



The Northcote Intermediate School Board

2022 Annual Report





Executive Summary

2022 was a year that came with a range of challenges as well as many positives. We saw many more successful property projects started and completed and we managed the COVID-19 pandemic situation well, with excellent feedback around our communication, response, and risk management throughout the year. Student behaviour was more settled when we were onsite and our more embedded learning processes and curriculum plans started to come together.

New Students and Systems

Our new Year 7 students were welcomed in a reduced, outdoors Powhiri on 2nd February which ran well. The Ministry of Health protocols for health and safety under Covid-19 traffic light system had to be implemented and embraced. Along with new students, we welcomed new student uniform items including a replacement for the polar fleece, a new winter jacket, and a new formal polo shirt replacement. All these new uniform items look sharp, are more comfortable and no more expensive. We also started the year with a new Student Management System (eTAP, which replaced Edge) and a new multifunctional parent app which is now live and being used.

Curriculum and Learning

We continued to make sound progress with our student achievement, as our 2022 Analysis of Variance shows. Our new curriculum leaders developed and shared new consolidated, consistent and structured learning overviews.

We were able to hold some super fun weeks, including anti-bullying week (ending with Pink Shirt Day), Book week (ending with book character dress-up day), and Rainbow Week (ending with colourful Friday).

Our staff curriculum co-lab café Wednesday mornings proved to be popular ways to share best practice teaching and learning in short sessions and we started up our Kickstart Breakfast club in late Term 2. It has been great to see a range of staff and parents involved in this. Breakfast Club is sponsored by Kids Can and has been led by Zane Cooper. Our ePro8 programme worked its way through the school, which saw all students learning engineering processes and this too has been popular and good learning.

Staff Professional Development

The staff professional development day with Sir Ian Taylor and local history tour was fantastic – called an ‘absolute triumph’ by Mrs Vicki Barry (Principal at Northcote College) and this saw our exec team really pulling together to make an amazing day of learning and networking. Staff from NIS and Willow Park School, with around 18 from Northcote College went on a guided tour of culturally

significant and historical sites in the Northcote/Birkenhead area – hosted by Kelli Kawhia who is very knowledgeable in this area. Sir Ian's presentation focused on Pacifica explorers and matauranga Māori learning – and had rave reviews.

We completed our staff training for Mitey (Sir John Kirwan's organisation), a school-wide wellness programme which will begin with students in 2023. Our new caretaker, Tharanga, started and he made excellent progress with getting our grounds back in shape.

Our Positive Puberty programme with NEST education was kicked off in June with a parent Zoom session - this is an enlightening and important programme for students who are emerging adolescents and their parents.

Other Events and Activities

In Term 4 we hosted a very successful visit from Ministers Tinetti and Davis who came to us as they had heard good things about our school and our kāhui ako. We have forged a solid relationship with Te Kawerau a Maki, the oldest iwi in our area, and have made connections with Ngāti Paoa, who have been recently formally acknowledged as custodial iwi. These are 2 very important relationships, particularly in regard to our culturally responsiveness, local history development and respect for Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

There have been ongoing Learning Support Cluster meetings and this group is now an organised, cohesive, and productive powerhouse. Gumboot Friday was well celebrated and students and staff learned about the value of counsellors in school and why events such as Gumboot Friday are life changing and lifesaving. Our property projects all made excellent progress. Two local artists planned and painted beautiful bespoke murals on our grounds. We hosted a successful Kāhui Ako board get together and several other KA events. We are now planning for our 2023 'Engaging All' conference.

We held our athletics and athletics zone days – both successful. The new model of athletics day, which sees students opt in to perform, saw half the school competing seriously at Takapuna Athletics Club and the other half involved in a fun day or in a computer building project.

Board Election

2022 was also a School Board election year, which saw some long serving members depart, some stay, and the welcoming of some new faces.

Strategic Plan

2022 saw the introduction of our new plan for 2022 – 2024, as well as the introduction of the MoE's new NELPs. In November 2020 the Ministry of Education announced the introduction of new National Education Learning Priorities (NELPS). For the first time, a joint set of education priorities has been developed to apply across all education sectors: early learning, schooling, and tertiary education, and training. Implementation of the NELPs were to begin from Term 1, 2021 through to full implementation in 2023.

Strong connections with family, whānau and communities underpins all the NELP priorities, and we would emphasise the importance of building and maintaining these as critical to supporting student wellbeing and learning. The NELPS are:

Objective 1: Learners at the centre – Learners with their whānau are at the centre of education

Objective 2: Barrier free access – Great education opportunities and outcomes are within reach for every learner

Objective 3: Quality teaching and leadership – Quality teaching and leadership make the difference for learners and their whānau

Objective 4: Future of learning and work – Learning that is relevant to the lives of New Zealanders today and throughout their lives

Objective 5: World class inclusive public education – New Zealand education is trusted and sustainable

In 2021 NIS aligned the NELPs with our annual plan goals and will continue to do so.

NIS Board Members

Board members at the start of 2022 were: Kate Punturiero (Presiding Member), Kim Jones, Sally Clendon, Katrina King, Spencer Willis, Guy Wilson and staff Board representative, Zane Cooper.

