

Ōtūmoetai Community of Learning/ Kāhui Ako Update 2

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The Ōtūmoetai Community of Learning/ Kāhui Ako exemplifies the meaning of partnership and reciprocity and is embracing the diversity within their collective. As a large Kāhui Ako made up of mainly mainstream schools, Ōtūmoetai Community of Learning/ Kāhui Ako have the added benefit of Te Wharekura o Mauao sitting at the table.

Ka matua kitea te noho rangapū¹ me te tauutuutu² i waenganui i te Kāhui Ako o Ōtūmoetai, ka mutu e tūwhera ana ngā ngākau katoa ki te kanorau³ o te kāhui. He kāhui nui te Kāhui Ako o Ōtūmoetai, ā, ko te nuinga o ana kura he auraki, engari nōna te whiwhi kai roto i a rātau Te Wharekura o Mauao hai whakakanohi i ngā kura rūmaki reo Māori.

Lead Principal Henk Popping acknowledges how much richer their Community of Learning is from having the Wharekura participate. He also states there is a greater understanding and appreciation of a māori world view, te reo, tikanga and kaupapa māori that was not there before. Other positives have been the improved relationships with Iwi and a greater connection between the Wharekura and feeder schools with a goal to improve the continuity of te reo as a key focus.

E ai ki te Tumuaki Hautū a Henk Popping, he waimaria te Kāhui Ako i whai wāhi ai te Wharekura ki te mahi tahi. Inā hoki kua tupu haere te māramatanga me te arotau o ngā kura auarki, ki tā te Māori tirohanga, ki te reo Māori, tae atu ki ngā tikanga me ngā kaupapa Māori. Ko ētehi atu o ngā hua kua whakapakarihia ko te hono ki ngā iwi o Tauranga Moana, ā, ko te hono i waenganui i te Wharekura me ngā kura e tauhere ana i a ia.

Likewise Koa Douglas the Tumuaki of Te Wharekura o Mauao sees both short term and long term benefits of being part of the Kāhui Ako. The Kāhui Ako has provided one of his kaiako with an opportunity to take up a key role as an Across School teacher working to grow cultural responsive practices across the Community of Learning. The future opportunity to share resources and teacher expertise is of particular interest to Koa. Having access within the Community of Learning to specialist teachers in subject areas such as chemistry and physics is a chance for his students to access teaching in subject areas not offered in his kura. Similarly the opportunity for his teachers rich in reo, tikanga and mātāuranga māori to be used across the Community of Learning creates exciting future possibilities.

He pērā anō te whakaaro o Koa Douglas te Tumuaki o Te Wharekura o Mauao, he hua nō te pae tata, nō te pae tawhiti hoki, kua puta i te whakauruhanga ki te Kāhui Ako. Hai whakatauiria ake, kua whai tūrangā tētehi o ana pouako ki te whakaako i ngā kura o te Kāhui Ako, me pēhea te whakatairanga i te ako ā-ahurea. Ki tā Koa, ā taihoa ake nei ka tuari haeretia ngā rauemi me ngā tohungatanga kāore i tana kura. Ko tana hiahia kia whai wāhi ai ngā ākonga o Te Wharekura ki ngā kaupapa pūtaiao pērā me te

¹ Noho rangapū = partnership

² Tauutuutu = reciprocity

³ Kanorau = diversity

Mātai Matū me te Mātai Ahupūngao. Ko tā te Wharekura koha ki te Kāhui Ako he pouako e matatau ana ki te reo Māori, ki ngā tikanga, ki te mātauranga Māori anō hoki. Ā tōna wā ka kitea te hua o aua whakawhitihanga.

Both Principals have an emphasis on community and on improving outcomes for all the students in their 'village'. This is a Community of Learning who are collaborating to raise the standard of education and improve achievement outcomes for students no matter what medium or language the students have chosen to learn in.

E arotahi ana ngā tumuaki nei ki te hapori, ka tahi, ka rua kia eke panuku ai ngā ākonga o tō rātau wā kāinga. Koia tēnei tētehi Kāhui Ako e mahi ngātahi ana kia whakapiki ake te taumata o te mātauranga, kia whakapai ake anō hoki ngā hua e riro ai ki ngā ākonga ahakoa nō te kura rūmaki reo rānei, nō te kura auraki rānei.

Henk Popping
Lead Principal

Koa Douglas
Principal Te Wharekura o Mauao

Tina Leach
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