Education Report:

Organisation of schools in greater Christchurch if all proposals for merger or closure proceed – provision for Māori Medium education

Recommendations

We recommend that:

a) agree that the recommendations b and c, in Education report 742257 regarding the proposal for Te Kura Kaupapa o Te Whānau Tahi and Te Kura Kaupapa o Waitaha to merge are replaced with a recommendation to keep both kura open but relocate one of them in order to improve accessibility to immersion Māori medium education for students across Christchurch. It is recommended that instead of asking the Waitaha Advisory Board to identify which kura should be relocated, that a further round of consultation occur with the Boards of the kura about which of them will be relocated;

AGREE/DISAGREE

b) agree that while this consultation is occurring, the Ministry pursues discussions with the Māori medium learning community cluster and the Waitaha Advisory Board on their views about the best area to relocate to and which kura should be relocated;

GAGREE/DISAGREE

- c) **note** that once final decisions about other proposed mergers have been made the Ministry will work with the Boards of continuing schools to ensure retention of existing bilingual units; and
- d) **note** that the Ministry will work to implement an effective and accessible Māori medium network for students in the greater Christchurch area, including Selwyn and Waimakariri.

Katrina Casey Deputy Secretary Regional Operations

Encl

Hon Hekia Parata

Minister of Education

Education Report: Organisation of schools in greater

Christchurch if all proposals for merger or closure proceed – provision for Māori

Medium education.

Purpose of Report

- 1. On Tuesday 22 January, in a discussion about the Ministry's recommendations for the proposed merger and closure of schools in the greater Christchurch area, you sought further information about the provision of Māori medium education in order to assist with your consideration of the recommendation about the two kura in Christchurch.
- 2. It was also noted that the proposals for some schools in greater Christchurch to close or merge will impact on current provision of Māori medium education provision in the region, as they have bilingual/immersion units.
- 3. The purpose of the report is to provide additional information, seek your agreement on a revised recommendation for the two kura and seek your endorsement for work underway so that continued and enhanced provision is available to all learners who want to receive their schooling in te reo Māori.

Background

- 4. Current provision for Māori medium education provision in greater Christchurch is provided by two kura and bilingual units at 10 schools. All but one of these are situated in the Christchurch area. There is no provision in the Selwyn district and one unit in the Waimakariri district (at Tuahiwi School).
- 5. Apart from Unlimited Paenga Tawhiti (a designated character school) and the two kura kaupapa, there is no provision for Māori medium education at any of the secondary schools in greater Christchurch. Secondary schools are required to meet the New Zealand curriculum requirements in relation to te reo Māori.
- 6. The attached map 'MME Providers in Greater Christchurch and Recommended Changes January 2013' (Map1) identifies the location of each current provider of Māori medium education. This map also indicates which of these providers have been proposed to merge or close and three areas that require closer attention (Focus areas 1, 2 and 3) in regards to accessibility for Māori learners.
- 7. Table 1 is the number of students enrolled at each of these providers at July 2012

Table 1

Schools open as at 07/01/2013		Number of Students in Maori Medium		
School ID	School Name	Level 1	Level 2	MME Total
483	Unlimited Paenga Tawhiti		14	14
522	Halswell Residential College		7	7
1618	TKKM o Te Whanau Tahi	72		72
3298	Branston Intermediate		21	21
3344	Freeville School		16	16
3380	Hornby Primary School		38	38
3492	Rowley Avenue School		27	27
3503	Shirley Intermediate	23		23
3518	St Albans School	31		31
3563	Tuahiwi School		85	85
3601	Woolston School	19	25	44
4212	TKKM o Waitaha	81		81

