

THS Community Survey 2018

Board of Trustees

Why we surveyed the school community?

MOE requires schools to consult with their communities

- We need to know how our school is perceived
- Need to understand strengths we can build on and what areas we need to improve.
- Purpose was to get indepth feedback from small sample rather than superficial feedback from representative sample

We surveyed 48 people

- Teaching and support staff
- Students current and past
- THS parents current and past
- Primary school parents
- Businesses
- Iwi
- Community organisations incl community board, arts, elderly, service, fire, Police
- Neighbours

What we asked

Does the school have a distinct culture?

What's the education at THS like?

What are our strengths?

What do we need to improve on?

How likely would you recommend the school?

What they said | Teachers

What we do well

- Students get meaningful holistic education, lots of variety, opportunities
- Teachers develop strong relationships with students, personalise learning, develop pathways, go extra mile
- Environment is inclusive, caring, safe, relaxed
- Management is hands off, value work life balance
- Staff are supportive and collegial, feel valued, generally enjoy what they do

What we need to improve

- Public perception of school and our students esp kids outside library and in town, uniform
- Student behaviour | discipline process, clarify and implement consistently
- Develop links between junior and senior students, change whanau system
- Listen to parents and community
- Extend our top students

Support staff

What we do well

- Excellent teachers, caring, genuine, esp high needs kids, get to know students, personalised learning
- Good place to work, supportive management, feel valued
- Innovative
- Lots of opportunities

What we need to improve

- School profile, perception
 - Turn off wifi at library!
 - Tidy up face of school (building exteriors, grounds)
- Communication with support staff and to whanau

Students

What we do well

- Great teachers, dedicated, accommodating
- Lots of opportunities

What we need to improve

- Dress code, uniform
- Junior curriculum
- Behaviour, discipline
- Disconnect between junior and senior school
- Crack down on ratbags and extend the good ones

The Community | What does THS do well?

- Teacher/ student relationships
 - teachers care, dedicated, accommodating, approachable
- Inclusive, every kids gets a chance
 - Teachers see students' potential and work with it
 - special needs and pastoral programmes
- All round school, happy kids, positive
- Innovative, try new approaches
- Opportunities and range of subjects for small school
- Sports, EOTC
- Community oriented e.g. Grey Power programme, fire vollies

The Community | What we need to improve

- Our image
 - Kids outside the library and in town behaving badly, not in school, dealing/using drugs?
 - Discipline in classroom, consequences
 - Dress code, uniform
- Perception of low academic standards
 - Profile kids who are achieving
- Listening to/ engaging with parents
 - Better understand junior curriculum
- Offer good experiences for primary students e.g. improve tech/manual, offer code club

What is our school culture?

Inclusive

Everyone *belongs*, Everyone *matters*, Everyone has *potential*

Relaxed

Flexible, hands off, balanced

Summary | Our core strengths

1. Our exceptional staff
2. Our inclusive culture
3. Our willingness to change

Summary | Our major weaknesses

1. Poor public perception
2. School values expressed inconsistently
3. Poor communication within school community

Key strategic themes

1. Improve public **perception** of THS and its students
2. Embed **school values** in everyday school life
3. Improve **communication** within school community
4. *Further develop **internal evaluation** and targeted planning to accelerate learning (from ERO review)*