

Thursday 2 July, 2015 at 6.30pm. Opaheke school staffroom. 68 Tasman Drive, Papakura

Tae a tinana (Present): Eileen, Chassy, Bex, Marama, Lisa, Jenn, Te Aroha, Fabian, Keita

Nga whakapaha (Apologies):  
Louise Gavin

Mihi and Karakia (Greetings and Prayer):

Whakaetanga o nga meneti (Confirmation and approval of previous minutes):

Approved by Chassy

Seconded by Lisa McFarlane

Kaupapa Korero (Agenda items):

### 1. School Policy re: Maori

Te Aroha guided us through school policies pertaining to Maori. For Maori to be supported and promoted further it was felt these needed to be looked at carefully and be beefed up to reflect our community.

#### **School Charter**

*The school recognises the need to intergrate aspects of Te Reo and Tikanga Maori into teaching and learning programmes.*

#### **Nag 1 – Curriculum, Taha Maori (Aims and Guidelines)**

*5. To encourage students to value learning that comes with an increasing knowledge and understanding of Maori culture and way of life*

#### **Nag 2 – Documentation and self-review**

*B (i) The board may co-op to improve its capacity to carry out its responsibilities, in accordance with section 99 of the act.*

*(ii) Co-option shall take account of community groups not represented by any elected members and the need for technical skills and information required for efficient and effective governance.*

*(iii) The board acknowledges its obligation to consult with the Maori community on matters of Maori interest.*

#### **Nag 3 – Legislation – police vet for employees.**

This brought up the question – *are volunteers included?* This needed to be clarified as this may affect volunteers for school activities. Lisa to check.

### 2. Establish the Whanau support group with a name and constitution or statement of intent/purpose

Te Aroha led a discussion about the name, purpose /intent and vision of the group. *Why do we want to be a group? What is it that we would like to see for our Maori students?*

#### He Whakatauki: Proverbial saying

*'Ma te taupuhipuni o te hapori o te kura, e ora ai nga taurira kia rangatira ai'*

Students thrive as successful learners through the interdependence and collaboration of the school community.

The whakatauki highlights the significant contribution of the school community to the success of the students. When the school community works together, sharing and collaborating towards a common vision student success is eminent.

#### He ingoa mo te ropu (Name of the group)

*He Matapuna Ora* – Meaning to be a source of life, in this case a source of strength, of direction, of shared knowledge.

#### He Whakapuakitanga (Statement of intent)

This whanau support group *He Matapuna Ora* has been formed:

1. To encourage and enable the success and achievement of Maori students and their Whanau at Opaheke School
2. To offer guidance and support to governance, management, teaching and support staff on matters of interest to the Maori community of the school
3. To work collaboratively with other entities within the school for the promotion and implementation of matters pertaining to Tikanga Maori

It was asked that we take these suggestions/ideas home and consult with Whanau, Kaumatua and Tamariki. Ask the question – *What do they want?* Is there anything else you might like to see/add/suggest? Bring any ideas along to the next meeting.

### 3. Assign an interim executive committee – Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, two other members (Kaumatua?, BOT rep?)

For now, Chassy has put her name forward for chairperson and Lisa for secretary. It will be on the agenda for our next meeting as we would like to expand the committee.

### 4. Resource persons – Principal and Maori Staff

We talked about setting ourselves up before asking the teachers what we can do/how we can support them. Chassy suggested using the HOD of Maori studies (W Nicholi) at Rosehill Collage to establish a relationship so that they can provide advice when needed for our whanau group and Kapa Haka. Bex suggested putting a booklet of Karakia, Waiata, examples and structure of mihi, everyday words that could encourage students,

teachers and parents to support, learn and deliver basic te reo Māori.

## 5. Formal Proposal to incorporate Karakia into school assemblies

Lisa relayed the positive conversation she had had with Sean regarding Karakia at school assembly/in classrooms. He felt it was important and while he felt it was not an issue, to deflect any comebacks he found a Karakia that had no religious reference that we might like to implement.

<i>Whakatakata te hau ki te uru</i>	Cease the winds from the west
<i>Whakatakata te hau ki te tonga</i>	Cease the winds from the south
<i>Kia mākinakina ki uta</i>	Let the breezes blow over the land
<i>Kia mātaratara ki tai</i>	Let the breezes blow over the ocean
<i>E hī ake ana te atākura</i>	Let the red tipped dawn come
<i>He tio, he huka, he hauhu</i>	With a sharpened air, a touch of frost, a promise of a glorious day
<i>Tihēi Mauri ora</i>	Behold the breath of life

Te Aroha had also composed a Karakia for Opaheke School to add to our repertoire

*E te Atua*  
Dear God (Atua means a higher being, somebody respected, could be god, granddad, dad)  
*Manaakitia mai matou I tenei ra*  
Bless us this day  
*Arahina mai matou nga akonga me nga kaiako*  
*Ote kura nei I roto I ou matou mahi katoa*  
Guide us, students and teachers of this school, in all our work  
*Homai ki a matou te piki, te kaha, me te*  
*Maramatanga kia ora ait e tinana me te wairua*  
Uplift us and give us strength and understanding that our bodies and spirits might be nourished  
*Kia tau te rangimarie ki a tatou katoa*  
May peace be abundant in us all  
*Amine*

Discussion had regarding the rationale, aim and guidelines for Karakia to be implemented at Opaheke school. Led by Te Aroha.

Chassy relayed her plan for Kapa Haka. On the first Friday back 24 July Chassy is keen to invite students to a hui and see how much interest there is. The plan is to have different groups based on ability. Discussion was had re practice times, *when would be best?* Chassy to liaise with DP, Denise Horley. Lisa to talk to Sean about inviting a Kapa Haka group from local high school to perform.

A date for the next meeting was set for Tuesday, 4<sup>th</sup> August at 6.30 in the staffroom

Meeting closed at 8.00