

Received
06/12/11

Duvauchelle School

Learners today
Leaders tomorrow.



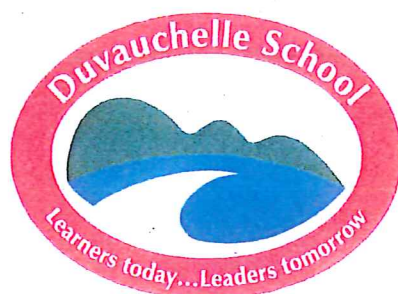
School Lane
RD 1
Duvauchelle
7581

Telephone: 03 304 5722

Fax: 03304 5724

www.duvauchelleschool.co.nz

Email: office@duvauchelleschool.co.nz



School Lane, RD 1 Akaroa 7581
Ph: 03 304 5722 Fax: 03 304 5724
e-mail: office@duvauchelleschool.co.nz

Kathryn Palmer
Acting Regional Manager
Ministry of Education
PO Box 2522
CHRISTCHURCH 8140

6TH December 2012

Dear Kathryn Palmer

Our Board of Trustees, after consultation with the affected community, does not want Duvauchelle School closed and consolidated with Akaroa Area School.

What we DO want is to continue as a single entity Year 0 – Year 6 contributing primary school under our own governance and management with the potential to re-capitate to Year 8. We want to continue appointing our Principal and retain the close and supportive input of our parents/caregivers. We are keen to have our Years 7 & 8 students complete their primary education here instead of two years at an interim school (Akaroa Area School) before many of them continue their education in Christchurch.

Furthermore we have entered into consultation with the Banks Peninsula Plunket Pre-School to re-locate the Pre-School onto the Duvauchelle School site. The Ministry of Education has approved this in principle.

What we particularly value is the positive influence and impact on our childrens' education that provides the right culture in the present rural setting and environment where they are educated, centrally located in the Akaroa cluster.

We value the "buy-in" of our parent/caregiver community. Without this community group seeing the strong local governance, management and commitment to our school, we will be very vulnerable to total closure.

Informal face-to-face discussion with Akaroa Area School Board Chair and Principal recently established that they support our School remaining open as a separate entity. It was pointed

out by them that their recent experience in endeavouring to maintain the Akaroa Primary School on a site 500m from the Akaroa Area School proved impractical, difficult and illogical, so the two schools were merged. This would likely also happen in time to Duvauchelle and Okains Bay Schools with the Minister's proposal.

Since the Minister has expressed interest in "economies of scale" the risk of funding loss to some degree seems likely should a closure/consolidation be forced. There has also been indications from the Akaroa Area School Board Chair that unless there was significant funding made available to Akaroa Area School both Duvauchelle and Okains Bay hubs would be closed quite soon under this proposal.

The ability to appoint our own Principal with real and direct input into the appointment process. We also value the strength of our local community in that our Board of Trustees is elected and there is competitive interest in becoming a trustee.

Quality of Education: As highlighted in our May 2012 ERO report - *"ERO observed students who enjoyed learning and were motivated to achieve. Students have positive and supportive relationships with each other and their teachers. Older students provide positive role models and support younger students in their learning."*

Our students are achieving at 10% above the National Standards.

Our school community is very proud that they have provided IT resources for our students on a one to one basis. In addition provision for extra teaching hours have been funded over and above what is provided for by the Ministry.

Sustainable School Rolls: There is a change in the pattern for the school roll emerging from 2013 onwards. We have confirmed new arrivers of at least 13 in 2013 which gives a roll of 39. This is a substantial increase of 50% from the 2012 roll. As 9 of these are new entrants we expect to maintain this increase in roll for some years.

Future School Roll Potential: As a result of the Minister's proposal we have been innovative and entered into discussions and consultation with the Banks Peninsula Plunket Pre-School on the feasibility of them relocating onto our site. This option is approved in principle by the Ministry of Education. This would provide a seamless transition from pre-school to primary and enable the Pre-school to double its roll to a minimum of 30 children. Because the Akaroa Harbour Basin Settlement Study – Issues and Options - 2009 highlights Duvauchelle and Wainui as priority areas for future development, the Community Board intends to encourage strategic planning for these areas in the 2013 LTCCP development. This and other potential infrastructure changes ahead suggest the Duvauchelle future population over the 10 – 30 year period is likely to increase and therefore help sustain the school roll.

Sustainable Use of Resources: The existing cluster system has been in operation for many years and staff are already successfully applying the cluster approach in the following ways:

- Regular Principals' planning meetings providing collaborative planning.
- Teaching staff getting together to moderate against the National Standards.
- Shared use of resources.
- Combining arts, cultural and sports events.

The challenge posed by the Minister is encouraging us to consider additional ways we can maximize the use of existing cluster resources and we will explore these ideas in the future.

Sustainable Economic Management: The Board of Trustees has a history of successful fundraising that is dependent on the support and loyalty of the locals and the capacity of the community to identify with the school because it is theirs and in their backyard. For example, this year the community has raised money to support our Sunsmart School and Swimsafe Status as listed:

- Provide a new filter and on-going maintenance for the swimming pool as well as regular swim coaching.
- Fund extra staffing for separate literacy and numeracy for the juniors on top of professional develop for our staff.
- Provide six new I-pads.
- Purchase sports attire for our students.
- Provide a shade sail.
- Purchase an upmarket gazebo for use at sports and inter-schools events .

Last year they funded 6 new Apple laptops, a digital camera and a movie camera.

Equity and Accessibility: By maintaining our School in its current form we can continue to provide the high standard of schooling that is ensuring our learners are achieving above the National Standards and have equity with urban schools and their significant access to resources. In addition, the current situation provides the greatest location accessibility to education for our learners, most of them have to travel considerable distances.

Incorrect Information:

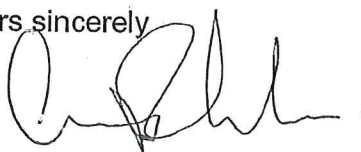
We are also extremely concerned that some the data used to formulate this proposal was incorrect. Whilst some of the mis-information has since been corrected, the \$97,000 estimated to repair our library (a Versatile Garage) for weather tightness, which is four years old, is totally incorrect. We utterly refute the veracity of this. This estimation was done as a desktop exercise somewhere in the Ministry of Education and needs to be rectified. Furthermore we have just received (30th November and December 3rd) information requested under the Official Information Act in the first week of Term 4. Considerably longer than the 20 days working days allowed.

In Summary: What we offer as an individual Board of Trustees that cannot and will not be replicated through closure and consolidation as currently proposed is:

- Preserving the current high standard of education and achievement of our learners in a sustainable way which is our primary goal. The Board draws the Minister's attention to the 2012 ERO report confirming our achievements.

WE STRONGLY URGE THE MINISTER TO DECIDE IN FAVOUR OF DUVAUCHELLE SCHOOL CONTINUING AS A STAND-ALONE SCHOOL.

Yours sincerely



Craig Rhodes – Chairman Board of Trustees

The Akaroa Mail

FREE

and Banks Peninsula Advertiser

In this issue
News and
Features
of lasting
interest

The Akaroa Mail - The talk of the Peninsula since 1876

Schools can remain as they are says Minister

The Minister of Education has assured Peninsula schools that the option of them continuing to run as they are is one that will be considered along with other possible management systems.

Last Friday afternoon The Hon. Hekia Parata, accompanied

40 in its classes.

Duvauchelle has a wide catchment area, with some pupils travelling for nearly an hour each way to reach it and get home again.

Ms Parata said that having one administrative body would increase the schools' purchasing power and that



in her own area, on the East Coast north of Ruatoria.

"You can achieve savings on bulk purchases - like toilet paper" she said.

At the meeting in Akaroa Ms Parata said that at Duvauchelle she had promised to provide examples of other schools around the country where a similar model works.

Asked at that meeting whether the status quo could remain, she answered "yes".

She assured her audience, which was mostly school staff, that the plans are not about taking dollars out, "But we are wanting to get better spend from the dollars in."

In Okains Bay she told the standing-room only gathering that the proposal is about how to secure a stronger future.

"Of course an option is that you stay the way you are" she said.

She noted that the Okains School roll had been dropping, and said that all around New Zealand small communities are declining.

"This is about sharing resources and governance across three schools" she said.

At Okains Bay one of the key local speakers was Murray Thacker, who told the Minister clearly that the local community did not want its school to be run by Akaroa.

He proposed that if the moves resulted in Okains children having to attend classes in Akaroa, it would be a useful experiment to first invite Akaroa children to Okains Bay every day, and see how they would like the travelling.

"We are entitled to our own school" he said.

Duvauchelle School Board of Trustees chairman Craig Rhodes told the Minister at his meeting that if the local school became part of Akaroa Area School, and lost its special character, then many local families would simply by-pass it and attend classes in Akaroa.

He said that changes are not needed to ensure that schools co-operate, and that they are working well together now.

