



Minutes of the Education West Coast Meeting held at 2.00 pm on Wednesday 16 March 2011
at the St John's Facility, Waterwalk Road, Greymouth

Present:

Jim Luders, Greymouth High School (Chair)
Dr Rita Shelley, Tai Poutini Polytechnic
Ardell Richards, Tai Poutini Polytechnic (Minute Secretary)
Kathryn Cannan, Health Promoting Schools Co-ordinator, CPH
Jem Pupich, WC Community and Public Health
Nicky Cooper, Development West Coast
Mandy O'Sullivan, Grey Main School
Mary Pupich, Papanoa Range School
Peter Bayliss, West Coast Principals Association/Paroa School
Helen Vear, Regional Co-ordinator Positive Behaviour for Learning (MoE)
Jan Hills, MoE Special Education
Joanna Lorimer, MoE ECE
Ferg Harding, Westland High School
Monika Edwards, LEOTC, Shantytown
Jill Banks, Marsden Valley Education Centre
Wayne Wright, Reefton Area School
Sheila Grainger, Buller High School
Liz Wooster, Murchison Area School
Bradley Roberts, Karamea Area School
Harold Leask, John Paul II High School
Phil Sharpin, West Coast Trades Academy
Russell Nimmo, Karoro Learning
Trish Roberts, Footsteps Poutama
Leigh Milmine, NZQA
Karen Greenslade, WestREAP
Corrina Gestro-Best, WestREAP
Helen Hudson, WestREAP
Desma Reedy, WestREAP
Deidre McGrath, Buller REAP
Joy Baker, Runanga School
Angela Sloane, South Westland Area School
Dulcie Bell, Blaketown School
Lorraine Scanlon, Homebuilders West Coast Trust
Kathleen Scott, Te Runanga o Makaawhio

Apologies:

Shirlena Milne, DARE West Coast
Mark Brown, MoE
Lorraine Alexander, Kaniere School
Sharon Marsh, Westport North School
Paul Wilson, Tai Poutini Polytechnic
Karen Kennedy, Tai Poutini Polytechnic
Peter O'Sullivan, Minerals West Coast
Dan Moloney, St Canice's School

Lynne Williams, MSD
 Graeme Martyn, MoE
 Marja Kneepkens, Tai Poutini Polytechnic
 Maureen Truman, Karoro School
 Wendy Fisher, AgITO
 Suzanne Paterson, Buller Westland Playcentre
 Lorna Lay-Flurrie, LEOTC, Shantytown

Guest Speaker:

Mary Pupich, Principal, Paparoa Range School - Woolf Fisher Fellowship 2010:

Mary provided a verbal overview on her findings and outcomes from her visit in 2010 to a number of schools and educational facilities in Singapore, England, Scotland and the USA. Mary's travel and research opportunities had been supported by the Woolf Fisher Fellowship.

Mary distributed a copy of her report at the meeting.

Presentation:

Helen Vear, Regional Co-ordinator, Positive Behaviour for Learning Initiative, MoE:

Jim advised that a Government funded plan entitled "Positive Behaviour for Learning" had been implemented at Grey High School and results to date had been extremely encouraging.

Jim then introduced Helen Vear, the Regional Co-ordinator (South Island) of Positive Behaviour for Learning programme who then provided a background overview of this initiative.

The main points of Helen's commentary were:

- The "Positive Behaviour for Learning Initiative" is the results of collaboration between the MoE and other education sector organisations.
- The Government has invested \$60M in a programme rollout over a five-year period.
- The aim of the Plan is to reduce disruptive behaviour and improve teacher satisfaction and student engagement and achievement.
- The Plan is broken into five flagships which target specific areas of need (parental, teacher, school-wide, behaviour crisis response and intensive wrap-around service).
- The Programme is achieving positive and measurable results.
- It is hoped that broad "buy-in" from parents and the education sector can be achieved nationally.

Copies of the "Summary of Initiatives" and "Flagship Contact Detail" documents were distributed at the meeting. Further background reading on the creation and development of this programme can be found at <http://www.incredibleyears.com>.