After the elections our Board was: Katrina King, Sally Clendon, Spencer Willis, Rochelle Greer, Damian Lawrence, Darren Coneybear (Co-opted) and Zane Cooper was re-elected as Staff Trustee.

Students

2021 finished the year with 454 students. 2022 began with 461 students officially enrolled. 2022 finished with 465 students enrolled. Throughout the year there were a number of transient students coming and going, for various reasons.

There were many opportunities for students with stand outs including: Student leadership, Camp, Band Quest, Sports Camp and AIMs Games.

Staff



We started the year with a very stable staff and senior leadership team, and this carried on throughout the year.

Staff welfare was a big feature throughout 2022, as staff, students and families were constantly being struck down with Covid and other illnesses.

To further grow our teaching capacity, we hosted a large number of AUT and Massey University Masters students.

Staff conducted themselves honourably and were committed to student service throughout 2022 – being flexible when required and developing strategies to engage with students and parents to continue to offer learning and build relationships.

Community

Our community was extremely supportive throughout 2022. Schools across our Kāhui Ako – Northcote College, Willow Park School, Northcote Primary, Birkenhead Primary, Tots Corner and Northcote Baptist Preschool - continued with their case studies to the best of their ability. Phil Muir was appointed as the new Kāhui Ako Lead Principal for the start of Term 2.

Te Kahui Atawhai, a fund-raising group which held planning meetings and had events lined up.

2022 saw few new houses completed and occupied by families in the Northcote development. It is expected the family houses will be completed in the coming years. Unlike some schools on the North Shore, we did not see large numbers of parents leaving Auckland due to the cost of housing and living.

Learning

We appointed the following curriculum leaders for 2022:

- Literacy: Justin Lintern
- Numeracy: Mirela Lapuste
- Inquiry + Local Curriculum: Kelly Singer

They produced excellent, consistent curriculum overviews which were shared with staff during our Week 0 sessions.

In 2022 our main professional learning focus was on developing our teaching of numeracy, through the support of Massey University's Developing Mathematical Inquiry Communities programme (DMIC). This is a respected programme which offers culturally responsive pedagogy and group work, developing students' problem-solving abilities and more engaging styles of teaching. It was our third year with the programme, and we made pleasing progress towards our goal.

We offered a range of extension and enrichment programmes including extension mathematics for each year level, EPro8t, Writer's festival, speeches, Science Fair, extension classes for all our specialist subjects, Pasifika Fit and our Vaka project.

We also had the training and kick off for the 'Great Minds Programme' which is an initiative to support at risk learners, and the preparation is taking place for the Blast programme, an initiative managed by the Blue Light Trust. These are 2 exciting programmes that will help build resilience and social skills for some of our at-risk learners. Our learning support team also had 10 focussed reading groups operating, involving over 60 students to boost their confidence in reading. This has been resourced with appropriate texts. Our library also went through a major stocktake, thanks to our parent helpers.

We hosted 2 VERY SUCCESSFUL Market Days and AMAZING Musical Showcases – with much outstanding feedback.

In December we held prizegivings, our helpers' morning tea, our Year 8 Graduation Event and end of year festivities.

Education Review Office: By the end of 2022 we were receiving much praise for our school's culture, systems, and leadership.



Achievement

Our 2022 Analysis of Variance tells us that, despite the amount of time that students spent in lockdowns with students learning remotely, there was overall good achievement in the main areas of Reading, Writing and Numeracy.

Key points to note from our 2022 Analysis of Variance are:

Reading: Overall increase of 11% from mid-year to end of year

Writing: Overall improvement of 10% from mid-year to end of year

Numeracy: Overall improvement of 14% from mid-year to end of year

As always, there are several variables and reasons behind results in this data including testing conditions, teacher discrepancies, impact of lockdowns, accessibility to learning, and home environments conducive to learning. We believe we have been making considerable progress towards far more robust sets of data and consistent learning programmes in the last 3 years.

Our full Analysis of Variance is available on our website.

Finance

The events of 2022 saw our planned expenses change to respond to the challenges we faced. Staff wellbeing saw a significant increase in expense. We changed accountancy services from EdTech to School Finance Hub to manage our financial support, management, reporting and accountability. Our 2022 external audit has not been completed at the point of writing this report (as of 5 May we are still awaiting the final report. There have been no concerns noted by our auditors).

Property

Our new minivan arrived in March. It gave us greater mobility and has been used extensively on camps, sports events and other school trips.



In 2022 NIS made good progress in property and completed a range of projects. Completed projects include:

- Window and Door replacements – for Rooms 5 – 12
- Waharoa for front of school has been carved, currently waiting on installation
- Sports shed replacement – and enviro learning space completed
- New 65 car carpark completed
- Hall tidy up, which involved roller doors to replace the tall curtains and a general spruce up.
- Bilingual signage around the school

The most exciting property news is that our new 2-storey 12 classroom block began construction. On the 16th February we held the blessing of the soil for the new building and we have confirmation of the appointment of Cooks Construction who have started their process for building the block. With Cooks Brothers Construction appointed to build it, they took possession of the site in early in 2022. We expect our new building to be completed Term 3 2023.



Thank you to all who supported our school throughout 2022.

The Northcote Intermediate School Board Annual Report for 2022 is presented by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Katrina King'.

Katrina King

Presiding Member

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Phil Muir'.

Phil Muir

Principal