"We're already working pretty effectively as a cluster" he said.

She expanded on what is currently proposed at the Okains Bay meeting, where she explained that the suggested model is not one where one school takes over another, it is about strength and how the schools are brought together.

"This is a real opportunity to explore."

She said that with a Peninsula background herself, she had really gone through the community pain when her Department went through the decision to close Pigeon Bay School.

With this edition of The Akaroa Mail is a special publication for Akaroa Museum. Extra copies are available from the Museum and will be available through the summer for visitors to Akaroa.

Friday November 30. Deadline for news and advertising November 27

NEXT ISSUE

Education Minister Hekia Parata looks at children's posters about what is special about their school in Okains Bay after she had discussed possible changes in education delivery in the Bay last Friday evening.

He said that the school had been founded in 1871, and moved to its present site in 1939.

Since then, he said, all other government and local government presence had been taken away from the Bay.

"Now you are proposing to take the only government-funded activity away to Akaroa - nothing more than a French-loving tourist town" he suggested.

"We do not want to be run from Akaroa Area School."

He proposed that if the moves resulted in Okains children having to attend classes in Akaroa, it would be a useful experiment to first invite Akaroa children to Okains Bay every day, and see how they would like the travelling.

"We are entitled to our own school" he said.

Duvauchelle School Board of Trustees chairman Craig Rhodes told the Minister at his meeting that if the local school became part of Akaroa Area School, and lost its special character, then many local families would simply by-pass it and attend classes in Akaroa.

He said that changes are not needed to ensure that schools co-operate, and that they are working well together now.

"We're already working pretty effectively as a cluster" he said.

She expanded on what is currently proposed at the Okains Bay meeting, where she explained that the suggested model is not one where one school takes over another, it is about strength and how the schools are brought together.

"This is a real opportunity to explore."

She said that with a Peninsula background herself, she had really gone through the community pain when her Department went through the decision to close Pigeon Bay School.

With this edition of The Akaroa Mail is a special publication for Akaroa Museum. Extra copies are available from the Museum and will be available through the summer for visitors to Akaroa.

Friday November 30. Deadline for news and advertising November 27

NEXT ISSUE



Ms Parata was greeted by a rousing haka when she arrived at Okains Bay.

The Akaroa Mail

FREE

Please take a copy

and Banks Peninsula Advertiser

In this issue
and
Features
of lasting
interest

The Akaroa Mail - The talk of the Peninsula since 1876

Schools can remain as they are says Minister

The Minister of Education has assured Peninsula schools that the option of them continuing to run as they are is one that will be considered along with other possible management systems.

Last Friday afternoon The Hon Hekia Parata, accompanied by Ministry of Education staff, visited Duvau-chelle, Akaroa and Okains Bay Schools to explain and discuss the current Ministry proposal to bring Okains and Duvau-chelle Schools under the management of Akaroa Area School.

They would formally close as independent schools, and re-open as satellite schools to Akaroa.

Ms Parata told about 50 parents, staff and Board of Trustees members at Duvau-chelle that having the local schools operate as one body would make their resourcing more sustainable.

"What we have to look at is the education network in the next 20 to 50 years," she said.

Having a single administration would absorb the ebbs and flows of populations.

She assured those present that a genuine consultation is taking place ("that's why I'm here in person to tell you that"), and that the aim is to achieve something better for all students.

Under the present 'Tomorrow's Schools' funding system schools get money for staff and operating expenses depending on the number of children currently enrolled.

At smaller rural schools a single family moving in or out of the district can make a large percentage difference to the resources a school gets from the government.

In 2008 Duvau-chelle School had 35 pupils, this year it is 23, and next year it is expecting to have nearly

40 in its classes.

Duvau-chelle has a wide catchment area, with some pupils travelling for nearly an hour each way to reach it and get home again.

Ms Parata said that having one administrative body would increase the schools' purchasing power, and that a cluster system works well in her own area, on the East Coast north of Ruatoria.

"You can achieve savings on bulk purchases - like toilet paper," she said.

At the meeting in Akaroa Ms Parata said that at Duvau-chelle she had promised to provide examples of other schools' around the country where a similar model works.

Asked at that meeting whether the status quo could remain, she answered "yes".

She assured her audience, which was mostly school



Education Minister Hekia Parata looks at children's posters about what is special about their school in Okains Bay after she had discussed possible changes in education delivery in the Bay last Friday evening.

staff, that the plans are not about taking dollars out. "But we are wanting to get better spend from the dollars in."

In Okains Bay she told the standing-room only gathering that the proposal is about how to secure a stronger future.

"Of course an option is that you stay the way you are," she said.

She noted that the Okains School roll had been drop-

ping, and said that all around New Zealand small communities are declining.

"This is about sharing resources and governance across three schools," she said.

At Okains Bay one of the key local speakers was Murray Thacker, who told the Minister clearly that the local community did not want its school to be run by Akaroa.

He said that the school had been founded in 1871, and moved to its present site in 1939.

Since then, he said, all other government and local government presence had been taken away from the Bay.

"Now you are proposing to take the only government-funded activity away to Akaroa - nothing more than a French-loving tourist town," he suggested.

"We do not want to be run from Akaroa Area School."

He proposed that if the moves resulted in Okains children having to attend classes in Akaroa, it would be a useful experiment to first invite Akaroa children to Okains Bay every day, and see how they would like the travelling.

"We are entitled to our own school," he said.

Duvau-chelle School Board of Trustees chairman Craig Rhodes told the Minister at his meeting that if the local school became part of Akaroa Area School, and lost its special character, then many local families would simply by-pass it and attend classes in Akaroa.

He said that changes are not needed to ensure that schools co-operate, and that they are working well together now.

"We're already working pretty effectively as a clus-

ter," he said.

Coralanne Child who is coordinating the review of education in the Christchurch area for the Ministry of Education told the Duvau-chelle meeting that the purpose of the planned changes is to help make education in the area easily sustained in the future.

This would help smaller schools such as Duvau-chelle, because it would make them less vulnerable to changing rolls.

She said that rolls had fallen at Le Bons Bay, Duvau-chelle and Okains Bay, and that Little River had experienced growth.

She told the meeting that there wasn't feasibility in amalgamating Governors Bay and Diamond Harbour schools.

She expanded on what is currently proposed at the Okains Bay meeting, where she explained that the suggested model is not one where one school takes over another, it is about strength and how the schools are brought together.

"This is a real opportunity to explore."

She said that with a Peninsula background herself, she had really gone through the community pain when her Department went through the decision to close Pigeon Bay School.



Ms Parata was greeted by a rousing haka when she arrived at Okains Bay.

Disasters, Mysteries and Sensations

With this edition of The Akaroa Mail is a special publication for Akaroa Museum. Extra copies are available from the Museum and will be available through the summer for visitors to Akaroa.

NEXT ISSUE

Friday November 30. Deadline for news and advertising November 27

The Akaroa Mail

FREE

Place (aka etc)

and Banks Peninsula Advertiser

In this issue
News and
Features
of lasting
interest

The Akaroa Mail - The talk of the Peninsula since 1876

Schools can remain as they are says Minister

The Minister of Education has assured Peninsula schools that the option of them continuing to run as they are is one that will be considered along with other possible management systems.

Last Friday afternoon The Hon Hekia Parata, accompanied by Ministry of Education staff, visited Duvauchelle, Akaroa and Okains Bay Schools to explain and discuss the current Ministry proposal to bring Okains and Duvauchelle Schools under the management of Akaroa Area School.

They would formally close as independent schools, and re-open as satellite schools to Akaroa.

Ms Parata told about 50 parents, staff and Board of Trustees members at Duvauchelle that having the local schools operate as one body would make their resourcing more sustainable.

"What we have to look at is the education network in the next 20 to 50 years" she said.

Having a single administration would absorb the ebbs and flows of populations.

She assured those present that a genuine consultation is taking place ("that's why I'm here in person to tell you that"), and that the aim is to achieve something better for all students.

Under the present 'Tomorrow's Schools' funding system schools get money for staff and operating expenses depending on the number of children currently enrolled.

At smaller rural schools a single family moving in or out of the district can make a large percentage difference to the resources a school gets from the government.

In 2008 Duvauchelle School had 35 pupils, this year it is 23, and next year it is expected to have nearly

40 in its classes.

Duvauchelle has a wide catchment area, with some pupils travelling for nearly an hour each way to reach it and get home again.

Ms Parata said that having one administrative body would increase the schools' purchasing power, and that a cluster system works well in her own area, on the East Coast north of Ruatoria.

"You can achieve savings on bulk purchases - like toilet paper" she said.

At the meeting in Akaroa Ms Parata said that at Duvauchelle she had promised to provide examples of other schools around the country where a similar model works.

Asked at that meeting whether the status quo could remain, she answered "yes".

