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PAPAKOWHAI SCHOOL ENROLMENT SCHEME PROPOSAL TO AMEND HOME ZONE

21 July 2020

Dear Parents/Caregivers

As noted in previous Board newsletters the Papakowhai School roll is continuing to increase, currently projected to be approximately 560 at the end of the 2020 school year. This continues to put considerable pressure on our infrastructure, including staff, property and can also affect the students themselves.

While we are in the process of converting the library into additional classrooms, there is limited scope to create further spaces without losing valuable play areas for the students.

In 2018 the Board amended the enrolment zone with the intention of easing roll growth. Due to several unknown factors at the time, including uncertainty around a potential school in Aotea, the Board took a conservative approach to that process. At that time the roll was 490 and projections indicated that reducing the zone could result in the school being at approximately 510 students by 2020. As above, that has not happened, and the school continues to grow.

We have two options to stabilise roll growth: not offer placement to any out of zone students; and to amend the school enrolment zone.

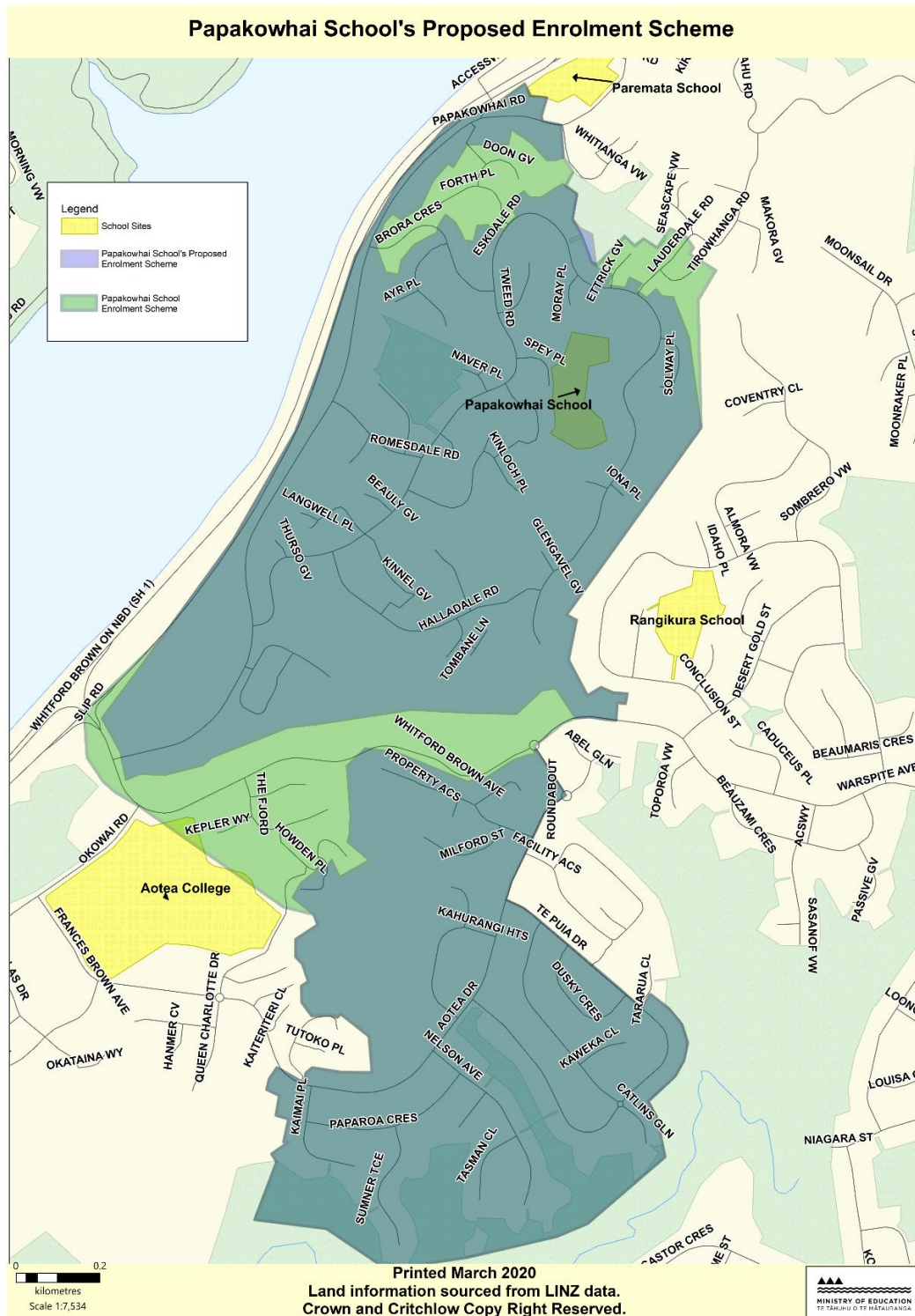
The Board has decided to not make any spaces available for out of zone students for 2021. While this has an immediate impact on roll growth, it does not sufficiently address the issue. Therefore, the Board has also initiated the process to amend Papakowhai School's zone with effect from 1 January 2021.

The process for amending the school enrolment zone is as follows:

- Informal consultation with neighbouring schools and stakeholders (completed by 10 August)
- Formal consultation with parents, schools and community (August)
- Information from the formal consultation is reviewed (September)
- The Board adopts the new zone and submits it to the MOE for approval. The new zone is advertised (October)
- The new zone comes into effect (1 January 2021)

The Board has considered a range of available information, including material from the 2018 re-zone, and has drafted a proposed amendment to the current school zone. The amendment to the enrolment zone proposes excluding the following streets that are also zoned for Paremata School (PS) or Rangikura School (RS):

- Brora Crescent, numbers 1-9 and 2-24 inclusive (PS)
- Forth place (PS)
- Doon Grove (PS)
- Etrick Grove (PS)
- Lauderdale Road (PS)
- Livet Place (PS)
- Whitford Brown (RS)
- Hollyford Place (RS)
- The Fjord (RS)
- Kepler Way (RS)
- Howden Place (RS)



Next Steps

At this stage the Board welcomes any initial informal feedback from the community over the next three weeks prior to a formal consultation process, which will involve community meetings, later in August. To provide feedback, please email bot@papakowhai.school.nz prior to 10 August.

We appreciate that 2020 has been a stressful year for families and that this will be unwelcome news to some. Unfortunately, we must act now to try and curb future continued roll growth. Delaying could have a detrimental effect on the school's ability to continue offering our current level of quality education to students.

Rodney Strong
Chair
Board of Trustees