

**Waimea Kāhui Ako**  
**August 2018 update**  
(for BOTs, staff and communities)

***Our Themes***

Building relationships, Well-being, Culturally Responsive Practice, Transitions, Digital Fluency

***Our Achievement Challenges***

1. To improve achievement in writing for boys in Years 1-10
2. To reduce the gap between the achievement of males and females at NCEA Years 11-13
3. To improve the educational outcomes for Māori students in Years 1-13

**What have we been doing? Read on...**

**Kāhui Ako Learning Week, 27 - 30 August**

Our first kāhui ako learning week was a success, judging from the feedback by attendees at the 16 workshops. The programme of workshops and presenters was:

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| • The changing role of middle leaders     | Nick Major                             |
| • Seesaw app.                             | CORE Education                         |
| • Zones of Regulation                     | RTLB staff                             |
| • Digital tools to engage boys in writing | CORE Education                         |
| • Teacher inquiry that raises achievement | Camilla Highfield and KA lead teachers |
| • Precision Teaching                      | RTLB staff                             |
| • SENCO networking                        | KA lead teacher                        |
| • Mindfulness                             | Waimea College staff                   |
| • Using te reo Maori in the classroom     | Tania Alesana – Waimea Intermediate    |
| • Effective pedagogies for Maori students | RTLB staff                             |
| • Digital Technology Curriculum           | KA lead teacher                        |

The commitment from schools was to cancel all after school meetings for the week to allow staff to attend, with the requirement that every teacher in the kāhui ako must attend at least one workshop. Thanks to our presenters for packaging their programmes into a one-hour slot and giving participants something practical to improve their teaching and learning. We will review the format and decide shortly if we would like to repeat it in 2019, but the signs are good.

**Leadership Recruitment**

After discussion among all KA principals we have reissued the expression of interest for leadership in 2019 to include current and former principals, eligible senior leaders and members of the across schools lead teacher team. Expressions of interest close on Monday 10 September, with full applications due by Monday 24 September. We hope to have recruited our new leader/s by beginning of term four.

**Early Childhood Sector engagement**

Peter and Glenda Earle attended a local ECE cluster meeting where Glenda presented her work on transitions and we discussed formalising the relationship between our KA and the ECE providers. Dave Sampson and Graham Avery are leading the work towards having a memorandum of agreement with the ECE sector by the end of September, working with Gwen Gilmour of the MOE.

### **Long term plan and Professional Learning and Development (PLD)**

Having spent recent months gathering evidence of practice and ideas for improvement across our five KA themes (see below), the leadership team and Camilla Highfield are now preparing a workplan for the next two years which will include interventions and provision for PLD in key areas. The draft plan will be discussed by principals in a few weeks. It is expected that all schools will include the KA workplan within their charter and annual plans for 2019.

PLD initiatives currently active are:

- Leadership training. This is under way with Nick Major of CORE Ed. Nick is working with the across schools team and will extend his work to include within school lead teachers and school leadership teams as requested. This contract runs until May 2020.
- Poutama Pounamu culturally responsive practice. We are due to start up to 12 people on the next intake of this programme in November.
- Digital Technology curriculum development. We have applied for funding to introduce this curriculum across the ten primary schools, Waimea Intermediate and Salisbury school in 2019. The two Colleges have applied separately and we will seek ways of working with them on this programme.

### **Leadership hui**

Peter is working with the leaders of the Nelson and Stoke kāhui ako to organise a hui for all the KA across the top of the South Island and West Coast. This will be held 20-21 September in Nelson for all leaders and across schools lead teachers.

### **Across-school Lead teachers and within-school lead teachers**

Our across school team continues to work together to advance the themes and achievement objectives, with responsibilities as below:

<u>Building Relationships</u>	Andrew Ricciardi
<u>Culturally Responsive Practice</u>	Sarah Rankin
<u>Well-being</u>	Gus Shirley
<u>Transitions</u>	Glenda Earle
<u>Digital Fluency</u>	Janine Higgins

A hui will be held for all within school lead teachers on Monday 10 September. We intend to recruit a 6<sup>th</sup> across schools lead teacher in term four, to begin at the start of 2019.

### **Kāhui Ako Website**

A reminder that our Waimea kāhui ako website is continually updated with new resources and useful links. Thanks to Janine Higgins for creating and managing the site

[www.waimeacol.org](http://www.waimeacol.org).

Thanks for your commitment to supporting the achievement of our students across the Waimea kāhui ako. ***Principals, please ensure this update is circulated as widely as possible.*** Please contact us at any time for more information.

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