

# ROTORUA GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL 2017 ANNUAL REPORT



2017 Top Scholar and Dux - **Sophie Jansonius** (left)  
and 2017 Proxime Accessit (Runner Up to Dux)  
**Alyssa Mae Pineda** (right)

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## Rotorua Girls' High School Board of Trustees

### Principal's Report

For the year ended 31 December 2017

*'Change does not change tradition. It strengthens it.  
Change is a challenge and an opportunity; not a threat'.*

*Prince Philip , Duke of Edinburgh.*

2017 has been another stellar year. The Education Review Office confirmed this when they visited in July as part of our three -year review process. This review meant a shift in the way we measured our progress and our ability to tell stories behind our numbers. To do this, we needed to articulate a clear line of vision that focussed on identifying who our priority learners were and how we accelerated their achievement. This was then tested against what our priority learners and their whānau were saying. Our community would tell their story and our story would be told.

To tell their story they did! Their clear line of vision was powerful and is a tribute to all those who champion the learning journey of our young women. A key message from the newly confirmed report states and I quote, *'the school is highly effective in its response to those learners whose progress and achievement needed acceleration.'*

The review also identified the reasons behind these findings, *'School conditions that are enabling the achievement of equity and excellence include a well-designed and responsive curriculum, highly effective leadership , effective teaching and learning support, meaningful partnerships with parents, whanau and strong governance.'*

In addition, *'School performance has been sustained over time through well-focussed, embedded processes and practices. This school has successfully addressed in-school disparities in achievement. Learners are achieving excellent educational outcomes.'*

At the end of the review the report stated, **'ERO is likely to carry out the next review in four – to – five years.'**

This tradition of excellence was seeded by all those before me and its strength is evidenced by our 2017 NCEA achievement data.

Our NCEA Level 1 pass rate was 94.9% , up 3.4% points.

Our NCEA Level 2 pass rate was 98.1% , up 1.6% points.

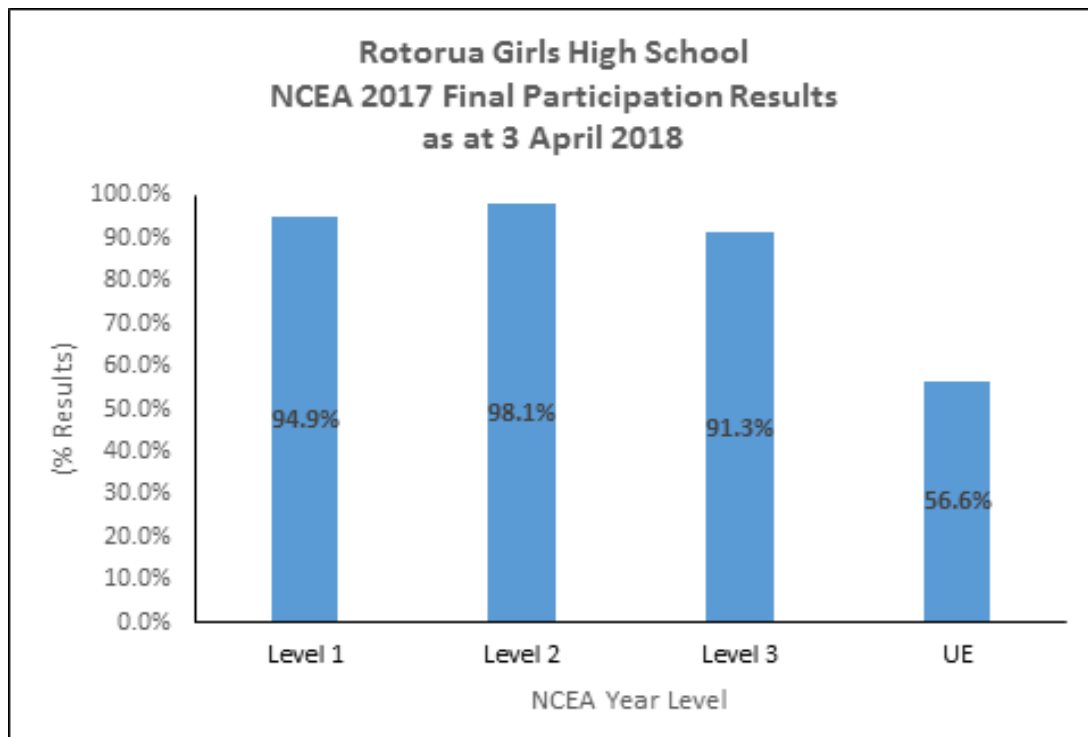
Our NCEA Level 3 pass rate was 91.3% , down 2.5% points.

Our University Entrance pass rate was 56.6%, up 9.7% points.