She assured her audience, which was mostly school



Education Minister Hekia Parata looks at children's posters about what is special about their school in Okains Bay last Friday evening.

staff, that the plans are not about taking dollars out. "But we are wanting to get better spend from the dollars in."

In Okains Bay she told the standing-room only gathering that the proposal is about how to secure a stronger future.

"Of course an option is that you stay the way you are" she said.

She noted that the Okains School roll had been dropping,

and said that all around New Zealand small communities are declining.

"This is about sharing resources and governance across three schools" she said.

At Okains Bay one of the key local speakers was Murray Thacker, who told the Minister clearly that the local community did not want its school to be run by Akaroa.

He said that the school had been founded in 1871, and moved to its present site in 1939.

Since then, he said, all other government and local government presence had been taken away from the Bay.

"Now you are proposing to take the only government-funded activity away to Akaroa - nothing more than a French-loving tourist town" he suggested.

"We do not want to be run from Akaroa Area School."

He proposed that if the moves resulted in Okains children having to attend classes in Akaroa, it would be a useful experiment to first invite Akaroa children to Okains Bay every day, and see how they would like the travelling.

"We are entitled to our own school" he said.

Duvauchelle School Board of Trustees chairman Craig Rhodes told the Minister at his meeting that if the local school became part of Akaroa Area School, and lost its special character, then many local families would simply by-pass it and attend classes in Akaroa.

He said that changes are not needed to ensure that schools co-operate, and that they are working well together now.

"We're already working pretty effectively as a cluster" he said.

Coralanne Child who is co-ordinating the review of education in the Christchurch area for the Ministry of Education told the Duvauchelle meeting that the purpose of the planned changes is to help make education in the area easily sustained in the future.

This would help smaller schools such as Duvauchelle, because it would make them less vulnerable to changing rolls.

She said that rolls had fallen at Le Bons Bay, Duvauchelle and Okains Bay, and that Little River had experienced growth.

She told the meeting that there wasn't feasibility in amalgamating Governors Bay and Diamond Harbour schools.

She expanded on what is currently proposed at the Okains Bay meeting, where she explained that the suggested model is not one where one school takes over another, it is about strength and how the schools are brought together.

"This is a real opportunity to explore."

She said that with a Peninsula background herself, she had really gone through the community pain when her Department went through the decision to close Pigeon Bay School.



Ms Parata was greeted by a rousing haka when she arrived at Okains Bay.

Disasters, Mysteries and Sensations

With this edition of The Akaroa Mail is a special publication for Akaroa Museum. Extra copies are available from the Museum and will be available through the summer for visitors.

NEXT ISSUE

Friday November 30. Deadline for news and advertising November 27



CONSULTATION RESULTS REPORT TO THE
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

REGARDING

THE PROPOSED MERGER OF DUVAUCHELLE SCHOOL
WITH AKAROA SCHOOL

From the Board of Trustees
Duvauchelle School

6 December 2012

Report prepared by:

Gay Pavelka

Facilitator

FAMINZ

Contents

	Pages
Executive summary	2 - 3
Themes from parents & caregivers consultation	4 - 5
Themes from wider community meeting	6 - 7
Themes from letters of support and petition	7 - 8
Appendix 1 Full account of parents & caregivers consultation	9 - 14
Appendix 2 Full account of wider community meeting	15 - 20
Appendix 3 Letters of support for no change	
Appendix 4 Petition of support no change	

Executive Summary

The Ministry of Education proposal

That Duvauchelle School be closed and the site retained as a 'hub' of Akaroa Area School (as would Okains Bay School) to provide better coverage and access to education services for learners. (See MoE 'Rationale for change' 12/10/12).

Purpose of the consultation exercise

The Board of Trustees needed to make reasonable efforts to consult with the parents and families of students enrolled full time at the school and to also consult with the school catchment community that may be affected or interested in the outcomes of the Ministry of Education proposal to merge Duvauchelle School with Akaroa School.

Background factors to the consultation approach

The catchment community for the Duvauchelle School is rural, significantly spread out with sometimes challenging road and weather issues and at the time of the consultation, under pressure with lambing, other farming activity and meeting seasonal tourism business demands. Consequently the Board of Trustees chose to confine consultation to two face-to-face meetings with parents and caregivers (Appendix one) and the local community (Appendix 2) plus support internet feedback to the facilitator and school.

The school opted not to formally consult the learners seeing that responsibility lay with the adults to consider the merits and problems with the proposed merger and to limit the expected distress that students would experience from being left with uncertainty.

Inter-relationships between the school and its surrounding community are seen to be so strong, with so much inter-dependence, that consultation questions aimed to recognise this link.

Consultation was managed by an independent facilitator funded by the Ministry of Education. Results of the consultation are summarised in the table pages 4 - 7.

Consultation purpose

The facilitator and Board of Trustees understand that this consultation exercise is a 'big picture' view of the proposal and detailed responses and solutions are not required at this stage. The understanding is that the Minister will give the school a further opportunity to provide more details should the request to continue as an independent site not be accepted by the Minister.

The intention of having an independent facilitator was to ensure that the Board was supported and that individuals in the school community had the opportunity to provide whatever feedback they desired to give.

Consultation steps

Consultation planning meeting with Board Chair and Principal	23/10/12
Ministry staff and school Chair and Principal meeting	24/10/12
School parents & caregivers meeting	2/11/12
(Ministers meeting at the school)	9/11/12
Wider community meeting	12/11/12
B o T Chair informal meeting with Akaroa School Board BoT chair	22/11/12
B o T petition individual letters of support received	During October and November
Discuss with BoT the draft report	26/11/12

Consultation feedback results

Common key themes emerging from both parent and community feedback are abbreviated as:

- Both the parents and community members meetings gave unequivocal feedback that they saw no advantage in any change that reduced or removed school governance or management on the site.
- Pride in the school's academic achievements.
- Confidence in the community's continuing ability to support the school financially, psychologically.
- Expected future role increases helped drive their stance that the school had a self sustaining future.
- There is support within the school community to continue working in the Banks Peninsula cluster system and an openness to exploring how this collaborative cluster approach might be further developed to increase the sustainable use of resources.

Facilitator's summary

Notable in this consultation exercise has been the consistency of feedback from both the most adamant supporters for continuing the operation of the school as it is now to the quiet, moderately voiced meeting participants who also wished the school not to merge with Akaroa. In order to provide unpressured, confidentiality of feedback, the facilitator made it possible for people to send feedback privately via email and to hand in questionnaires unsighted by other meeting participants.

Separate to the consultation steps was an informal meeting between Duvauchelle Board of Trustees Chair and Akaroa Board of Trustees Chair. I understand Akaroa Area School Board of Trustees are not supportive of the proposed merger and they do support continuation of Duvauchelle School remaining with its own governance and management arrangement.

Consultation meeting and participants	Consultation method	Key themes from consultation feedback
<p>Parents & Caregivers</p> <p>2 November 2012</p> <p>19 parents and caregivers attended representing all but two school families.</p>	<p>At Duvauchelle School</p> <p>Groups of parents engaged in a 'round robin' exercise to answer questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do you prefer the school changes to become part of a 'cluster' and 'provision for education' under Akaroa School as proposed by the MoE? If so, why? Do you prefer the school remains as it is currently, a stand-alone entity? If so, why? (What do you find innovative and successful about the school?) What does the school bring to the community? 	<p>There is a high level of concern that a merger would result in the school closing within a few years.</p> <p>There was no support for the proposal to merge with Akaroa School.</p> <p>The school is proven to be functioning very effectively financially.</p> <p>Current education provision is resulting in the learners achieving 10% above the national average in the national standards.</p> <p>No earthquake damage remains and the school role has not been adversely affected by earthquake related demographic changes.</p> <p>There is a high level of satisfaction with the achievements of the current governance and staff and their proven, well established commitment to the school. One example is the Board fundraising to hire a half time extra teacher.</p> <p>Innovative teaching is occurring along with the level of teacher - student contact desired by parents.</p> <p>The Board and parents proven ability and commitment to</p>

Consultation meeting and participants	Consultation method	Key themes from consultation feedback
		<p data-bbox="284 383 352 1135">fundraise stems from both their commitment to their children and to the community at Duvauchelle.</p> <p data-bbox="395 383 571 1135">The geographical position of the school creates a logical, travel time efficiency for learners. Attending Akaroa school will create hardship for some learners from outer bays by increasing their travel time. Example - Some students travel time would increase by up to one hour if forced to travel to Akaroa.</p> <p data-bbox="614 383 715 1135">The mutually beneficial relationship with the neighbouring pre-school gives children a smooth transition into school and the growing pre-school role will support the increasing school role.</p> <p data-bbox="758 383 788 1135">Parents like the current position of having a choice of schools.</p> <p data-bbox="831 383 963 1135">Maintaining the identity of the school and its central role in sustaining the Duvauchelle community is very important. The risk of the school closing after a merger is high, therefore the community would be undermined.</p>