What's On Top:

Buller High School - Retirement of Sheila Grainger:

Jim extended a warm farewell to Sheila on behalf of the EWC forum. Sheila is soon to retire from her position as Principal and intends to enjoy a well-deserved holiday to Portugal soon after.

Jim thanked Sheila for her ongoing efforts and valued contribution to education on the West Coast and her local community.

West Coast Trades Academy:

In 2009, the MoE had called for expressions of interest for the establishment of trades academies on behalf of secondary schools throughout New Zealand.

Academies were to be based on partnerships between schools, tertiary institutions, industry training organisations and employers. The focus of these is to “provide an innovative approach to keeping 16 and 17-year-olds engaged in education, as they develop their vocational skills and talents through trades and technology programmes.”

Greymouth High School was successful in its application for the establishment for a West Coast Academy.

Jim introduced Mr Phil Sharpin who had been engaged by Grey High to research the viability and functionality of a Trades Academy on the West Coast.

Phil provided a brief overview of the Academy proposal, the main points being:

- A Trades Academy is likely to exist as a collaborative effort between Grey High School, other tertiary organisations and local employers.
- Trades academy students will still be enrolled at school but may study at another site, for example at a workplace or polytechnic, on some or all days throughout the term.
- Government will spend up to \$2 million per annum nationally across nine academies.

Rita advised that TPP had established a pilot programme whereby students from Grey High would participate in Carpentry and Automotive classes on a weekly basis.

Kiwi Forever Programme - Te Runanga o Makaawhio:

Kathleen gave a verbal overview of the “Kiwi Forever Programme”, a brief background of which follows:

The Untouched World Charitable Trust (UWCT) in partnership with the Department of Conservation, the BNZ Save the Kiwi Trust, Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu, Te Runanga o Makaawhio and University of Canterbury have developed a youth leadership programme with a specific focus on the Rowi Kiwi at Okarito. The programme is a seven day intensive week at Okarito and the surrounding environment.

As a partner to the project, Te Runanga o Makaawhio, in conjunction with Ngai Tahu had the opportunity to nominate four students (Years 11-13) to participate in a week long experience in the Okarito reserve. Students were engaged in a number of activities as part of the project including:

- discussing the Maori view of the environment and the importance of the kiwi
- conducting pest control work as part of DOC work programme
- carrying out plant monitoring with DOC personnel to assess forest health

- tracking and monitoring kiwi
- gathering data on the importance of kiwi to NZ; and
- understanding the importance of natural capital to society.

Each activity is designed to broaden the students' knowledge and skills about kiwi and the broader issues of sustainability.

All students enjoyed the experience very much and had been delighted when one of the kiwi eggs removed from the reserve for protection hatched at DOC's Willowbank facility in Christchurch.

LEOTC, Shantytown:

Monika asked if all organisational representatives would support the LEOTC organisation by advising their client base of LEOTC's function and providing client referrals. Monika confirmed that LEOTC staff had done all they could to promote the services provided and were at a loss of how to inform the wider community of assistance which was available. Support from all organisations would be appreciated.

Joanna Lorimer, Advisor, MoE ECE West Coast:

Joanna advised that it was "business as usual" but reiterated the MoE's support of the Positive Behaviour for Learning programme previously discussed.

New Principal, Westland High School:

Jim introduced Mr Ferg Harding who had taken up the position of Principal.

Issues /Speakers 2011:

Jim asked members to consider what topics they wanted agendaed for 2011 and to advise of any professional speakers they wish invited to attend EWC meetings this year.

Action Point

Other Business:

Corrina introduced Helen Hudson, the new WestREAP school co-ordinator.

Mary spoke on behalf of all members when she acknowledged and thanked the MoE for the outstanding support and assistance provided by MoE staff throughout the Pike River tragedy. This event had affected the entire community and the take-up and follow-up by the MoE had been outstanding.

Jim thanked Kathryn (Health Promoting Schools Co-ordinator CPH) for her efforts in the "Lifting Student Voices" programme. Kathryn had been instrumental in the implementation of this initiative which had been well received by participating students.

Meeting closed:

3.50 pm

Next meeting:

Wednesday 18 May 2011 - venue to be confirmed