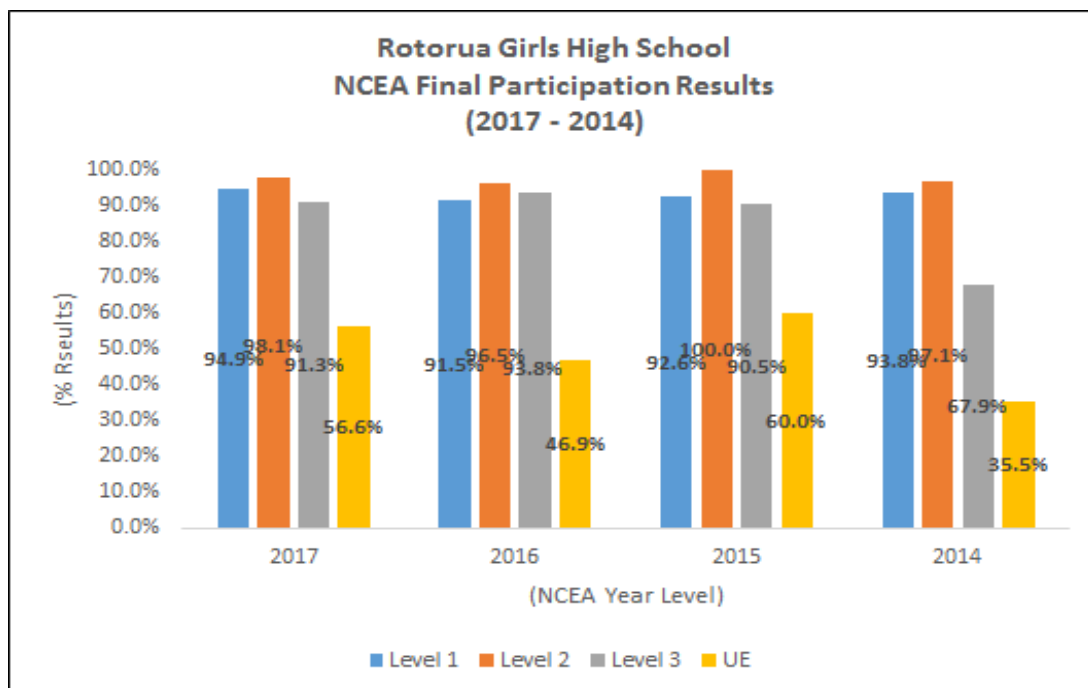
Our results have steadily improved over recent years.

**Celebrating Academic Achievement**

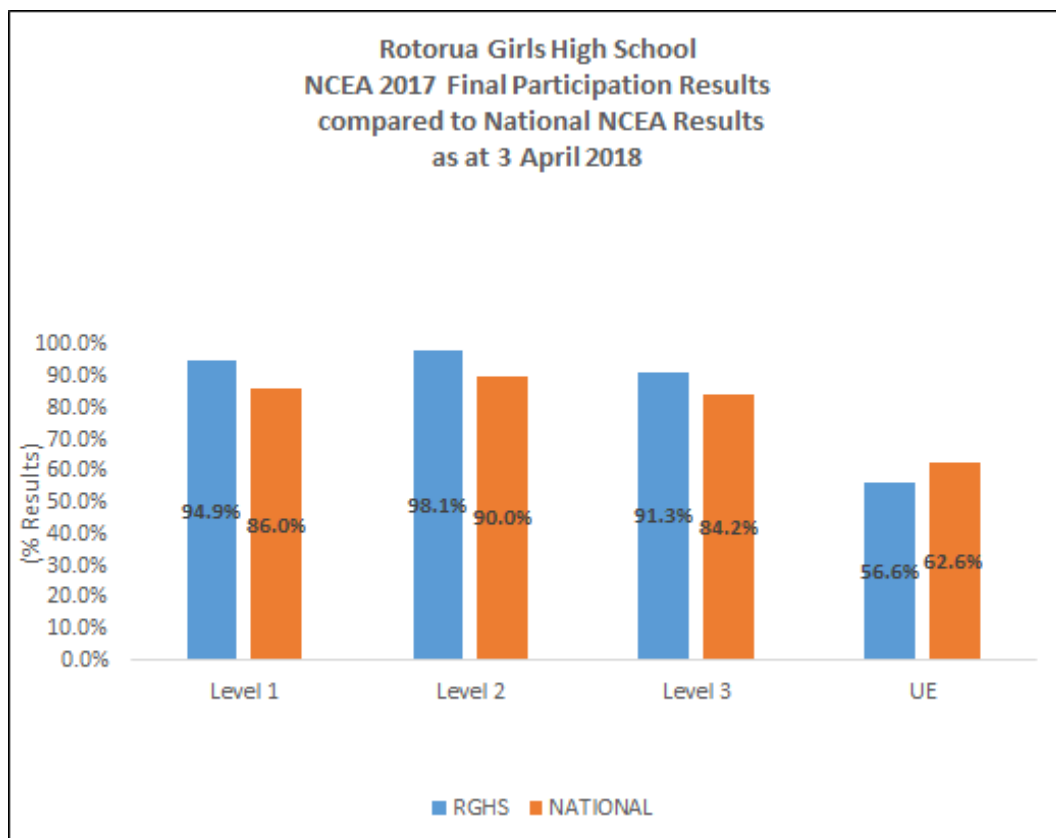
RGHS NCEA Final Participation Results for 2017 are:



