



STRATHMORE COMMUNITY SCHOOL

CHARTER 2011

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STRATHMORE COMMUNITY SCHOOL 1947-2011

Our school provides primary education for students up to year six. Students come from a variety of backgrounds, enriching the school with a diversity of languages and experiences.

The school was opened in 1947 by Sir Peter Fraser. Its historical links with the emergence of state housing and largely original condition, gives the school heritage value.

In 2004 its name was changed to Strathmore Community School to acknowledge a changing community. Situated in Wellington's Eastern suburbs we see high value in forging strong links within our community.

Our school enjoys attractive, well established grounds which includes a developing vegetable garden and orchard. Sports facilities including basketball and netball courts, open playing fields, swimming pool and adventure playground. The buildings are generous and include a Library, a large Whanau/Meeting Room and the classrooms are well provided with information technology facilities.



MISSION:

At Strathmore Community School we recognize, promote and engage the diverse cultures in our learning community. Children are encouraged to appreciate and value their differences. Our cultural diversity is our strength.

VISION:

Our shared vision is to encourage our children to aspire to excellence with emphasis in numeracy and literacy through the highest quality programmes of teaching and learning possible.

VALUES:

We recognize Maori as the tangata whenua and value all cultural traditions, family values and heritage languages.

We recognize and value the wider school community; we seek to engage the parent community in support of their children's learning and to include it within the life of the school meaningfully.

INTRODUCTION

Strathmore Community School is a decile 2 school nestled in the heart of Strathmore. It is currently a three teacher school.

Our students come from a variety of rich cultural backgrounds and we celebrate that many of our students are bilingual. The demographics of Strathmore continues to show an increasing number of young families buying property and establishing themselves in the community. The enrolment trends at the school show an even number of Pacific and European Pakeha families and an increase in our Maori students. The number of Asian students has also increased.

The school fosters ties with many community groups. These include Pride Lands (before and after school care), New Zealand Police, Miramar Library, Volunteer Wellington, The Strathmore Park Progressive Association, local business people, Wellington South Rotary, Lions, St. Christopher's Presbyterian Church, St Aidans Church, Seatoun Bookshop, Margaret Bear Trust, Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand (Inc), Duffy Books In Homes and the Strathmore Community Base (school holiday programme), Edible Gardens, The Kitchen Garden and One Foot Print. New links have been formed with Wellington City Council (upgrade of swimming pool & school travel plan), Greater Wellington Regional Council (school travel plan), Strathmore Community Church, Eastern Suburbs Youth Trust and Seatoun Buddies. We are also very fortunate to have a number of volunteers working at school with children every week to support their reading and oral language skills.

The school continues to form strong links with Strathmore Park Kindergarten, Peninsula Community Preschool and Scots College.

The school has a large and attractive environment for children to enjoy outdoor activities such as sports, recreation and gardening. Our school participates in the Eastern Zone Cluster Sports Programme and the greater wellington sports activities.

Make-up of the school as at 13 June 2011: Boys : 32 Girls : 35

Ethnicity : NZ European/Pakeha: 30% Maori: 25% Pasifika : 34% Asian : 11%

CONSULTATION

This Charter was developed by the Board of Trustees, who are the elected representatives of the school community, and the staff.

Community consultation is an acknowledged part of the Charter development process.

Growing interest continues from local families in the community who have pre-school children. As a response to this interest the school provides an 'open door' environment for prospective parents to discuss the educational opportunities the school can offer their children.

IDENTIFIED STRENGTHS

- Healthy, well-mannered and happy students with a positive outlook towards school and learning
- Buddy system that promotes co-operation, care and leadership
- Multicultural learning environment
- Excellent low student - teacher ratio
- Proactive parent group-Friends of Strathmore Community School Incorporated
- A dedicated Board with a clear vision
- Positive relationships between Board, staff, students, and the school community
- Parents are encouraged to directly engage in support of their children's learning

Appropriate steps are in place to promote the unique position of Maori as our nation's tangata whenua.

- Continue to integrate Te Reo Maori and Tikanga Maori into the curriculum in appropriate ways
- Take all reasonable steps to provide instruction in Te Reo Maori at parents request
- Have policies, plans and targets in place for improving Maori student achievement

REFINING OUR SCHOOL PROGRAMMES TO DEVELOP THE

ATTRIBUTES FOR STUDENT SUCCESS:

- Self-motivated, Open Minded, Creative, Problem-solver, Good listener