Consultation meeting and participants	Consultation method	Key themes from consultation feedback
<p>Wider community meeting</p> <p>12 November 2012</p> <p>Local interested community members - 11, parents - 8, grandparents - 3, staff - 2</p> <p>Total of 23 including 2 Community Board members</p>	<p>At the neutral venue of Duvauchelle Golf Club</p> <p>After a short discussion about the proposal people completed individual questionnaires for the facilitator and were invited to send replies later by email. This ensure the capacity to provide confidential feedback.</p> <p>Questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What potential risks exist for the community if the school were to change from its current mode of operation? • What does the school bring to the Duvauchelle community ? • Do you think the current running of the school warrants change? Please give reasons. 	<p>There is no desire to change the current school operation as proposed by the Ministry of Education as the school is seen as already very successful. The desire is to continue the same teaching, management and governance formula that are highly valued in the community.</p> <p>Real risk of school closure if a merger occurs which will reduce the community energy to support the school out of their area.</p> <p>Demographic shifts benefiting the Duvauchelle community are occurring due to the unaffordability of Akaroa housing and are expected due to planned future local subdivision thus increasing opportunities for future role increases.</p> <p>High risk that a merger will mean Duvauchelle parents will lose influence due to lack of Board representation and lose influence over the administration of the school.</p> <p>Local businesses and services will be at risk if the school closes and the local pre-school relationship undermined.</p> <p>The school is currently successful due to the board efficiently raising and managing finances,</p> <p>The high level of interaction between the school and local community is mutually beneficial and will be at risk from a merger and subsequent school closure.</p>

		The school is the hub of the community and provides a sense of belonging for students and whanau. The school and the community sustain each other.
Letters submitted	1 letter from J & M Woodley	Confirming have a grandchild attending Duvauchelle School for 2013.
Copies of these handwritten and emailed letters are held by the facilitator.	1 letter from S Stewart 1 letter from 'Alison & Ivan' J & A Craw Jason & Lara M Hapuku C McMullon T Slade C Slade M Wiseman Peter Kay, Headmaster Medbury School Andrea Taylor, Enviroschools Canterbury Regional Coordinator Pam Richardson, Chair, Akaroa/Wairewa Community Board Christian Couper, Principal, Little River School	Requesting no change in current governance/management structure Supporting continuation of Duvauchelle School Supporting continuation of Duvauchelle School Supporting continuation of Duvauchelle School Supporting continuation of Duvauchelle School Requesting no change in current governance/management structure Requesting no change in current governance/management structure Requesting no change in current governance/management structure Praise for Duvauchelle School teaching results. Praise for Duvauchelle School environmental teaching - support school continuing. Supporting the school remaining as a stand-alone unit. Emailed support for Duvauchelle School regarding no change.

Petition initiated by the Board of Trustees	Signed by 271 people	Supporting the Board of Trustees decision to fight the proposal and to retain Duvauchelle School's identity as a stand alone school.
---	----------------------	--



Appendix 1

PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS CONSULTATION FEEDBACK ON 2/11/2012 REGARDING MoE PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE SCHOOL

Attending: 19 parents and caregivers, 1 apology meaning all but two school families were represented.

The following represents a full account of written feedback.

Do you prefer the school changes to become part of a 'cluster' and 'provision for education' under Akaroa School as proposed by the MoE? If so, why?

No - because:

1. We are already part of a cluster (BP learning cluster).
2. We prefer the provision of education as it stands (including maintaining our Board of Trustees.
3. School is currently achieving 10% above national standards.
4. Nothing to be gained by Akaroa governing the school.
5. No guarantee that the school will remain open as a provision for education.
6. We don't believe Akaroa School is capable of managing a cluster as they have not been able to manage two separate sites in the past. This has been shown with the amalgamation of their junior and senior schools.
7. Akaroa might not be passionate about this school and may not prioritise our needs.
8. We see advantages to becoming a cluster with regards to communication rather than governance. We do not see the value of one Board of Trustees.
9. We value our teachers. They have proven themselves and our children are achieving under their tutelage. Are their positions guaranteed if our school merges?
10. What guarantees for our school's future? Will there still be on eon this site in 5 years time for example?
11. Why would we change something that is already working well? Community involvement, education, staff, fund raising, parental support, children achieving top 10% in NZ. Safe environment.
12. No, there is no financial or practical sense for Akaroa School to keep the Duvauchelle site operational. Closure of the site would be inevitable.
13. The school would be run by a Board of Trustees that probably do not have any direct involvement with the Duvauchelle community.
14. No Why change something that is working well, working stronger with stronger, increasing roles?
15. No because we have no clear understanding how this provision for education will run.

16. We believe the best learning environment for all our children is the way it is delivered now. Any changes will result in compromised education.
17. If site sharing is part of a future delivery of education this must surely compromise time in classroom and learning activities.
18. Our school is financially sound, has no remaining earthquake damage, we have excellent relationships between parents and staff, we already operate in the Banks Peninsula Cluster Group and we have a projected roll increase for 2013.
19. No.
20. (Submitted after the meeting) I believe it should stay as it is. Our own site with our own amazing teachers/staff & B.O.T. and supportive families. 😊

Do you prefer the school remains as it is currently, a stand-alone entity? If so, why? (What do you find innovative and successful about the school?)

1. We would prefer the school to remain as it is currently for the following reasons:
 - excellent management and governance
 - parents are passionate about Duvauchelle School having its own identity because our children are achieving in the top 10% in New Zealand.
 - parents fundraise between \$12,000.00 - \$15,000.00 annually. This shows parents commitment which contributes to the overall success of the school
 - The Children are mixing in their development age-range. 5 year olds are not mixing with 18 year olds in the playground
 - positive attitudes towards learning
 - nurturing learning environment.
2. Absolutely!
3. A small size school benefits the pupils giving more one to one time with the teachers. (Teacher pupil ratio).
4. Pastoral care - the principal is familiar with all the pupils well and their needs and is on site.
5. Because the school is being run by an Exceptionally good principal who uses Innovative educational tools and is well backed up by a Board of Trustees and strong parent support.
6. We prefer having the principal on site as this role is crucial. As a Board we appoint the Primary Education Provider in the principal.
7. B of T elected to fundraise (with strong support from the community) to fund a half teacher to enable them to give the best education to our children.
Because of this the pupils study numeracy with literacy in two classrooms each morning separated into juniors and seniors.
8. My children came from a school in Christchurch. They had issues from bullies at the school and suffered from earthquakes, damage, (panic attacks etc).
Duvauchelle embraced my children like a family. This helped them to gain back their social confidence, also taught them to believe in themselves again and trust in their school mates.
 - These important values would not have been regained in a larger school system
 - We call Duvauchelle school staff our second family to my children. They feel safe with staff that not only provide excellent education but go up and above what they need to support earthquake damage children and help them heal.

- social healing

- confidence
- believing in themselves.

9. My child was behind and slipping through the cracks. So I left the city to attend a smaller school to see if we could get things under control. She has been making so much progress so I would prefer to remain as it is.
10. The different dynamics of the way this school is currently run provide a rich, collective education where children interact and are educated alongside a varied age group which has helped my child immensely with social interaction skills.
11. The way this school teaches I believe is innovative. They encourage every child to play a part and encourage them to participate to try their best. In a bigger class room not every child may have the chance to participate.
12. To stay as it is.
13. Children are taught numeracy and literacy to their ability rather than age which is possible in a smaller school with "mixed" year groups e.g. y0-y2 etc. Allowing kids to be extended and offering opportunities not always able in bigger schools or classrooms.
14. (Submitted after the meeting) Upon reading through the Rationale for change document provided by the Ministry I was concerned to see that no-where in the document it actually stated or gave any clear or "concrete" reasons as to why and what benefits there might be.

The Ministry representatives on the media, the information on the websites, the information provided to the schools seems to constantly change on its opinions, reasonings, terms. It gives the impression that this is a whole new concept/idea and that it is ill thought out, based on wishful thinking and is being made up as it goes along.

The statistics/figures/information that have been quoted and therefore presumably decisions have been on is incorrect.

The school currently enjoys a fantastic culture, environment and great staff resulting in learning achievements 10% above national averages.

It is very obvious to see the dedication and hands on involvement of the teachers, principal, B.O.T. and parents to the school and its children.

The old adage of don't break what's currently working extremely well comes to mind!!

15. Yes I do! As we have a very unique school here & I believe it wouldn't be the same if merged with Akaroa Area School. We have a choice where to send our kids & mine is Duvauchelle.

What does the school bring to the community?