The Past Four years Participation Results (2014 - 2017)



We continue to out perform the national NCEA Level 1, 2 and 3 results.



### Endorsements

- Our emphasis on improving the number of Endorsements was also reflected across Levels 1, 2 and 3 in 2017.
- At Level 1, 20.4% gained Excellence and a further 23.7% gained Merit. A total of 41 girls or 44.1% gaining Merit or better.
- At Level 2, 10.9% of our students gained Excellence and a further 11.9% gained Merit. A total of 21 girls or 22.8% who gained a Merit or better.
- At Level 3, 19.0% gained Excellence (16 students) and a further 19.0% gained Merit. A total of 32 girls or 38% gaining Merit or better.
- 1 scholarship was gained by Alyssa Mae Pineda in Design. Scholarship exams challenge students to “demonstrate high-level critical thinking, abstraction and generalisation, and to integrate, synthesise and apply knowledge, skills, understanding and ideas to complex situations”. The standard is extremely high and I commend Alyssa who performed at such a high level.
- Top teachers gain outstanding results for their students. We congratulate and thank Mrs Bryony Edwards whose students have achieved the following academic successes:
  - 2013 Alisher Morgan - Photography
  - 2015 Airi Takahashi - Photography
  - 2016 Tiara Winsor-Ngamata - Photography
  - 2017 Alyssa Mae Pineda – Design.

Alyssa was invited to have her Design folio tour NZ in the NZQA Top Art Exhibition

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In 2017 Kayla Kautai ( Year 12, 2016) was also invited to have her Design in the same exhibition. This placed both students in the top 2.9% of Level 3 Designers in New Zealand.

- Junior Foundation Certificate also reflected good results. 100% of our Year 9 students gaining their FCEA and 69% gaining Merit or better.
- In Year 10, 88 % gained their JCEA with 60% gaining it with Merit or better.

#### Māori Students (NCEA Final 2017 Participation Results as at 3 April 2018)

- 92.9% of our Māori students gained Level 1
- 97.4% gained Level 2
- 90.6% gained Level 3
- In University Entrance there was a 50.7% pass rate.

#### RGHS Māori 2017 against National Māori 2017 (NCEA Final 2017 Participation Results as at 3 April 2018)

- 77.9% of Maori students Nationally gained Level 1
- 85.7% of Maori students Nationally gained Level 2
- 76.4% of Maori students Nationally gained Level 3
- The National University Entrance pass rate was 42.7%.

#### Pasifika Students (NCEA 2017 Final Participation Results as at 3 April 2018)

- At Level 1 our Pasifika students had a 100% pass rate
- At Level 2 100% pass rate
- At Level 3 100% pass rate
- In University Entrance a 57.1% pass rate.

#### RGHS Pasifika 2017 against Nation Pasifika 2017 (NCEA Final 2017 Participation Results as at 3 April 2018)

- At Level 1 Nationally the Pasifika students had a 77.3% pass rate
- At Level 2 Nationally the Pasifika students had a 83.4% pass rate
- At Level 3 Nationally the Pasifika students had a 75.0% pass rate
- The National University Entrance pass rate was 36.8% .

#### Top Scholars

Twenty four of our Top Scholars were presented with a Top Scholar Tie . These students have achieved the Blue and Gold Young Scholars Badge previously.

67 Young Scholars were awarded either Blue or Gold Young Scholar Badges for achieving at least an 80% GPA (Grade Point Average).