- 8. Seven of the 12 providers are not affected by proposals for closure or merger, three are recommended to merge with another school that does not currently offer Māori medium provision, and two providers are proposed for closure.
- 9. The attached map 'Māori Student Distribution by Area Unit at July 2012' (Map2) indicates the home addresses for students enrolled in Māori medium education at that time, and the distribution of the Māori student population in greater Christchurch, by area unit.
- 10. If all current proposals for mergers proceed it is anticipated that the existing units will be retained by the Board of the continuing school, ensuring continued provision in that community. Once final decisions are made the Ministry will work with the Boards to facilitate this outcome.
- 11. Should the current proposal to close Branston Intermediate proceed, it could be anticipated that students enrolled in that unit will transfer their enrolment to the neighbouring Hornby High School which is proposed to change its class to become Year 7-13.
- 12. Should the proposal to close Shirley Intermediate proceed, the Ministry recommends that a unit be established at Shirley Primary to ensure continued provision in the area. This would depend upon the approval of the recapitation of Shirley Primary to include Year 7 and 8 students. If this eventuated the Ministry would discuss this further with the Shirley learning community cluster.
- 13. Map 2 indicates areas of greater Christchurch were there are relatively higher numbers of Māori students and no current provision for Maori medium education. These are identified on the Map as 'Focus 1', 'Focus 2' and 'Focus 3'.

- 14. Focus 1 area includes the communities of Papanui, Roydvale and Burnside where moderate numbers of Māori students reside. The Ministry intends to discuss provision with the learning community clusters in this area and monitor whether provision is required for future planning.
- 15. Focus 2 area includes parts of the Parklands and Mairehau communities where moderate to high number of Māori students reside. It also borders the greenfield development of housing at Prestons Road. The Ministry intends to work with these communities to discuss local provision for students.
- 16. Focus 3 area relates to Aranui where the highest numbers of Māori students reside but no current Māori medium education is available. The Ministry's proposal for this community is that the schools combine into one school, covering Years 1 to 13. The Ministry will work with this cluster to ensure provision is available in the new school or schools, no matter what shape that may be.
- 17. In relation to the two kura kaupapa, the Ministry's original proposal was that these kura merge. Following analysis of feedback from the kura, the Ministry has now recommended that one of these relocate. We have not specified which kura that may be or which area they should relocate to.
- 18. We recommend that the area for the relocation should be to the north east of Christchurch in or close to Focus 2 area, or to Aranui (Focus 3).
- 19. It is the intention of the Ministry to investigate, in collaboration with the Māori medium learning community cluster and the Waitaha Advisory Board, the feasibility of relocating a kura to Aranui or somewhere in the north east of Christchurch city.
- 20. As previously noted, the only secondary provision for Māori medium is at the two kura. The Ministry intends to work with the secondary schools cluster to discuss provision within current schools. The aim would be to ensure that students learning in Māori medium at primary school can continue with this in their secondary education.
- 21. There are two possibilities for establishment of Māori medium education at secondary schools. The first possibility is to work with the secondary school learning community cluster to establish units at some of the secondary schools. The second possibility is to discuss with the two kura the establishment of satellite classes at some secondary schools, managed and governed by the Board of Trustees at the kura.
- 22. The only Māori medium provision in the Waimakariri district is at Tuahiwi School and there is no provision in the Selwyn district. The Ministry intends to work with learning community clusters in these areas to discuss future provision for Māori medium education.
- 23. If all proposed changes for school reorganisations in Christchurch are progressed, Māori medium education in greater Christchurch would be enhanced and more accessible. The table below indicates where provision would be.

School name or geographical area	Status of provision		
Unlimited Paenga Tawhiti	No change		
Halswell Residential College	No change		
Freeville/North New Brighton Primary Schools	Merged, provision retained		
Hornby Primary	Existing, recapitated to provide for Years 7 and 8 (primary) or change of years (secondary)		
Shirley Primary	New (increase of provision)		
Parklands /Mairehau area	New (increase of provision)		
Aranui area	New (increase of provision)		
Te Kura Kaupapa o Te Whānau Tahi	No change		
Te Kura Kaupapa o Waitaha	Relocate – possibly to Parklands/Mairehau or Aranui		
Tuahiwi Primary	No change		
Waimakariri district	New - establish secondary provision (increase of provision)		
Selwyn district	New (increase of provision)		
Secondary education	New (increase of provision)		

Attachments:

Map 1 MME Providers in Greater Christchurch and Recommended Changes January 2013

Map 2 Māori Student Distribution by Area Unit at July 2012.