1. Security and unity for the children.
2. Employment opportunities for surrounding businesses, school staff and contractors.
3. Use of school facilities for community purposes (school pool, grounds, tennis court and playground).
4. Opportunity for interaction and socialisation of school families (who otherwise live in isolated areas).
5. The school draws families into the community.
6. The opportunity for children at the preschool next door to use the grounds and interact with the school children.
7. Travelling distance and time for 'outer bays' families - school makes this possible with its location and convenience with the pre-school next door (some with having preschool and school age children).
8. Travel times are currently up to approx. 3 hours per day and if we have to travel to Akaroa it would be approx. 4 hours which is unacceptable for a 5 year old etc...
9. Security to all children and parents in the area with good educational development. With a adjunct of a preschool next door, it all helps with the social impact.
10. Unity by bringing different parts of the community together for the benefit of the community as a whole.
 - without one you don't have the other e.g. At the Duvauchelle Show the school has a burger and sausage sizzle tent which raises money for the school but also provides as additional service for the show whilst they serve alcohol in the evenings. The community comes to buy burgers etc in order to support us.
11. Unity
12. Focal point
13. The only pre-school (in conjunction with) on Banks Peninsula is right next door. There is much cooperation between the pre-school and Duvauchelle School enabling the smooth transition to school for the young children. (e.g. Pre-school comes to pet day, cross-country etc).
14. The pre-school is expanding, has an increasing waiting list and role, to cater for more children which will flow on the school. The proximity to the pre-school is another reason parents end their children to the Duvauchelle School.
15. As housing becomes more expensive in Akaroa working families are choosing (and being forced) to live further from Akaroa making Duvauchelle a more central location - future.
16. Small rural schools such as Duvauchelle have strong and passionate parents who care for and feel proud of this school. Children see this pride taken by the parents and are proud of the school themselves. this is all linked to higher education and very well rounded learners.
17. This brings to the community a choice of schools.
18. (Submitted after the meeting) The school is a central focus/rallying point for the community. A place where everyone comes together, socialises, mixes, mingles and networks at events such as the school sports days, interschool competitions, fund raisers and working b's.
19. It helps to retain young people and families in the area.
20. (submitted after the meeting) The school is the heart & soul of this amazing community. It has a sense of belonging here & the whole community is behind it, without it Duvauchelle would be empty.

What potential risks exist for the community if the school were to change from its current mode of operation?

1. Cannot predict the future but Canterbury is in a growth phase. Who has predicted the potential growth of this area? This school could cater for that growth?
2. Potentially could lose its identity with the hub of the school.
3. Would parents still have the choice about which school they send their child/ren?
4. Will children have to transport to Akaroa to do IT, swimming or library and potentially how many times per week? Children would be losing valuable learning time.
5. Junior school would end being thrown in with senior children.
6. Loss of representation on Board.
7. Projected roles for 5 to 10 years
8. Our primary concern is that as a satellite school how does this improve the education provision for our children?
9. Pre-school to expand to take in more children, the majority of which will flow on through.
10. How does she see the provision for education improving because of the merger?
11. Is she aware of the distances at times that children are travelling.
12. Social aspect to the rural community will be lost.
13. Total school closure becoming inevitable.
14. If school closure happens - travel becomes an issue from outer bays. (for some families 55 minutes to Duvauchelle would become 1 hour 20 min. At present 45 minutes + 10 minutes to Akaroa or by bus to Akaroa + 30 minutes. For junior children in means another 1 hour of travel.
15. Loss of choice of schooling.
16. 4 example: 1 child now has to travel 45 min. by car from one of the bays that would now become 1 hour. If they chose the bus that 5 year old will have to leave now at 7 am to catch the bus by 8 am and not be home by 5 pm.

These times will again increase with weather conditions (ice, snow) that the peninsula hills are susceptible to. Summit Road being 500 m above sea level.

17. The community will lose the current format of education which is working exceptionally well in its current form
18. Parents with children at the pre-school next door will have a higher level of difficulty with travel at an alternative school site for their school age children.
19. I believe that social networks with children's development will be lost (applying to those who can't move away) as more and more family leave the community to be closer to the only available school.
20. With the loss of the school, the community would change from a family orientated area to a holiday home area.
21. Loss of choice for families choosing where their child would be educated.
22. Young children having to socialise with older high school children without segregated "play" areas and young kids being bullied or being exposed to teenage socialising e.g. bad language/adult themes.
23. (submitted after the meeting) The loss of :
 - The school currently enjoys a fantastic culture, environment and great staff resulting in learning achievements 10% above national averages.
 - It is very obvious to see the dedication and hands on involvement of the teachers, principal, B.O.T. and parents to the school and its children.
 - The old adage of don't break what's currently working extremely well comes to mind!!

24. That this proposal is implemented regardless of the wants of a "small" community by a Ministry's determination to save face. The result of an ill thought, poorly planned and resourced model being forced onto the area could create a real mess that impacts on the children and their learning, teachers morale and the feeling of the community.
25. The new governing school will be overwhelmed, ill equipped to handle such a transition of this new model especially without clear direction, resourcing and guidance from the ministry.
26. Disenfranchised parents and families resulting in falling roll and ultimate closure of the school site forever.
27. (submitted after the meeting) For a start we would send our kids to town. Our children would have further to travel each and every day. I believe their education level of teaching would be ruined, & our leaders of tomorrow would be leavers of today. As I am certainly am upset by this proposed possible merger/closure





Appendix 2

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION FEEDBACK ON 12/11/2012 REGARDING MoE PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE SCHOOL

Attending were: Local interested community members - 11, parents - 8, grandparents - 3 staff - 2

Total of 23 including Community Board members - 2,

The following represents a full account of written feedback.

What potential risks exist for the community if the school were to change from its current mode of operation?

1. Loss of the real 'rural identity'
2. The school losing the support structure it has around it at the moment, Secretary and staff support.
3. Risk of families moving out of the area we may be only 10 min from Akaroa but its two valleys away # the closer of preschool.
4. The loss of great education as our teachers will lose their jobs.
5. Loss of income for other community businesses e.g. gas station and cafe.
6. Loss of community focus - cohesion lost.
7. Strength in the school diminished
 - either because the school is actually closed
 - or the energy is spread around too thinly, not focused where the community is domiciled.
8. Inter school competition? What will happen with sports days etc -who do the children compete against?
9. Complete school closure will equal community loss.
10. Loss of community of interest.
11. Lack of control
12. Poor Board representation
13. Inevitable closure.
14. Higher costs and loss of identity.
15. Eventual closure of school.
16. No evidence that changes will be successful.
17. Real danger of assets being closed because of lack of finance for repairs, (such as swimming pool).
18. Facilities in Duvauchelle closing such as hotel, shop, petrol station, the school will herald the closure of the Duvauchelle community.
19. The control of the school's operation, i.e. administration, format of what takes place will be severely weakened and may be lost as their voice will be only one of many whom will not necessarily know what is best for our community.
20. The children will be taught by many teachers 'expert' in their field, whereas as Primary children (5-10) a bonding with 1 teacher is more secure.

21. Maybe in the near future the school may close completely and sold for real estate. Then the next 20 years with cheaper subdivision in Duvauchelle and Wainui the potential school role will increase, where do they go? To Akaroa, putting huge pressure on an already tight school and community facilities. A No Brainer.
22. Loss of community of interest.
23. Further changes to classes.
24. Loose community connection.
25. Further changes/closures in future.
26. Lack of governance in Akaroa.
27. A first step to closure.
28. Closure would severely affect viability of local businesses and services.
29. Loss of Duvauchelle identity.
30. The loss of the centre point of the community.
31. Travel huge distance to Akaroa.
32. Further draw to Akaroa as the main school is there.
33. Much longer travelling days for 5 year olds.
34. Loss of community identification for the children.
35. Difficult to attract new residents if no local school.
36. The school role increase forecast of 40% over the next 2 years is from permanent families. All are 5 year olds who will continue with their education until year 7.
37. At the moment the Duvauchelle School appears to be punching well above its weight and I am concerned that the quality of teaching will suffer and that of the children's education.
38. Another concern is that the local businesses will miss opportunities as there will be less activities at the local school as they might try to combine sports days, pet days etc in Akaroa.
39. Some families may leave if the teaching is compromised.
40. Lack of focus for the community.
41. More travel time for children already coping with large distances over windy, hill, metal roads also subject to adverse weather.
42. Community will lose its own needs being heard if its governed from outside the area.
43. At the moment the school is operating a 'lean machine' budget wise. This is because of community support. This support would be lost if it was governed outside of Duvauchelle.
44. We lose our teachers - they lose their jobs - loss of families in the area due to job loss.
45. The children are happy/safe and learning well in the current mode of operation - they will lose the sense of happy, safe and learning could suffer - therefore could lose more families from school.
46. If Board is not in the same community - the support will not be there for the community/school - they may not relate to the community/school.
47. The pre-school as part of the community will suffer as it is next door and if they have to contact Akaroa for advice/resources it will become too difficult.
48. A lot would leave the area and move away.
49. Our great interaction with the community would be gone.
50. Loss of focus from the community which will see eventually the site be closed. Possibly loss of choice. Student pride in their school. Shared governance would be weighted to Akaroa and Duvauchelle "spoke" would be lesser resourced.
51. Additional travel for students.
52. A sole charge "spoke" could be formed - there are health and safety issues - tsunami, earthquake, snow, flood.
53. There are potential subdivision and expansion plans at Wainui and the hotel at Duvauchelle etc. More families?
54. Less of a cluster - only Akaroa and Little River.
55. Loss of local identity.

