

Special SCHOOL LEADER'S REPORT: COVID-19 Alert Level 3, 28 September- 1 Oct 2020, w10 T3; 2 Oct – 17 Oct, Term 3 Break; 18 Oct – 25 Oct, w1 T4

Auckland has been in Alert Level 3 after moving from Alert Level 4 at 11.59pm on Tuesday 22 September 2021. Since the last BOT meeting, Auckland, and the school, has been under restrictions for 31 consecutive days. The last two weeks of Term 3, the Term 3 Break, and the first week of Term 4, occurred during this period. All current alert level health and safety requirements for schools and the special NZQA conditions for NCEA mandated for Auckland schools, remain.

Current conditions and outlook are that these restrictions and special NCEA conditions, will continue for a while yet, highly likely for the rest of the 2021 school year.

Additionally, on Monday 11 October 2021 the Government advised that all staff and workers who may have contact with children and students in schools and kura throughout the country (regardless of COVID-19 Alert Level) will be required to have a first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine by 15 November and be fully vaccinated by 1 January 2022.

From 1 January 2022, education services must only allow those that are fully vaccinated to provide onsite services during opening hours.

Schools are also required to maintain a register of this information and include vaccination information for all learners. The registers must be in place by 9 November 2021.

On 20 October, Minister Hipkins announced that young people in Years 11 to 13 in Auckland may return to school for face-to-face onsite teaching from Tuesday 26 October. An AC-specific plan, involving minimum staff, was developed on 22 October and will operate for Year 13 first, beginning on 26 October then, operate for Year 12 learners on 1 November. The situation will be reviewed at that time to respond best to the rest of this year.

Online learning continues.

Refer to Tuesday 26 October 2021 BOT Minutes. The following is complementary information.

### **Hauora**

- During the Lockdown, through Hauora, the school has organised and distributed welfare and food packs for several AC whanau; AC whanau have also been given significant support and care through Languages Learning Leader, Berasi Kalati and her Samoan community network; several AC whanau have been similarly supported by local Marae community support networks
- During the last week of Term 3 Break, in anticipation of the return to Term 4 and in appreciation of the continued effort to ensure effective learning throughout the Lockdown, Care packs were distributed to all staff
- Rachel Caine has launched an AC online confidential counselling service for AC learners called AC Are You Ok? The service has already been accessed by AC learners since its launch, on 18 October
- Since hosting our own mobile vaccination facility here on site, the school has actively participated in several local community-led vaccination drives; discussions continue with CMDHB for similar events to be held as appropriate and necessary over the coming weeks
- A survey of necessary health and hygiene resources in stock has been completed; additional face masks purchased for learners; a supply of N95 face masks also purchased for staff
- Additional cleaning of toilets and targeted cleaning of high touch spots, door and window handles, bannisters and railings organised with BB Cleaning

- Turf Tech and our Property team have been on site throughout the Lockdown maintaining our grounds and buildings and keeping them safe and secure
- The Covid-19 Delta strain has made ventilation an important consideration in school buildings and Property has just completed an initial assessment of our buildings; given the age and design of our buildings we are not at risk; however, an external contractor is now assessing additional strategies to ensure ventilation and airflow can be improved
- The school is organising the Student Leadership Group to compose a Thank You video presentation for Auckland Airport and Warehouse Stationery for the \$20,000.00 prize won at the recent Auckland Airport South Auckland vaccination drive
- The MOE mandated Vaccinations Register for learners and staff has been implemented

### **Staffing, Finance and Property**

- Throughout Lockdown, as advised by MOE, all staff including associated day relief teachers, have continued to be remunerated including during the Term Break if they would not have normally been
- Ka Ora Ka Ako programme paused but funding left over from Term 3 and for Term 4 being negotiated with MOE
- External providers who would have otherwise delivered learning programmes on site during the lockdown have also continued to be remunerated; relief funding from MOE being applied for
- Buildings Improvement Project discussions and planning with the MOE Capital Works team continue
- 10YPP and 5YA projects negotiated and will begin as appropriate
- Cafeteria SIP project completed; subsequent projects being finalised including updating and redesigning signage around the school

### **Administration, Teaching and Learning**

- School leadership teams continue to meet as necessary and appropriate to respond well to changing Covid-19 conditions and circumstances; online learning being our most critical element of providing for learners this time; contact time for whole class synchronous teaching has been reduced to increase 1-1 synchronous teaching time; asynchronous teaching has also been encouraged more
- STP at MIT and other associated providers, continues online
- Additional devices, stationery packs or learning resources, as appropriate, have been lent or delivered to several learners across the Junior and Senior school
- School Ball, Māori and Pasifika Awards, Sports Awards and EOTC scheduled in Term 4 have been cancelled; alternative arrangements for certification and prizes have been made; Senior Success Awards and Y11 Success Awards postponed to February 2022
- 2022 enrolments continue including during Alert Level 3 but following health and safety requirements

**Robert Solomone**

*School Leader*

*October 2021*