Celebrating Excellence by raising the bar across the four cornerstones of Academia , Leadership, Arts and Cultural Activities. We congratulate the following students:

#### ACADEMIC

- Rangipurei Manley won the Rotorua / Taupo Race Unity Speech Competition and went on to compete at the national semi-finals in Auckland in May
- In the Regional Manu Korero Competitions, Manaia Lewis-Wano was the winner of the Junior English Section (Sir Turi Carroll) and went on to the Nationals in New Plymouth in September
- In the local Chinese Speech Competitions, our students had the following results: Year 9 2nd Hayley Cresswell; Year 10 1st Anipatene Williams, 2nd equal Thu Phan; Native speaker 1st equal Jia Xin Shi

- A Battle of Passchendaele Competition was organised by the Ministry of Education in partnership with the Fields of Remembrance Trust and the Passchendaele Society. Five of our students used digital technology to successfully develop a curriculum resource about the Battle of Passchendaele. These students won places in this competition-Alyssa Mae Pineda, Kayla Kautai, Mairaate Mohi, Atawhai Ngatai and Keighley Jones. They flew to Belgium with five other students to attend the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemoration for the Battle of Passchendaele.
- In The Great Debates with our Brother School, we won four out of the five debates and won the trophy.

### **Tertiary Scholarships.**

- **Otago University Leaders of Tomorrow Entrance Scholarship (\$2,000 each)**  
CHELSEA PITA  
KAYLA KAUTAI  
PAREUNUORA PENE
- **Massey University**  
NADIA ELMERS -**Vice Chancellor High Achiever (Art) Scholarship (\$3,000).**  
**Vice Chancellor High Achiever with Distinction (Art) Scholarship (\$5,000).**
- **Victoria University Excellence Scholarship (\$5,000)**  
KAYLA KAUTAI  
RANGIPUREI MANLEY  
AWATEA RIKIRANGI-THOMAS
- **Victoria University Academic Achiever Scholarship (\$5,000) PAREUNORA PENE**
- **Auckland University Maori Academic Excellence Scholarship (\$20,000)**  
RANGIPUREI MANLEY Top Achiever Scholarship  
AWATEA RIKIRANGI-THOMAS
- **Waikato University Te Paewai o Te Rangi Scholarship (for Outstanding Academic Achievement (\$25,000)**  
ALYSSA MAE PINEDA  
RANGIPUREI MANLEY
- **Te Pua Wananga Ki Te Ao (The Faculty of Maori & Indigenous Studies Scholarship for Academic Distinction (\$10,000)**  
ERINA HIMONA  
ANAMERA TEINAKORE-CURTIS

**2017 LEAVERS DATA**

**ROTORUA GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL**  
**Provisional Level Leavers Data 2017 Who Did Not Achieve Level 1, 2 or 3 as at 16 February 2018**

Number Who Did Not Achieve Level 1 NCEA (Year 11)	Where Did They Go Level 1 NCEA (Year 11)
<b>24 Students</b>	
(4) No Formal Attainment (8) 1-13 credits at any level (6) 14-39 credits without Level 1 Literacy and Numeracy at any Level (2) 14-39 credits including Level 1 Literacy and Numeracy at any Level (3) 40+ credits at any level including Level 1 Literacy and Numeracy (1) 40+ credits at any level without Level 1 Literacy and Numeracy	(12) Another School (7) Tertiary (3) Employment (1) Overseas (1) Unknown
Number Who Did Not Achieve Level 2 NCEA (Year 12)	Where Did They Go Level 2 NCEA (Year 12)
<b>22 Students</b>	
(0) No Formal Attainment (0) 1-13 credits at any level (3) 14-39 credits without Level 1 Literacy and Numeracy at any Level (1) 14-39 credits including Level 1 Literacy and Numeracy at any Level (3) 30+ credits at Level 2 or above (4) 40+ credits at any level including Level 1 Literacy and Numeracy (3) 40+ credits at any level without Level 1 Literacy and Numeracy	(2) Another School (7) Tertiary (3) Employment (2) Overseas
(8) Level 2 left with Level 1	(4) Another School (2) Tertiary (2) Employment
Number Who Did Not Achieve Level 3 NCEA (Year 13)	Where Did They Go Level 3 NCEA (Year 13)
<b>17 Students</b>	
(0) No formal Attainment (1) 30+ credits at Level 2 or above (7) 30 + credits at Level 3 or above (0) 30+ Credits at Level 3 or above (0) 1-13 Credits at Level 1	(0) Another School (3) Tertiary (4) Employment (0) Overseas
(9) Level 3 students left with Level 2 only	(5) Employment (1) Tertiary (3) Another School (1) Overseas
<b>Total of 63 Leavers</b>	

