



Community Consultation Review 2019

Sept 2019

Executive Summary

Community Consultation was undertaken by Zita Young, Alison Sim and Tracy McHutchon in August 2019.

Introduction

The Tapanui parent/whanau community was surveyed on a variety of aspects of school performance and student engagement during Term 3, 2019. The last community survey was conducted three years ago in 2016.

Methodology

Key questions and indicators were identified, formulated into a Google Survey. This was then emailed to all parents via, the newsletter, links sent in separate emails, reminders sent on School Loop texts. All families were also individually contacted by a Board member and encouraged to fill in the survey. Whanau were given two weeks to complete the survey.

Key Questions and Indicators

The following questions and indicators were identified to examine the effectiveness of ;

- Their child/s learning
- Support at school for their child's social & emotional well being
- Reporting and communication
- School curriculum
- Learning environments
- Tinker Time
- The School Charter
- Teachers & the Principal
- School facilities, environment & reputation
- Pomahaka Kahui Ako
- One big improvement

Data Collection

54 responses were received. There were 79 families on our roll at the time of the survey. This represents 82 of the 117 students enrolled.

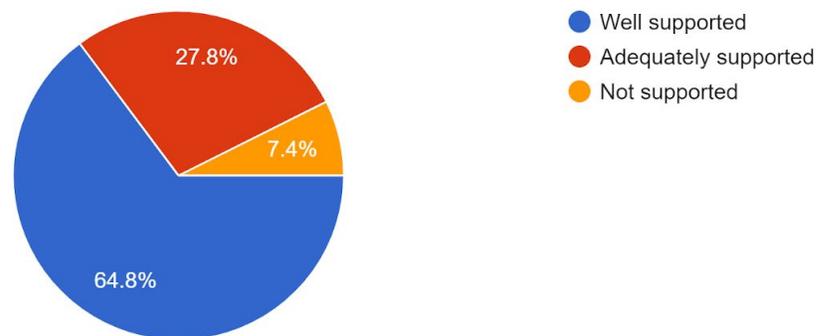
Trends:

My Child / Reporting

Students enjoy being at school, are encouraged to work to the best of their ability and generally find the work interesting. Parents are confident that the school is meeting their child's learning needs. 90% believe their children enjoy being at school. Of the children represented in this survey, it is believed only 4% do not have their learning needs met.

How well does Tapanui School support your child's social and emotional development?

54 responses



Some parents were concerned over the consistency of the schools management of challenging children and the effect on their children.

The community felt the school was approachable about any issues regarding their child or their learning. The interviews in Terms 1 and 3 were seen as a good way to gain an understanding of children's progress and achievement. Some families would like the interview time to be longer. School reports are well received and provide the information parents want.

Communication

The school community uses a variety of communication tools provided by the school. The most popular were the school newsletter, emails and text alerts.

Curriculum

The community endorsed the four school values and the majority were very happy with the amount of time dedicated to learning, fitness/sport and cultural aspects.

Almost 90% of parents were happy with the progress of their child's learning.

Three quarters of parents have a good understanding of MLE and believe the strategy works well for their children. Parents are enjoying the three Team structure this year.

Tinker Time

21% of respondents would like to know more about Tinker time, 29% did not have children in Yr 5-6, 29% thought it was great and the remainder would like to see some direction given to students on topic choices by teachers as opposed to being student driven.

The School Charter

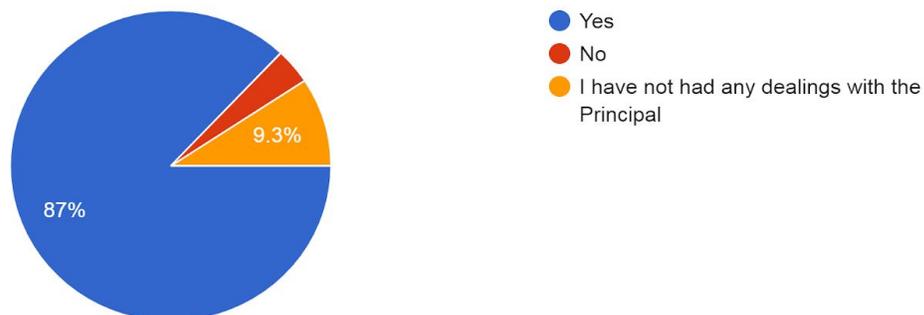
Overall the responses to the questions in this portion of the survey were positive, especially in regards to the Charter and Key Competencies. A concern is that 2 parents believe that students are *"seldom/never" "encouraged or given opportunities to share their ideas effectively"* and cannot *"confidently use a variety of digital technologies to create and show new learning"*. What is not clear is which part of the question is being referred to. The wording of this question needs to be addressed when creating further surveys to ensure the clarity of the results.

