



19 February 2016

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Pauatahanui School community survey near the end of the 2015 school year. The school received 85 individual responses to the survey. This was up from 69 responses in 2014

- The BoT have taken a good look at the information that was collected. Our aim is to use the information to target strategies and resources that continually improve our wonderful school. We would like to thank the community for completing the survey and for all the affirming comments and suggestions that were made throughout.
- Below is a summary of the main areas where the feedback given will result in actions that will form part of the strategic direction and annual plan.
- It was interesting that 73% of respondents were mother of students at Pauatahanui School. This raises the question of whether the school can do more to engage with fathers.
- Only 1 respondent identified as being Maori whereas 7% (n=12) of our students are Maori. The BoT will need to consider if Maori are represented in the survey data and what can be done to increase Maori participation in the survey.
- 50% of families have 1 parent working more than 30 hours per week and 50% have 2 working more than 30 hours per week. The BoT see this as a strong case to continue looking at starting an after school care programme at Pauatahanui School. We are currently in discussions with Kelly Club NZ. If these discussions do not result in an afterschool programme the BoT will investigate the options around an internal afterschool care model.
- While the community placed value on all of the essential learning areas there was a noticeable higher weighting given to ICT, PE / Health, Science and Financial Literacy. These areas will become areas of review, development and focus in 2016.
- The community highly values the extra curricula activities that are offered at Pauatahanui School. School-wide sport events, community visits and tours and school awards were the three areas that received the highest weighting. The leadership team and staff will work hard to ensure these areas are at the forefront of the decision making process when planning our curriculum.
- The community clearly communicated the need for staff to receive appropriate professional learning in the ever changing area of ICT. The BoT has made provision in the 2016 budget for the Principal to access relevant PD. The senior part of the school will be involved in a great deal of Professional Learning and Development around the use of Google Apps for Education and student management tools such as Hapara Teacher Dashboard.
- The community were able to come up with a very useful list of ways to remain on a continual cycle of improvement. The three items that came up more than any other were growing the year 7/8 numbers, small class sizes and before and after school care.

- The community were able to give us some very useful guidance around their expectations of what reasonable times students could be expected to spend on homework throughout the different school years. The community felt that at year 1 there should be approximately 1 hour of homework per week and by year 8 there should be 3-4 hours per week. This will be used to frame the school's approach to quality homework in 2016.
- The community gave some feedback about the kinds of feedback and reporting that takes place from school to home. It is always a challenge to come up with one system that suits everybody. We are committed to keep reviewing our reporting methods and make changes in response to the feedback we receive. In a similar question the community indicated that our channels of communication could be improved. Using multiple channels of communication, including social media, and being consistent across the school as to the level of communication parents receive are the two areas we will develop this year.

Once again thank you for your feedback. It has helped us plan to ensure this year is even better than the last.