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## **LEADERSHIP**

- Former RGHS student Chantelle Cobby (2010 – 2016) was awarded the supreme Youth Leader of the Year.  
Other award winners included:
  - Raukura – most outstanding Youth Performance Group
  - Anaseini Nagera - most outstanding Sports Athlete
  - Anahera Teinakore-Curtis – “X Factor” People’s Choice Award.
- Pareunuora (Head Girl), Awatea Rikirangi - Thomas, (Deputy Head Girl), Dixie Yates (Deputy Head Girl) and Sophie Jansonius (Deputy sports Leader) attended the Headz Up Young Leadership Day at Waikato University.
- In Term 2, 15 of our Year 10 students had the opportunity to attend the He Kai a Aku Ringa business challenge at Toi Oho Mai. This is a venture that supports young Māori students to think about their places in the business world and how to become entrepreneurs and to encourage innovation thinking.
  - From this amazing three day course – Te Puni Kokiri offered a scholarship for ten of these students to attend the Matariki Exponential Conference held in July. This conference is an annual gathering of inspiring Māori business leaders and future super stars.
- We are now a Chartered Z Club from Zonta International. The club has 26 members who meet once a week in their lunchtime at school. They have been helping at the Salvation Army, knitting and sewing for Early Birds (a not for profit organisation that makes up packs for mothers who have premature babies). They also held a fundraiser for Breast Cancer Research.
- Our CACTUS #3 programme was run in Term 1. We hope that the 22 graduates use the experiences of CACTUS as a theme for success in their lives. Pareunuora (Head Girl), Sophie Jansonius (Deputy sports Leader), Seona Healey-Forde (Year 12) attended trainings as mentors.

## **ARTS**

- This year we produced the Broadway Musical “Hairspray”. The energy, vibrancy, colour and excellence presented on stage drew packed houses. It was wonderful to see students from combined Rotorua Girls and Boys High Schools enjoying their learning and going the extra mile to develop their talent and skills to such professional standards.
- In August 29 of our students took part in the New Zealand Dance Made Regional Competition. We had eleven entries and nine of them were placed.
- Our Megacrew (Xecute), Te Riri Williams and Jayde Hanna also competed at the Nationals in Palmerston North in September. Megacrew (Xecute) were placed second in their division.

## **CULTURAL**

- In Kapahaka, it was Regional Finals Year. We were represented by both Raukura and our Junior Group Ngā Kōhine. As Raukura are National Champions, they automatically qualify to compete in the 2018 Nationals in Palmerston North.
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## **SPORT**

### **National Representatives**

Kahlia Kiel	NZ U16 Mixed Touch Team which toured Australia in September.
Tayla Stone	NZ U16 Mixed Touch Team which toured Australia in September.
Te Aomihi Williams –Paul	NZ U16 Mixed Touch Team which toured Australia in September
Casey Campbell	NZ U16 Mixed Touch Team which toured Australia in September.
Dekoda Roberts, Year 9	NZ U14 Basketball Development Team which toured Australia in September.
Aimee Whata	NZ U14 Basketball
Te Ao Leach	NZ Academy Team travelled to the USA
Te Mihiroa, Year 10	NZSS U16 Champion Waka Ama 250m NZ Representative Basketball U16 travelled to Australia
Maringi James	NZSS U16 Champion Gold Waka Ama 250m
Kiri Tepania	NZSS U16 Champion Gold Waka Ama 250m
Ti'an Paretoa	NZSS U16 Champion Gold Waka Ama 250m NZ U16 Long Distance Waka Ama Champion
Jada-Cadence Beckham	NZSS U16 Champion Gold Waka Ama 250m
Maea Hay	NZ Boxing Champion –Golden Gloves Titles 2015/2016/2017.

### **Regional Representatives**

RGHS U15 Rugby 7's Team	North Island Secondary Schools Championship Winners. Bay of Plenty U15 Championship Winners 2016 &2017
Ana Nagera	Bay of Plenty swimming Championships 1 <sup>st</sup> Senior Girls 100m Individual Medley and 50m Breaststroke.
Marina Tahana-Beazley	Waikato / BOP Level Two Netball Training Squad.
Matalena Rapana Anaya Waiomio-Anapu Emma Tonihi Allannah Tapara	Bay of Plenty Rugby Secondary Schools U18 Team.

### **Local Representatives**

- U17 Rotorua Basketball Representatives- Te Mihiroa Tangira, Jada Beckham, Grace McCarthy-Sinclair, Kararaina Pene, Dubai Whata and Kiri Tepania.
- Te Riri Williams - NZ Dance Made Regional Solo Dance Competition - 1<sup>st</sup>
- Rotorua U15 Representatives - eight of our students were selected into the Rotorua U15 Representative netball team, which travelled to New Plymouth in the first week of the school holidays and competed in the North Island U15 Championships.
- Rotorua U17 Netball team- five of our students competed in Auckland during the second week of the holidays - Kataraina Ormsby, Te Awa Forrest, Ebony Church, Taryn Stone and Teina Cassidy
- U17 Rotorua - Taupo Cluster Team-Te Awa Forrest, Kataraina Ormsby and Taryn Stone played in the cluster tournament held at the Mount on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July. Kataraina Ormsby made the tournament team.
- Our Prem 2 Senior team who were WINNERS of the Banner Round for 2017 and the Championship Winners of their grade.
- Our Junior Prem Team were the winners of the Rotorua Netball Association's Junior A Grade for 2017. This team also competed at the Waikato / BOP Tournament where they were Runners Up. Taruki Rangawhenua was named in the tournament team for 2017.

