

Waimea Community of Learners

Waimea Kāhui Ako

December 2017 update from the Waimea CoL/ Kāhui Ako (for BOTs, staff and communities)

Season's Greetings and we hope you enjoy this final update for 2017. The past month has been very active for the Waimea Kāhui Ako. Read on...

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

Across-school lead teachers

Our Across School lead teacher team

Gus Shirley	Waimea College
Andrew Ricciardi	Waimea College
Sarah Rankin	Garin College
Janine Higgins	Waimea Intermediate
Glenda Earle	Brightwater School

The across school team has had three days training in November, two of these with our COL expert partner, Dr Camilla Highfield, of the University of Auckland. The across school team has worked on defining the across school role, getting to grips with our achievement challenges and devising a work plan for 2018.

Within school lead teachers

As of the end of November 18 within school lead teacher positions have been filled, from a total of 27. Most of the remaining positions will be settled before the end of the year. A few schools have chosen to share one position between two staff. The within school and across school teams held a combined meeting on Tuesday 5 December where we introduced ourselves, discussed our expectations of the within school roles and their relationship with the across school teachers, and began to consider models of teaching-as-inquiry in preparation for further work in this area in 2018.

Thanks to Salisbury School for accommodating our recent meetings and your excellent catering!

Kāhui Ako PD day Monday 5 February

Planning for this day is well advanced. A few key things to note are:

- The venue is Hope Community Church, Ranzau Road
- Times are 9.00am – 3.00pm
- Our guest speakers are Nathan Mikaere-Wallis (brain development and how to support positive transitions) and Marcus Akuhata-Brown (cultural responsiveness)
- Within school and across school lead teachers will facilitate a workshop session in small groups to introduce the achievement challenges and explore our understanding of teaching-as-inquiry.
- We hope all attendees will leave the day with a few useful contacts among our colleagues and with a sense of how the Kāhui Ako will support their teaching and learning.
- More information will be available at the end of January.
- **Principals, please send a list of names and diet requirements to Dave Sampson principal@ranzau.school.nz before the holidays.**

- **Make sure your community knows your school will be closed on this day.**

Engaging with ECE sector

Head teachers of the six kindergartens in our Kāhui Ako will attend the PD day on 5 February, along with 2-3 senior managers. We welcome their involvement and look forward to growing this relationship in 2018.

Website

Yes, we now have a Kāhui Ako website, with thanks to Janine Higgins for setting it up. You can find us at: www.waimeacol.org . We encourage you to share this widely and post this as a link on your school website.

Stewardship group

A meeting of the stewardship group was held on 10 November. John and Peter reported on progress, finances and future plans.

Goals for 2018

Our emerging workplan for next year includes these goals:

1. Appoint the final person to the across school team
2. Promote teaching-as-inquiry (TAI) among within school lead teachers
3. Investigate the extent to which TAI is understood and consistently used to improve student achievement within each of the Kāhui Ako schools
4. Get principals on board by establishing baseline expectations in the ways they will support Kāhui Ako work eg: make time for it, part of appraisal process or some other lever to make sure it happens
5. Ensure schools have Kāhui Ako achievement challenges embedded within their strategic and annual plans.
6. Build trust relationships within and between school leaders and between the across and within school teachers. Other groups that we want to build relationships with:
 - support staff
 - ECE
 - neighbouring CoLs (Nelson, Marlborough, West Coast)
 - community / iwi
7. Establish the PLD needs and access external PLD funding by the middle of 2018.
8. Investigate how we are going to measure success and change as a result of our interventions.

Sounds easy, right?

Thanks for your commitment to supporting the achievement of our students across the Waimea COL/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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