



NR Pasifika Team

NR Pasifika Update

Ministry of Education Northern Region Pasifika Team
Monthly Update Issue: #20 August 2009



Rose & Dot with Minister Tolley

The object of education is to prepare the young to educate themselves throughout their lives— Robert M.Hutchins



From Ezra's Desk...

Talofa lava,

August has been an extremely busy month for the team with the Youth Fono, meeting with Fofola e Fala (regional advisory group), interagency meetings on top of business as usual. It is very easy to be busy in an organisation as vast and diverse as ours, with so many events, fono, school visits, presentations, internal planning meetings to attend and then running to the next appointment. But is it making a difference to what we are tasked to do, raising achievement of children and young people? In our case, Pasifika children and young people. It was the question put to me by Fofola e Fala and our regional management teams' last month and a timely reminder for me about our core business and ensuring that every action, activity, discussion and decision leads to achieving the PEP. It's about asking those simple but powerful questions – the why it is important and how will we achieve this.

Soifua,
Ezra Schuster

Auckland Pasifika Youth Fono

On Friday 28th August, 60 Pasifika Year 11-13 students from schools across Auckland gathered at One Tree Hill College for the 2009 Ministry of Education Youth Fono: *Transformers – Agents of Change for Pasifika Success*. Pasifika senior students examined what they considered success to be and how, the Ministry of Education, can better understand the issues, gaps and support required to promote increased Pasifika student achievement and success.



Host principal Iva Ropati welcomes students to One Tree Hill College.

The Fono provided an opportunity for the Secretary of Education, Karen Sewell, the Ministry leadership team and the Northern Region office to engage directly with Pasifika secondary school youth from schools with the highest numbers of Pasifika students in Auckland.

Written student fono feedback and responses will be collated and will contribute to the development of a regional implementation plan. Fono feedback will also be provided to schools and used to frame the next steps which will go out schools to understand issues for Pasifika youth.

Please contact Danielle Peeni (NR MOE Pasifika administrator) on 623-9841 or Danielle.Peeni@minedu.govt.nz for further information.



Students discuss , share and present their thoughts & ideas



WORK EXPERIENCE IN THE PASIFIKA TEAM

Fakalofa lahi atu my name is Kayc Hilihetule; I am currently a 3rd year student at the Auckland University of Technology, majoring in Psychology with a minor in conflict resolution. I am completing my co-operative work experience at the Ministry of Education within the Pasifika team. I will be working alongside the team, aiding them with their aim to raise the Pasifika education achievement level, as well as a few other activities in the MOE. I look forward to my time of learning here at the ministry and I hope to gain as much as I can from my work experience here.

Feedback from Youth Fono

- ♦ *"The fono is an awesome way of interacting with our brothers and sisters and understanding the barriers we have on our journey to a successful future."*
- ♦ *"Really good, gave me a better perspective of my future."*
- ♦ *"Thanks, it was really enlightening and good to know the Ministry cares about the pacific people."*
- ♦ *"Bring me back next year. I've definitely taken a lot from this fono. We are already succeeding."*

Out & About

- Aug 4 - West EI Pasifika Mtg
- Aug 5 - NW ESW Pasifika PD
- Aug 6 - Panama Road School Principal Mtg
- Aug 7 - Southern Cross Campus Principal Mtg.
- Aug 12 - Otahuhu College Principal Mtg.
- Aug 12 - Youth Fono Student Panel Mtg. @ Mangere College
- Aug 12 - Unitec ECE lecture
- Aug 13 - Sau Ta O @ Bruce McLaren Int
- Aug 21- Fofola e Fala quarterly Mtg
- Aug 24 - Sau Ta O Planning @ St Leonards School
- Aug 25 - Pasifika update to Student Support Team
- Aug 28 - Pasifika CEO Fono - Youth

Coming Up

- Sep 1 - Pacific in the Park agency Mtg
- Sep 1 - Pasifika update to Networks Team
- Sep 2 - Papakura literacy cluster
- Sep 3 - Northcote College Sau Ta O
- Sep 3 - Fruitvale School Pasifika community fono
- Sep 7 - Northcote College teacher only day
- Sep 7 - St Leonards School Sau Ta O
- Sep 7 - NCEA evening @ De La Salle
- Sep 10 - Fiji Community Education Mtg.
- Sep 11 - Pasifika update to ECE team
- Sep 11 - Lu'i Ola Workforce mtg
- Sep 11 - BSLT Presentation
- Sep 11 - Pasifika Principals Forum
- Sep 14 - St Leonards School Pasifika Community Fono
- Sep 19 - Sau Ta O @ Sunnyside Special School
- Sep 29 - Pasifika update to Schools Performance team

FOFOLA E FALA

Ministry of Education Northern Region Pasifika Advisory Group

One year on since its establishment, Fofola e Fala - the NR MOE Pasifika Advisory Group have made notable progress in the Northern Region. In a relatively short time, they have been able to gain traction in the region through high level discussions and involvement in key Ministry engagements focused on Pasifika success.

Fofola e Fala members have contributed regional feedback to the revised Pasifika Education Plan 2009 – 2012 and key members will be involved in the development of a regional implementation plan. This plan will have an operational focus and will look at 'how' the Pasifika Education Plan will be achieved in the Northern Region where 73% of Pasifika students live and attend school.

At the recent Fofola e Fala meeting, members listened to NR management outline a few key Ministry projects and initiatives that impact on Pasifika students, families and communities. Jilly Tyler, ECE manager presented the Counties Manukau Participation Project and Vivien Knowles, Student Support manager together with Ross Bailey presented Pasifika Student Engagement data. Fofola e Fala members listened with keen interest and discussed the implications of these initiatives on the Pasifika community and how Fofola e Fala members can utilise this information in the community to both raise awareness and inform Pasifika people of key Ministry messages.

Fofola e Fala members also provided ethnic and sector representation updates from across the Pasifika communities in Auckland. These valuable updates inform the NR Ministry office of key activities for Pasifika across the region. (A collated version of Pasifika ethnic and sector activity is available upon request)

The next Fofola e Fala meeting is scheduled for Friday 27th November 2009.



TAMAKI COLLEGE GETS TO BUSINESS!

For three days in August, 80 Year 12 students swapped the class room setting to participate in the SELL (Student Enterprise Learning Link) Programme. A business programme which tested leadership abilities, patience and team work.

Each group was made to come up with a product, how it would be marketed, the financial point behind it and how it would be made. Teams were lead by their appointed student CEO. Ideas included an alarm clock pillow to a portable microwave!

Judgement day

The final day was do or die! It was judgement day...Teams were given ten minutes to present their product to the judges. The judges tallied their votes and found the product "OFF HEELS", which are removable high heels as the winning product.

We were able to be hands on and experience all these things through SELL. Overall the SELL programme was an amazing experience.

Christine Savele
Year 12