Principal & Teachers

A large majority of parents find the principal approachable and helpful. It was heartening to see that 100% of respondents from the survey believe the teachers are helpful and approachable.

The Principal is approachable and helpful?

54 responses



School facilities

Most parents/whanau feel Tapanui School has adequate facilities and resources. There was mention made regarding an area being designated specifically just to be a library and not to be used as a classroom.

Parent Involvement

50 of the 54 respondents feel that Tapanui School provides enough opportunities for parents to be involved in the school. One parent said there were too many opportunities for parents to be involved, one said there was not enough and two did not know.

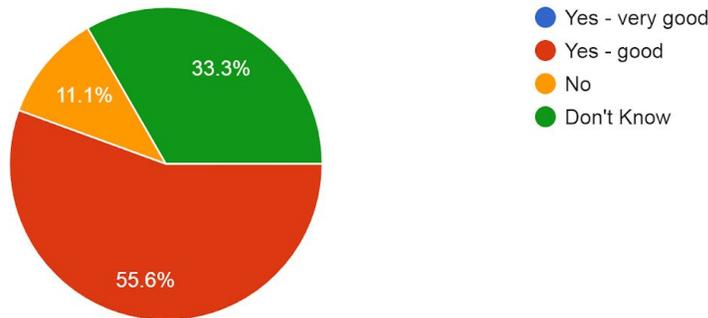
School Environment

83% of those surveyed believed that the school environment is tidy and complements students' learning, however 6 responses are concerned that the spaces are "cluttered" and "untidy and not that inviting".

School Reputation

Tapanui School has a good reputation in the community?

9 responses



Only 9 responses out of 54 received here. The majority who answered this question believe Tapanui School has a good reputation with 33% (3 responses) unsure, and only 11% (1 response) stating no. One comment regarding what aspects are in question is as follows: "I think there is still a lot of misunderstanding and misinformation about the MLE and what is actually going on in classrooms. Bullying also seems to be seen as an issue". These two aspects are an overall theme in comments to questions asked of parents and whanau.

Pomahaka Kāhui Ako (Community of Learning)

70% of parents know that Tapanui School is a member of a Community of Learning. Some people were unsure of what this meant for the school whilst others recognised a “*closer connection with other schools eg: Matariki Celebrations*”.

One Big Improvement.....

Parents voiced a review and upgrade of playgrounds, especially the junior playground. Other suggestions were the inclusion of a bike track and confidence course. While the Board accepts the two playgrounds as areas for development, these are both areas for which there is no funding. To advance this the Board would rely on locally raised funds or using limited reserves or a lease to own scheme.

Recommendations:

The Assurance Committee recommends the following;

- Parents need to be reassured that childrens’ challenging behaviour is not accepted. Parents are concerned about the level and severity of the actions of specific children.
- Management need to ensure that student’s learning is not being compromised by the actions of challenging children.
- Bullying is mentioned by parents throughout the survey. The school needs to be seen as actively trying to deal with this issue and assure parents that appropriate steps are taken to deal with the issue.
- PB4L training and resources needs to start implementing some initiatives to combat bullying and challenging behaviour.
- The board recommends that management re-educate parents/whanau on the purpose and process of student led
- conference (interviews). Lengthening the interview time may adversely affect parents in that the school may require parents to keep children at home longer than the current half day and this needs to be relayed to parents.
- Re-educate whanau about the similarities between the MLE system that we have and the student to teacher ratio versus single cell classrooms. Highlight the benefits of MLE within the Tapanui School environment.
- Information provided to whanau about Tinker Time, its benefits, methodology etc.
- Review information that is provided for new families starting Tapanui School eg an information pack or brochure with routines, values and general information.
- Re-educate whanau about the Pomahaka Kāhui Ako (Community of Learning) and what it means for Tapanui School.

- There is mention of learning spaces and the way in which they are divided. There is some concern from parents over the number of children in Rimu at the moment. At the end of all the renovations management will need to review the number of students in the two ends of the school so one end is not more crowded than the other.
- Board accepts the two playgrounds as areas for development, these are both areas for which there is no funding. To advance this the Board would rely on locally raised funds or using limited reserves or a lease to own scheme.

Suggested Motion

That the Board adopts the recommendations of the Assurance Committee in relation to the Community Survey and that the report is published to all stakeholders.