

PRINCIPAL'S ANNUAL REPORT 2010

The 2010 school year was a very successful one for Pakuranga College. Academically the results at all levels showed steady improvement, and while we did not reach our key achievement targets as is discussed in the analysis of variance, we did make significant progress toward them. It is important to acknowledge that we had our best ever pass rates in all three levels of NCEA!

On the co-curricular front we had an increased number of students participating in a very wide range of activities - our major production The WIZ; cultural groups; music groups; school councils and sport. We had good success in sports with more teams playing in the highest level competitions and two codes sending teams overseas to compete in tournaments.

Kiwisport – this is a Government funding initiative to support students' participation in organised sport. In 2010 the school received funding of \$44,295 (excluding GST). The funding was spent on additional sports equipment, coaching seminars, coaches' development and sports co-ordination. The number of students participating in organised sport increased from 35% to 47% of the school roll.

While we continue to work our way through the leaky building problem, we have been pleased that disruption has been kept to a minimum.

The school was fortunate to be included in the Ministry of Education's School Network upgrade programme and during 2010 the school computer network was completely re-cabled with over 68kms of cabling going in. We also took the opportunity to build a new server room and to significantly upgrade the electrical power system in the school. Work has also continued on expanding the school's wireless network to support the rapidly increasing number of wireless computer devices in use. These major infrastructure upgrades are well planned to fully utilize advances in information and communication technology in the future.

The most important development in the school has been the commitment and focus on teaching and learning. The school has continued to develop an effective learning community through the on-going development of the Pakuranga College Learning Charter in collaboration with students, parents and staff. This work has been supported and enhanced by the refocusing of the staff professional learning and development programme using current research and best practice.

During 2010 the school was reviewed by the Education Review Office. The report was very positive. To quote ERO:

“Students at Pakuranga College, in the eastern suburbs of Auckland, are well engaged in learning.

They actively participate in classroom programmes that have a high focus on learning and a positive, encouraging tone. They thoughtfully contribute to the development of the school’s learning tone through student forums and by providing feedback, sought by teachers, on the effectiveness of lessons. This constructive involvement of students has supported the ongoing development of a student-centred approach to the school’s curriculum development and delivery.

Student engagement is also enhanced by the respectful interactions evident throughout the school and through the wide range of co-curricular activities available. Opportunities for students to participate in a variety of cultural groups and events acknowledge and value the increasing diversity of their cultural backgrounds.

The school’s collaborative culture supports continuous improvement underpinned by school-wide teaching and learning values. Teachers are open to change.”

As a measure of ERO’s confidence in how well the school is going, in the section of the report where they comment on what they think the priorities for the school should be, they simply wrote:

“ERO affirms the school’s development priorities, as set out in the board’s strategic plan.”

An emphatic endorsement of the college’s progress and strategic direction.

Michael Williams
Principal