56. Decline of population here - families may move on.
57. Much longer days due to more travel for children - also affects parents - (work etc).
58. Community members will not know centralised B.O.T. members as well.
59. Preschool numbers may suffer.
60. May affect businesses - i.e. store, cafe.
61. Besides the community supporting the school - the school supports the community. With a BOT based outside the community there would not be the same understanding of the issues within the community.
62. The Preschool is part of the community. At present there is a wonderful relationship between the school and preschool led by the Principal and BOT. It would be difficult to have a day to day working partnership when the Board governing the school is at a greater distance.

What does the school bring to the Duvauchelle community?

1. Duvauchelle is the hub of the Akaroa Harbour Basin. The middle of the wheel with contributing bays. Wainui and Duvauchelle are the next two communities to be developed.
2. Duvauchelle community housing affordability.
3. A family environment that is open to communication and family values. We know each other. We know who our kids are friends with.
4. Life it's a focus for.
5. It's an asset to a growing community.
6. A point of focus, a point of pride.
7. The children at Duvauchelle School are "flag bearers" for the community and at the moment they are flying the flag high. Everywhere they go as a school group the comments are extremely positive.
8. Great school reflects on the community, a great community reflects on the school.
9. People come together to support the community.
10. We cleaned up and planted out the nearby stream - the school and the community.
11. Community bonding for fundraising etc.
12. Location benefits. It's the most central site for a school.
13. Excellent learning facility.
14. Gives the children a sense of identity with their school.
15. Children do not bus to school unless in the outer bays where they will have to travel anyway.
16. The school interacts with the community by involving parents and grandparents, and indeed members of the community who have no direct connection, in their fundraising, working bees etc. These are healthy community days.
17. Being a small school, talking over 'problems' is easier than dialogue with a bigger school. Being intimate and smaller results in more confidentiality between teachers, parents and pupils.
18. School lunch buying at the store makes a more vibrant Duvauchelle community people will stay.
19. Future shops may start up.
20. Grandparents give a hand at functions.
21. We cannot let Duvauchelles become a ghost town with Akaroa becoming over utilised. Cruise ship people already are stressing Akaroa out.
22. Community bonding via:
 - fundraising etc
 - pet days

- general school activities to which village people attend.

23. Community heart.
24. The identity of the Duvauchelle community and business from around the outer bays.
25. Engagement
26. Community connection.
27. Support for community activities.
28. Focal point of community.
29. Continuity.
30. Hub of community.
31. Sports field and swimming pool.
32. Brings community together.
33. The school brings the community to it!!
34. Identity.
35. A sense of focus and continuity for families.
36. A sense of belonging for children.
37. Duvauchelle school is an asset to a growing community - The 'Akaroa Small Settlement Study' suggest Duvauchelle and Wainui are the next suggested areas for urban expansion.
38. With a smaller school parents have to be involved so it will function thus have a great knowledge of school happenings and their children's strengths and weaknesses - the children are not a number.
39. The school brings community to the community, being a small school the parents, teachers and Board members are very close knit and it is very easy to get working bees organised and fund raising done.
40. Meetings are held at the local coffee shop, hotel and community hall. This would be lost under the Akaroa umbrella.
41. Central focus and a 'choice' for our children's education. If you live in town or a city you can travel 10 minutes in any direction to enrol in another school. Not so on Banks Peninsula.
42. The school is a focus/hub of community.
43. It gives the children a sense of belonging.
44. School also incorporates the economy of the community.
E.g. cleaner, secretary
E.g. if sports days/pets day are moved to Akaroa then lose financial stability or business e.g. cafe/petrol station.
45. Interaction with the wider community and the Preschool.
46. A sense of belonging.
47. Community focus. It is centrally located. Choice for parents. A heart. Friendly rivalry. Pride. A heart.
48. A focus for people - brings all generations together i.e. pet day, school productions.
49. It gives the children a sense of belonging and identity in their own community.
50. Having a school is an asset as it brings in new families - is good for the economy of the community.
51. The school is the hub of the community. The community is very proud of its school and what it has achieved. It gives the children/families/whanau a sense of belonging which is necessary for growth.
52. The school is part of the economic viability of community - providing full and part time work.

Do you think the current running of the school warrants change? Please give reasons?

1. Yes build a stronger relationship with the pre-school and continue to build on the cluster development talked about tonight.
2. No we are currently in a good financial position.
3. Our children are already doing so well. Why (fix?) something that doesn't need fixing?
4. No.
5. The school is being run very well - the school BoT is very strong and active.
6. The school isn't broken! Don't fix it.
7. Access to Duvauchelle is safer and easier.
8. In a good situation for families from other bays.
9. The school is growing in numbers and strength. The children perform well across the board on national standards.
10. Loss of a true cluster - who will the children compete with at sports days?
11. Cannot see any advantage in proposed changes. Old saying - if it isn't broken don't fix it.
12. Perhaps we need to consider how we better use our existing cluster.
13. Asking for an extension of time on proposal to prove that existing cluster can work. Focus on cluster could be on:
 - I.T.
 - Production
 - Sport
 - Music
14. No
15. No earthquake damage.
16. Already operates a cluster with adjoining schools.
17. Do not change a successful operation that is working for something that is questionable if it will in fact work.
18. I am passionate that the school in Duvauchelle remains as it is.
19. Having confidence in your Board of trustees, who live and work in our community, any change that one feels could result in a better school, is easily communicated to the BoT, so these 'governors' are making improvements all the time, as the need arises.
20. No I don't think it needs changing. Already the students are getting top national exam results. The children are so happy to attend classes. No bullying etc.
21. Great parent support for fundraising.
22. Does not warrant change.
23. Academic performance of pupils.
24. Financially sound.
25. Ability of village to fund raise if needed.
26. Old saying "if it aint broke do not fix it".
27. No
28. No
29. School is currently well run, resourced and supported.
30. It prepares junior pupils well for future education.
31. No!
32. Well run, value for money.
33. A happy place! The children thrive and achieve!
34. Closure does not stack up.
35. Definitely not.
36. No - these changes are one step closer to full closure of our school.

37. No - these changes will be disruptive to our children.
38. The current school achieves 10% above national standards. This speaks for itself.
39. With a competent, enthusiastic Board financial stability is firm - the communication which brings these members together is vital for our rural community - and the greater community understanding of what the aims and aspirations of the school are.
40. No. The teachers, Principal and Board members do a fabulous job not to mention the parents.
41. Duvauchelle School is a family and it would be sad to lose that.
42. No!
43. No it doesn't.
44. The children are happy/safe in the environment they are currently in with relationships with teachers etc.
45. The school is working fine and brilliantly. Why change what is working well now!
46. No, why ruin a good school, leave it alone.
47. We have excellent resources and amazing teachers and our children are high achievers.
48. No. It is running educationally 10% above National Standards NZ average.
49. Fiscally the school is well managed and has financial reserves. Parents are willing to volunteer and raise money for the school.
50. Students are happy and want to come to school.
51. Resources in IT for our students is one to one - can't do better than that.
52. No change necessary. The school is running extremely efficiently. It is financially sound which says a lot of its B.O.T members and staff.
53. The children are all achieving above National Standards, they are happy and settled.
54. If it isn't broken - don't fix it.
55. No - Why change something that works really well where there is no evidence that the change will improve the children's learning or their emotional and physical safety.

Other concerns/ideas that you have (from the wall chart)

- A stronger focus on the younger age group including closer working relationship with the preschool. Have a "special focus".
- Duvauchelle centre of the Akaroa Harbour easier access, more affordable housing, "safer area" roading/parking.
- Is there any evidence that younger children do better away from any other older age group?
- Akaroa - no space, sporting activities and other outdoor activities on such a small site.
- Parking issues for the site.
- Identity is important. When so much has been lost even more important to hold on to what is left. Duvauchelle School is hub of this community.



or the

as a

viding
kaloa,
I also

ol

nding
thout

n the

ie as

APPENDIX 3



File: AD 39
Trim: 12/893561

4 December 2012

To Whom it May Concern

Duvauchelle School

At a recent meeting the Akaroa/Wairewa Community Board discussed the proposal for the future of the Duvauchelle School.