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## **Inter-house Competition**

Athletics-TAINI

Swimming-TAINI

Cross Country-TAINI

House Singing-MAKERETI

Overall House Winner- TAINI

## **Staff News**

### **Academic Excellence**

Whaea Ngata and Mrs Jo Vari successfully completed the MindLab 32 week Post Graduate Certificate in Applied Practical (Digital and Collaborative Learning).

Scholarship for Photography – Teacher Bryony Edwards.

### **Excellence in Sport**

Mrs Tui McCaul was selected to represent New Zealand in the Master Women's V6 Waka Ama Team at the inaugural Long Distance Championships in Tahiti. The team won Gold in their division (27km) claiming the title of Long Distance World Champions.

## **ALLIED FACILITIES**

### **2017 Wellness Centre Annual Report**

**Mission:** *“To provide an on-site facility which will promote and support the total well-being of Rotorua Girls' High School student, staff and school community”*

5420 Students were seen at the Wellness Centre in 2017

We had a truly positive start to the year. Having a Full Time Counsellor, enabled us to get into every Year 9 class to introduce ourselves to explain the services of the wellness centre, as well as attend assemblies for all other new students to the school. The impact of this was that, the at risk students, made themselves known to us and we were able to quickly start working alongside them. We were able to quickly work alongside the Senior leadership team with the High priority learners and engage them with our Outside Providers.

Our new organisational hours took us all a bit of getting used to but have worked well to keep the centre open between 0800 and 1500 managing our hours of work independently and covering each other where necessary.

2017 saw us coping with an increase in anxiety, depression and generally students needing assistance to cope with many social situations occurring in their lives .Medically we saw an increase in Non Controlled Asthma, Chronic Skin Infections and Allergy Eye conditions.

We worked with Absolute Dentistry and Lakes District Health Board to get the mobile Unit on site and despite the extra work for the staff within the centre, this was an amazing initiative for our Rangatahi with, 253 students being seen and 70% of those needing to return for treatment, some more than once. I am sure that now they have covered most of the other schools, next time round they will be more set up and streamlined which will make the impact on the wellness centre staff less.

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We thanked our Drs: Emma Yates and Nancy Broomer for their input into the centre this year and for the extra that they do for our students and wellness centre staff as a whole. We worked in with Rotovegas Youth Health who provide this service and Rotorua Area Primary Health Service who provide the technological equipment.

We thanked our Public Health Nurses for their monthly visits to administer Bicillin to those students who require it after having had Rheumatic Fever. We continued to swab throats in the hope that we caught strep throats early to prevent this occurring. We had 10% of those swabbed return a positive result. We also had a case late in the year of Scarlet Fever which is another follow on from Streptococcal Infections. We followed up with class members, and two more students produced Positive Strep throats and were treated.

We thanked our Asthma and Respiratory Foundation Nurse Renee Goldberg for assisting us with those students who had really non controlled asthma over the year.

We thanked Aneta Stone-Martin, Kura Kaupapa assessment nurse for her part in assessing all year 9 students over the year and picking up on hearing, vision and other problems.

We thanked Osteopath Sambu Nelson for caring for those students who had accidents over the year and required more intensive therapy to keep them playing their sports or recovering from their sporting and Cactus injuries. Sambu was also of benefit to the staff who had injuries!

We thanked Veronique Fredericks from Te Utuhina Manaakitanga Trust who is our drug and Alcohol Counsellor. She has been vital in assisting us with students who have needed this under the Board of Trustees conditions, or who have self referred because drugs, alcohol or gaming had become an issue in their lives. We have continued to offer drug screening to those who have had to have this carried out. This was carried out through Lab Plus at Auckland hospital.

We thanked both Kate Goss (Psychologist) and Toni Hohneck (Youth Worker) from REAL team for being in the Wellness Centre every Wednesday and more at times to assist us with those students who had been referred to their team either by Tayla or their family GP. This team have offered a magnificent service to RGHS. REAL also ran a group RESET for assisting the management of anger. These ladies also supported us on the day when Mike King came in to do his "Its Kool to Korero Talk".

Also, very supportive of our students this year has been, Hera Merito (Social Worker) Rotovegas Youth Health. Hera has worked with those students having social and /or attendance issues and also supported us on the Mike King day. Also playing a huge role in some of our students lives this year was John Turner and the team from iCAMHS and the Oranga Tamariki team.

