

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

***Our Themes***

Hauora, 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...**

**New Leadership Confirmed**

The Ministry of Education has confirmed the appointment of Glenda Earle and Janine Higgins as co-leaders for 2019-2020. Congratulations to both. They will share the role just as we have done these past two years, with the advantage that both retain their 0.4 release (by virtue of one retaining an Across School Lead Teacher designation) so we have effectively doubled our leadership capacity. Janine and Glenda bring a huge investment of knowledge and expertise to the kāhui ako leadership role, which will see our work progress speedily.

We congratulate the Ministry of Education on its flexibility in accommodating our new leadership model.

**Appointment of new Across School Lead Teachers**

We are also pleased to confirm the appointment of Tania Alesana from Waimea Intermediate and Nic Walker from Appleby School as new Across School Lead Teachers. Both are highly experienced teachers and leaders in their schools. Their appointments are for two years from the beginning of 2019.

The full leadership team for 2019 is therefore:

Glenda Earle	- co-leader (and facilitator for Transitions)
Janine Higgins	- co-leader (and facilitator for Digital Technologies)
Gus Shirley	- AST (Hauora)
Andrew Ricciardi	- AST (Hauora)
Sarah Rankin	- AST (Culturally Responsive Practice)
Tania Alesana	- AST (Culturally Responsive Practice)
Nic Walker	- AST (Transitions)

Denis Pyatt, of the New Appointments National Panel, who was the MOE's representative during the appointment of the Across Schools Lead Teachers, commented on the outstanding quality of our new appointees and current members of our leadership team.

### **Supporting Principals**

The two support principal roles available through the NZEI Collective Agreement will be filled in 2019 by Justine McDonald (Waimea Intermediate) and Peter Verstappen (Wakefield School).

### **Early Childhood Sector engagement**

At our November meeting principals discussed the application from the ECE sector to join the kāhui ako. The application is supported, subject to some changes to the Memorandum of Understanding.

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

The 2019-2020 strategic plan has been adopted and will become part of the annual plans in all kāhui ako schools next year. All stakeholders should by now have had a chance to view and discuss the plan in order to prioritise elements of it for their in-school review and development.

Our application for centrally funded PLD hours has been successful, with 900 hours granted, to be used over the next two years. These hours have not yet been assigned to specific interventions or projects; this will happen through the initiatives outlined in the strategic plan, in consultation with all schools.

A further 120 hours of centrally funded PLD have been secured to implement the new Digital Technology curriculum in our primary and intermediate schools in 2019. This work will sit alongside separate initiatives in the two secondary schools.

### **Poutama Pounamu wananga**

Seven kāhui ako staff recently attended a 2-day hui in Christchurch to begin our involvement with Poutama Pounamu, a programme to develop culturally responsive practice, run through the University of Waikato. This group of leading learners (whakaako) will undertake the 18 month programme in their schools with a group of staff or others (akōnga) joining them for parts of the mahi. The programme is mainly conducted online. We have an option of further enrolments during 2019.

### **Within-school lead teachers**

A final meeting of all within school lead teachers for the year was held on Wednesday 7 November, during which all the WSTs presented their inquiry projects. It was a lively and informative session, showcasing an impressive range and depth of investigation into teacher practice and student learning. We look forward to working with many, if not all, of the WSTs again in 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).

### **New Principal**

We welcome Justin Neal as the new principal of Appleby school. Justin has previously been involved in the Motueka kāhui ako and prior to that the Moutere cluster of schools which evolved a highly effective collaborative model, so we will gain much from his experience. Nga mihi ki a koe, e hoa.

### **Farewell from us...**

This is our final monthly update, from the beginning of 2019 we leave you in the capable leadership of Glenda and Janine. Thank you for your support of our kāhui ako over these

past two years and your support of us as leaders. We have enjoyed the privilege of getting this valuable collaboration under way across our Waimea schools and look forward to continuing our support of the work through our own schools and more widely as opportunities allow.

Have a happy and peaceful summer.

***Principals, please ensure this update is circulated as widely as possible.*** Please contact us at any time for more information.

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