The Board decided to support the retention of the Duvauchelle School remaining as a stand alone unit and gave the following points in making its decision:

- The school is an integral, central part of the rural community, providing education for children from Wainui, Barrys Bay, Pigeon Bay, Little Akaloa, Chorlton, Decanter Bay, Le Bons Bay, Okains Bay, Robinsons Bay and also Akaroa.
- It is situated adjacent to the Banks Peninsula Plunket Community Preschool
- The facility has room for growth
- It is located in a central position for students travelling from the surrounding outer bay areas (travelling time for students is already considerable, without potentially adding extra time)
- It is the "community hub", being the only public facility currently in the Duvauchelle area that can act as a catalyst for adults to meet together.
- Obtaining members for the Board of Trustees has never been an issue as elections have always needed to be held.

Yours faithfully,

Pam Richardson,
Chairman
Akaroa/Wairewa Community Board

File: AD 39
Trim: 12/893561

4 December 2012

To Whom it May Concern

Duvauchelle School

At a recent meeting the Akaroa/Wairewa Community Board discussed the proposal for the future of the Duvauchelle School.

The Board decided to support the retention of the Duvauchelle School remaining as a stand alone unit and gave the following points in making its decision:

- The school is an integral, central part of the rural community, providing education for children from Wainui, Barrys Bay, Pigeon Bay, Little Akaloa, Chorlton, Decanter Bay, Le Bons Bay, Okains Bay, Robinsons Bay and also Akaroa.
- It is situated adjacent to the Banks Peninsula Plunket Community Preschool
- The facility has room for growth
- It is located in a central position for students travelling from the surrounding outer bay areas (travelling time for students is already considerable, without potentially adding extra time)
- It is the "community hub", being the only public facility currently in the Duvauchelle area that can act as a catalyst for adults to meet together.
- Obtaining members for the Board of Trustees has never been an issue as elections have always needed to be held.

Yours faithfully,



Pam Richardson,
Chairman
Akaroa/Wairewa Community Board

FILE COPY

Enviroschools Canterbury

PO Box 345
Christchurch 8140

28 November 2012

To whom it may concern

Duvauchelle School has been part of the **Enviroschools Programme** since November 2009 achieving a bronze award in 2011. This award acknowledges their commitment to creating a more sustainable school community.

The school brings the Duvauchelle community together through participating in sustainable action that benefits the wider school community.

Students have conducted three waste audits as part of the Enviroschools 'Measuring Change' challenge. Each year there has been an improvement as a result of learning and action taken by the students.

Duvauchelle School is always willing to give students the opportunity to learn more about the unique environment in which they live. They have participated in Enviroschools workshops learning alongside other Enviroschool students, teachers and parents. This year they participated in a biodiversity workshop at Hinewai Reserve and last year explored the rocky shore of Duvauchelle beach.

Alongside the wider Duvauchelle community they have participated in the riparian planting of Pawsons Stream which borders their school. They are also involved in the ongoing maintenance of the stream. The closure of the school would significantly affect the care of the stream.

Duvauchelle School is at the centre of the community and contributes so much that is difficult to measure in terms of a cost benefit analysis. Closing would be an immeasurable loss to the students and community and wider network of Enviroschools.

Yours sincerely



Andrea Taylor
Enviroschools Canterbury Regional Coordinator





From the Headmaster's Office

FILE COPY

23 October 2012

To whom it may concern,

Over the last seven years as Headmaster of Medbury School, I have had the pleasure of welcoming several boys who have enrolled from Duvauchelle School on Banks Peninsula.

In every case the boys have come with a strong set of values, a high work ethic and a strong desire to please. Their academic levels have varied from being highly gifted to requiring some extra learning support.

I have no hesitation in stating that these boys have come from a positive learning environment and are excellent ambassadors for Duvauchelle School.

I am quite happy to discuss this further and can be contacted at hm@medbury.school.nz

Yours faithfully,

Peter Kay M.A. (Hons), Dip Tchg
Headmaster
Medbury School

From:
Sent: Monday, 17 September 2012 3:41 p.m.
To:
Subject: school debacle.!!!

Dear I

Just wanting to let you know, all the staff are in our thoughts, as you sort thru this huge mine-field of mess and mis-information over the future of the Peninsula schools being featured in the paper.
Please pass on to them all, our support, with the offer of anything we can do to help. just let us know.

My fingers are itching to Email Amy with my thoughts, but I have refrained so far.!!

Sending Best Wishes and strength for the days ahead.
Sincerely,

--
This message has been scanned for viruses and dangerous content by MailScanner, and is believed to be clean.

Duvauchelle School Office

From:
Sent: Sunday, 11 November 2012 6:06 p.m.
To: Duvauchelle School Office
Subject: A VERY HUMBLE DRAFT ATTEMPT AT A SUBMISSION TO THE MINISTRY...MAYBE OF SOME HELP!!!!

DUVAUCHELLE SCHOOL

A SUBMISSION TO THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION FOR THE RETENTION OF THIS SCHOOL..

1/ DUVAUCHELLE IS LOCATED AT THE HEAD OF THE AKAROA HARBOUR, AND ITS POSITION LENDS ITSELF TO BEING A VERY CENTRAL POINT FROM ALL PARTS OF BANKS PENINSULA...

2/ THIS LOCATION IS VERY WIDELY ACCEPTED AS THE MOST CENTRAL POINT FOR THE PRIMARY SCHOOL WHICH SERVES THIS WIDER COMMUNITY..

3/ OKAINS BAY SCHOOL DOES NOT ATTRACT PUPILS FROM OTHER PARTS OF THE PENINSULA, THERE ARE SEVERAL FAMILIES WHO TRAVEL FROM AKAROA TO DUVAUCHELLE RECOGNISING THE HIGH STANDARD OF TEACHING BEING TAUGHT THERE.. ALSO THERE ARE FAR-FLUNG FAMILIES WHO TRAVEL GREAT DISTANCES NOW, TO ENJOY THE HIGH STANDARD OF TEACHING PROVIDED AT DUVAUCHELLE SCHOOL.

4/.THERE IS A REAL CONCERN WITH THE INTEGRATING OF PRIMARY AND SECONDARY CHILDREN TOGETHER ON ONE SITE,, WHICH OCCURS IN AKAROA..

5/. DUVAUCHELLE SCHOOL IS PERFORMING AT 10% ABOVE THE NATIONAL STANDARD, AND CAN BOAST AN **ERO** REPORT OF 2012 WHICH SHOWS THE SCHOOL DOES HAVE EXCELLENT LEADERSHIP AND TEACHING.. THE SCHOOL IS WELL PLACED TO RESPOND TO THE CHANGING **IT** NEEDS OF EDUCATION.. THE CHILDREN HAVE ACCESS TO THE LATEST INFORMATION/ COMMUNICATION DEVICES.. THE STUDENTS ARE TAUGHT **MAORI EVERY DAY, AND FRENCH AND MUSIC WEEKLY.**

6/. THIS SUBMISSION ENDEAVOURS TO ILLUSTRATE THE VERY GOOD ATTRIBUTES OF THIS AMAZING SMALL SCHOOL, TO DEMONSTRATE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF A COMMUNITY WHO VALUES THE HIGH STANDARDS ATTAINED AT DUVAUCHELLE SCHOOL AND IS PREPARED TO SUPPORT IT IN SO MANY WAYS. THE BOARD OF TRUSTEE MEMBERS ARE DRAWN FROM ALL PARTS OF THE PENINSULA, AND A REAL CONCERN IS THE LACK OF REPRESENTATION WHICH WOULD BE VERY NOMINAL, IF THERE WAS ONLY ONE BOARD OF TRUSTEES BASED AT AKAROA. EVEN A CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGE WOULD NOT ENSURE A TRUE AND DEMOCRATIC PROCESS WOULD BE FOLLOWED AT DECISION MAKING TIME.

18th Sept 2012

To Whom it May Concern,

I would like you to reconsider the proposal to close Duvauchelle School. At the time of the Earthquakes our school became a haven for other families more seriously affected by the quakes. The school roll doubled and the appreciation from those families was immense. Our school was a catalyst of support during these tough times.

Duvauchelle School has a healthy and growing roll which is a reflection of the fantastic learning environment the current staff have created.

Banks Peninsula's geographical differences should be the most justifiable factor for reconsidering closure. There are a number of isolated families enrolled at Duvauchelle School. For example I rely on a bus for getting my child to school. It takes me 15mins to get to the bus pickup point. If my daughter was to go to Akaroa for schooling she would be travelling for 2 hours every day just getting to and from school. Manageable maybe when they are a little older but still a huge chunk out of every day. In my area of Chorlton, Menzies Bay and Little Akaloa are 4 more families with children yet to start school. Duvauchelle will be their closest option but if it were to close, these families may be forced to consider home schooling because the alternative for a 5, 6, or 7 year olds could be considered adverse.

Some rural schools need to exist because of the isolation of it's catchment area. Duvauchelle is one of these Schools. I invite any one of you to my home for a coffee so you can fully understand our barriers to participation – not just schooling. This argument is not just about community, it is also about common sense. One formula does not apply to all.