We remain grateful for each of these Outside providers who come in to support those who require it and their Whanau. 2018 brings a return of our association with Cath Mott, Children's Outreach Nurse and the Child Cancer Foundation.

Internally we would like to work closer with the Deans and Leaders of Learning earlier in the year to assist with the High Priority Learners and feel that they could be first to be assessed by the Year 9 Assessment Nurse before the Year 9's next year, just to see where they are sitting in their personal lives.

We would like to thank those who have supported us this year .

Nga Mihi

Shirley Tickelpenny - Wellness Centre Co-Ordinator

Principal's Report

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## **2017 Guidance Counsellor Summary**

It has been another busy but great year at Rotorua Girls High. I have really enjoyed further supporting the students and getting to know them and the staff.

Term 1 definitely started with a bang. It was my first experience of brand new students, having started in term 2 last year. It was great to be out there on the first day, greeting students and helping them to feel more comfortable on their first day. Shirley and I visited all the year 9 classes in the first week to introduce ourselves and to make them aware of services that were available. I believe this helped with year 9s introducing themselves to us and making us aware of their issues and needs so we could arrange appropriate support.

Anxiety was a significant issue that students were facing at the beginning of the year, and this carried throughout the year as well. When talking with some parents, it could be seen that there was a genetic component to it. Parents were also offered support and pathways to access help if they required.

There were changes throughout the year of referral processes for outside providers. This meant that there was a delay in support for our young people and left me trying to help with problems that were often significant, while waiting for the appropriate service to have space to help. I am grateful for regular supervision that was able to support and guide me during these times.

Term 2 and Term 3 presented another stressful time in terms of mental health. We had a really high referral rate, with students presenting with significant mental health and drug/alcohol issues. Such ongoing problems meant we had to make numerous crisis calls, Oranga Tamariki and iCAMHS referrals.

Counselling remains a much-needed support at Rotorua Girls High. Some of the issues I have dealt with this year include bullying, poverty, gender and sexuality issues, suicidal ideation, parental addiction and mental health issues, school stress and general life stress, relationship and friendship break up, pregnancy and terminations, psychosis, self-harm, addiction, homelessness, physical, emotional, and sexual abuse, together with many other issues facing the at risk population.

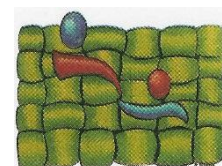
Although there have been numerous issues this year, there have been some great successes. I look forward to seeing the girls grow next year and see what the future holds for them.

Thank you all for your support this year.

- Tayla Sloane, Guidance Counsellor

## **Rotorua Girls' High School Childcare Trust**

Through 2017 teachers have continued to develop the centre Vision and Mission statements along with the Strategic Plan, as part of the process in future proofing the centre.



The centre has continued to undertake upgrading facilities including new taps for the children's bathroom, and purchasing additional blinds.

Sustainability has been a major focus for the year. We now have council bins for rubbish and recycling. In an effort to reduce our weekly landfill waste, which is largely disposable nappies, we made a successful application to the Grass Roots Environmental Funding of \$1500.00 which will enable us to purchase cloth

nappies. Other ongoing initiatives which we continue to undertake include two worm farms, compost bins and a water tank to collect rain water that we then use to water the gardens.

The centre entered a float in the Rotorua Christmas Parade and took out first place, receiving the Champions Float Shield. This resulted in winning a centre trip to the Agrodome. The trip was a great success enjoyed by all and a wonderful conclusion to another great year.

### **Rotorua's ARENA and Nina Hogan Performing Arts Centre**

The ARENA and the Performing Arts Centre continue to be busy places holding a number of events. We saw an increase with the sudden closing of the Sir Howard Morrison Convention Centre in 2017. We hosted the Science and Technology show Nanogirl, The Toi Oho Mai Staff End of Year Function, Lakes Performing Arts End of Year Performance and the Canterbury University Graduation.



Other bookings throughout the year included Go Bananas Show, The Hairspray Production, North Island Bowling Tournament, Rotorua Karate Tournament, Waikato Bay of Plenty Netball trainings, Maori Basketball tournament games, Dr Libby book Launch, Heart Foundation concert, Rotorua Fire Services netball training and the BOP Phillipino Society events among others. The regular after hours users include Rotorua Netball run Monday and Wednesday nights, Frisbee on Tuesday nights and Futsal on Sunday afternoons.

The ARENA has had the Smokebeams replaced and we will be looking to up date the Audio Visual Technology in 2018. The Performing Arts Centre ,had the sound system upgraded in 2017.

