning | Learning Support

- 8 Merivale School belongs to the Tauranga Peninsula Kāhui Ako, the largest Kāhui Ako in the Bay of Plenty - Waiariki region including 15 schools and 37 early childhood centres. The external lead for the Kāhui Ako, Ken Ward, was reappointed to the role earlier this year.
- 9 The Tauranga Peninsula Kāhui Ako was not allocated any Learning Support Coordinators (LSCs) in the first tranche.
- 10 As part of the Tauranga Peninsula Kāhui Ako, Merivale School has raised concerns about not having access to an LSC – two other Kāhui Ako (Te Puke and Ōtūmoetai) in the Tauranga / Western Bay area do have access to LSC.
- 11 The Kāhui Ako has been working hard to establish a learning support register across its 15 schools.
- 12 The Tauranga Peninsula Kāhui Ako has now been allocated a Clinician through Te Whatu Ora to work alongside the Learning Support Panel. This is a welcome support for the Kāhui Ako.
- 13 Te Tai Whanake ki Tauranga Moana is a joint project with other Kāhui Ako and the three iwi of the Tauranga/Western Bay of Plenty region to develop localised curriculum. This project has funding support from the Te Mahau as well as Tauranga Energy Consumer Trust (TECT).

Visit and event information

14 Runsheet

Time	Activity
7.45 am	Everyone, including Minister, assembles beside the school hall.
8.00 am	Karakia led by kaumatua Tamati Tata through first classroom Te Awanui then through Te Awaiti. Concluding karakia with hīmene – He Hōnore.
	Principal, Tom Paekau to 'unveil' classroom name plaques.
	Associate Minister of Education Hon Tinetti to address the gathering.
8.45 am (approximately)	Wā kai parakuihi – breakfast.

Participation in government programmes

School Donations Scheme

- 15 The school opted into the School Donations Scheme for 2021 and has opted in for 2022.
- 16 The school received \$27,000 in lieu of donations in 2021 and will receive \$28,200 in 2022 based on the July roll return.

Ka Ora, Ka Ako | Healthy School Lunch Programme

- 17 Merivale School is taking part in the programme. The school chose the external provider model and has been supplied by Bay Catering since the school started serving lunches in October 2020.
- 18 The school is very pleased with the working relationship with Bay Catering. Students have had an opportunity to visit the caterers as well as meet regularly to discuss and feedback how the Ka Ora, Ka Ako programme is working in Merivale School.

Access to Period products

- 19 Merivale School has opted into the national initiative and is satisfied with this programme.

Property

- 20 The school has a roll of 180, with 9 teaching spaces. The overall property condition is fair; the Board is proactive in addressing property issues.
- 21 The school has an annual maintenance budget of \$21,000.
- 22 Property projects undertaken by the school this year have included - B Block Roofing, Fencing for the Learning Support area, and drainage work.
- 23 The school's SIP of \$113,000 was used on security cameras, and new carpet for the decking in Blocks A and B.
- 24 The delivery of two Offsite Manufacturing Buildings (OMB) was recently completed providing two teaching spaces and toilets in response to short term roll growth.
- 25 The school is excited to have its bi-lingual speaking ākonga use these classrooms; the classrooms proximity to the neighbouring Kōhanga Reo is an added benefit for the school.
- 26 As of 2 September, the school has been sent a total of three portable air cleaners through all three distributions under the Ministry's COVID-19 ventilation response.
- 27 The school has also received three CO2 monitors, one from the Term 1 and 2 distributions at the start of the year and two from the Term 3 distribution.

Annexes

Annex 1: Speech Notes