Yours Sincerely

From: Christian Couper <principal@littleriver.school.nz>
Subject: **Some advice**
Date: 14 September 2012 11:22:20 AM NZST
To: Jan <jan@duvauchelleschool.co.nz>

Hi Jan,
Have been in contact with a couple of colleagues about yours and Mary Clare's situation.

Advice from them is that the whole negotiation thing is a farce. Treat the MOE decision as made and consultation process wont be much but a chance for them to report back to treasury that they consulted - ie let you know in a formal meeting the plan.

Get in touch with BOT of Blackball School on coast - they managed to keep their school open when Grey Valley was merged. Maybe some advice there.

Any of your media releases should be copied to opposition MP's aswell as Nat MP - Amy Adams (she's on the up in the party and likely to listen but not act on your side) Was a previous BOT chair of Kirwee School - why aren't they merging with Darfield?

Talk with NZSTA and your own Lawyers - time for them to step up - even if it's as art of a united media statement.

If you wouldn't mind can you copy me into any media release, so I am aware and can respond with some knowledge if questions come my way.

My cell is 027 350 2974, home phone
Home email

Kia kaha.

Christian

--
This message has been scanned for viruses and dangerous content by MailScanner, and is believed to be clean.

Duvauchelle School Office

From:
Sent: Sunday, 16 September 2012 9:08 p.m.
To: Duvauchelle School Office
Subject: Re: THE PROPOSAL!
Attachments: DSCF0017.JPG

Dear

As a family we want to thank you for forwarding on this information about the proposal and to say we are thinking of Jan and the staff at the school. We are so appreciative of everything the school has done for and we see a gorgeous boy blossoming before our eyes.

Cheers

----- Original Message -----

From: Duvauchelle School Office
To: office@duvauchelleschool.co.nz
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 1:56 PM
Subject: THE PROPOSAL!

Hello Everybody

Attached is some more information for you all. We will keep you posted as we get more, bear with us, keep calm and carry on!

Cheers

N - have we really only known about this for 24hours???? Seems a lifetime ago!

N

E-mail address office@duvauchelleschool.co.nz
Ph. 03 304 5722

--

This message has been scanned for viruses and dangerous content by **MailScanner**, and is believed to be clean.

--

This message has been scanned for viruses and dangerous content by **MailScanner**, and is believed to be clean.

Duvauchelle School Office

From:
Sent: Tuesday, 18 September 2012 4:44 p.m.
To: office@duvauchelleschool.co.nz
Subject: supporting you

To the Principal.

Hello,

I just wanted to let you know how much I support you and your Community. Even though I live miles away from where you are, I am as outraged as you are. One of my sons' is a Teacher and I have 4 Grandchildren attending school. We need stability don't we - not more insecurity and stress.
Sincerely

--
This message has been scanned for viruses and dangerous content by **MailScanner**, and is believed to be clean.

Margaret Moir

From:
Sent: Thursday, 13 September 2012 2:12 p.m.
To: |
Subject: Re: Pet day and missing programme!

Hi Everyone.....

Just heard the news....absolutely gutted for you guys.....can't believe that such a good school would be closed. All I can say is that we were very privileged to have Bex attending for the year...you were all great..and she's got so many great memories....

Thank you, merci, a bientot,

Thinking of you guys,

On Thu, Oct 27, 2011 at 11:32 AM,

vrote:

Hello Everybody,

Well. Of course, I forgot to attach the most important piece of information! So here it is and apologies!

Cheers

Office Admin.

--
This message has been scanned for viruses and dangerous content by MailScanner, and is believed to be clean.

To whom it may concern

I am 28 years old and Duvauchelle School was my first, and best, school. I was a pupil there as a new entrant aged 5 through until the end of Standard 4 as it was then, aged almost 11. The feeling of community and family at that school was unlike anything I have heard from the primary school experiences of other people my age. We were encouraged to live life and be excited about learning new things, we had opportunities that any child would be lucky to have. When I look back on my time there I recall times of such growth and discovery in a safe and supportive environment. A lot of the kids that attend Duvauchelle are from surrounding bays or farm homes and benefit hugely from the social support of the school being a manageable size and something that a young child can become used to and be comfortable in, unlike the daunting and even frightening experience of being a 5 year old from a quiet country home suddenly in a large school of so many children of all ages. It may, on paper, appear that Akaroa and Duvauchelle are much of a muchness and that surely there wouldn't be much difference to kids to go to school over there. To a young child, to whom the world can seem very large, the potential trauma of going to a different town to a big school with so many kids who are completely unknown and louder and older can be something that negatively impacts for life. Surely we want our future children to be nurtured and allowed room to grow and develop their strengths and become confident, enthusiastic Kiwis with a passion for life and the initiative to move things forward in their education and beyond that, their work. We do not want them to become stifled or shy, to not have the opportunity to become comfortable letting their voice be heard amongst the others, to become lost or struggle because they're too unsure to ask questions. To a little kid from Barrys Bay or Duvauchelle, or French Farm, being dumped among the Akaroa kids could be so detrimental. I know it would have been for me. I hope that if I have the opportunity to move back to Banks Peninsula, that I would have the option to send my children to Duvauchelle School. I know that would be the best start for them. If this awesome school closes, it will be truly terrible and such a sad loss to the local community and the wider region. Please don't let that happen.

Sincerely

Keep up the great work Duvauchelle!

26 SEP 2012

I just sent this message to Hekia Parata:

Tena Koe Hekia

I was one of the founding members of Duvauchelle School Board of Trustees and was its chair for three years. During that time (early 1991) like many other small schools in New Zealand, the school faced the threat of closure under Education Minister Lockwood Smith and Finance Minister Ruth Richardson. Ironical that the school was in Ruth's Selwyn electorate because it was believed that the proposed closures were based on financial imperatives rather than educational ones.

We managed to successfully overcome the threat based in no small part on our case that the school provided a better education to its pupils than the neighbouring Akaroa Primary School, the school that Duvauchelle pupils would be expected to attend following closure of their school. Outcomes for Duvauchelle pupils then were demonstrably superior to those for pupils from Akaroa.

21 years later nothing has changed. We are informed by today's parents that educational outcomes for Duvauchelle pupils are still superior to those of Akaroa pupils. On 14th September you made the statement on your Facebook page that the central concern in your present school closure strategy is "how do we ensure the best possible education provision for all learners?"

Can you therefore explain how moving the pupils from a successful school to one whose quality of education parents have less faith in, will result in an improvement in education provision for all those learners? Will they perhaps be taking their teachers and the rest of their school budget with them?

Noho ora mai

Duvauchelle School Office

From: wisemans <wisemans@clear.net.nz>
Sent: Monday, 17 September 2012 11:11 a.m.
To: N
Subject: re: Possible Closure

Dear

I am writing to you on behalf of a caring Parent of my youngest daughter, whom is in Year 6.

Duvauchelle School has been the best place for my 2 girls to grow and learn and turn into beautiful and caring girls.

I am deeply saddened by the shocking news last week that we are 'earmarked for closure' my heart sank when I heard the news.

Not only would it be a huge loss to our wonderful little School, but also for the nurturing Staff and caring parents and wider community. I too would lose my job as Cleaner/Caretaker, but I would sacrifice anything to keep our wonderful School open.

I am totally behind Jan and the staff and the B.O.T in any way I can help out, I am more than happy to do so.

As you know my eldest daughter attended Duvauchelle School and has now moved onto Christchurch Girls High School, just the other day she was nominated for the 'Gifted and Talented' programme for P.E.. She is also in one of the top 2 classes for Year 9.

I truly believe Duvauchelle School has set her on her amazing learning and sporting path, and set her up for life. Like many that have left our great School and moved onto Secondary School.

Yours Sincerely,

This message has been scanned for viruses and dangerous content by MailScanner, and is believed to be clean.

Jan, Send to who ever: This is a letter of support for your school:

What does the woman (Ms Parata) think she is doing? These little Schools are the life blood of our communities it is where the children from the beginnings of life long friendships, are taught apart from the 3 Rs, morals, compassion, and caring for their fellow pupils & their surroundings. After their recent traumas (earthquakes) school is the one start in their lives.

These kids, as the powers that be say must be educated! But they go on killing the means to do so by closing schools and demoralizing the dedicated & dynamic staff.

M/s Parata in my opinion, you & your ilk are a morally corruptable, self-serving, bumbling bunch of bureaucrats.

P.S. Does M/s Parata know where Duvauchelle & Okains Bay is??

APPENDIX 4



As a parent I agree and support the Board of Trustees decision to fight the proposal to retain Duvauchelle School's identity as a stand alone school.

Name

Address

Signature

**Withholding of information – Official Information Act,
Section 9(2)(a)**

13 petition sheets containing the names and personal details of 168 individuals have been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act to protect the privacy of natural persons.