2018 groups and events which we are looking forward to hosting include - Rotorua Hospitality Awards, Maimoa Concert, Waikato Bay of Plenty Netball - BEKKO tournament games, Circus Quirkus, the Tuhoehoe Ahurei Netball, Nano Girl and a number of the regular annual concerts. Both facilities are definitely assets for the community.

### **Rotorua School for Young Parents – Te Here Akoranga Mo Nga Matua Rangatahi** **E.R.O Report - 2017**

Young parents enjoy positive, respectful relationships with their teachers and the Early Childhood Centre. Students are well supported to learn and gain meaningful qualifications and parenting skills in an attractive and stimulating environment. The TiC provides highly effective leadership and is well supported by the effective governance of trustees at Rotorua Girls High School.



Creating a learning environment that provides teen parents with a quality education while allowing them to meet their personal needs as a mother has always required careful planning. In 2017 the teachers at the Rotorua School for Young Parents were required to prove how they do this to the Education Review Office who returned after three years. The highly successful visit from E.R.O can be seen in their report which is full of praise for a team of teachers who work tirelessly to ensure that every students needs are considered and prioritised to ensure that her success is on her terms.

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Acknowledgement of the effective governance from Rotorua Girls High School was also appreciated and welcome.

### **Academic Achievement**

In 2017 students at the Rotorua School for Young Parents gained an incredible 1756 credits while enrolled at the school, an increase of over 300 credits for the year. These academic results show the commitment and motivation of students and teachers. A more positive trend than just achieving credits was the further increase in the number of students completing achievement standards in approved academic subjects. The employment of a science teacher provided students with additional subject choices than had previously made available in the school. Teachers also increased their level of collaboration over their subject areas to ensure that students were learning about the things that were meaningful to them across the curriculum. Teachers also developed subjects that are assessed using Unit Standards to include genuine and authentic learning opportunities and not simply book based learning.

### **Enrolment**

Enrolments in 2017 increased to 56 total students over the year. This was an increase of 12 students from 2016. A new enrolment strategy designed to increase the number of students attending daily created spaces for students over the age of 19 to enrol. The increased age limit meant that the school's maximum roll of 35 was always full. More students on the roll resulted in more students attending each day which improved enjoyment levels. An additional positive outcome of increasing the eligible age for enrolment was that these students were mature and had high expectations. They also realised how fortunate they were and made good use of the opportunity to enrol.

### **Engagement**

Students at the Rotorua School for Young Parents continued to participate in a huge range of extracurricular activities in 2017. Afternoon projects and physical activities provided by all teachers saw students dancing, upcycling, scrapbooking, tie dying and mountain biking. Engaging students in a curriculum that is not solely academic ensures that our young mothers enjoy their time at school and are more likely to come each day. Learning new hobbies and participating in exciting-adrenaline filled events allows the students to have fun. Focussing on the whole student allows teachers to really develop strong relationships with students which helps to create a culture of love and caring in the school.

Wendy Mack



Teacher in Charge

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## THANKS

Ko te Tamaiti te Putake o te Kaupapa  
The child – the heart of the matter  
I have depended on a number of people this year.

Teachers play a major role in the development of our society. They inspire, motivate and pass on knowledge. 'To teach is to touch lives forever' and I would like to thank our exceptional staff for the countless lives they have touched as they go through their daily work.

I am privileged to lead RGHS and appreciate the support of the full Board for their time spent on improving opportunities for our students and in particular the Chairman, Chris Nairn, Whanau Support, Pasifika and our Kuia and Kaumatua who have again given freely of their time, their expertise and their wisdom, and I thank them sincerely. I acknowledge the commitment and dedication of my Senior Leadership Team, especially Aramoana Mohi- Maxwell who was Acting Principal during my absence as a Youth Ambassador Chaperone to Passchendaele, Raewyn Krammer, Tui McCaull and our Executive Officer Barbara Leckey..

There are many other groups and individuals who make a significant impact on the lives of students by providing scholarships or financial incentives. I thank them all most sincerely, and in particular I would like to publicly acknowledge the financial support we have received from the Rotorua Energy Charitable Trust and the Ngati Whakaue Education Trust. Their monies have been well used and have enabled our students to experience many opportunities not possible in other areas of New Zealand.

A further group I would like to acknowledge are all the past students, parents and supporters who have helped with CACTUS, sporting, arts and cultural events. They manage, coach, provide transport, and are just there. Together they all create a 'web of inclusion' within which our students develop and grow. On behalf of our students I thank you all.

Finally, I also acknowledge my staff - both teaching and non-teaching - and say "Thank you all so much for your support, for the extra time you put in, for the care and attention you give to the students, as well as all the extras that you do that are so rarely acknowledged."



Ally Gibbons  
Principal  
1 May 2018