

11 June 2010

## **To the Parents and Community of Mt Roskill Intermediate School**

These are the findings of the Education Review Office's latest report on Mt Roskill Intermediate School.

Mt Roskill Intermediate School caters for students in Years 7 and 8 and is located on an attractive and spacious campus, which also includes Mt Roskill Grammar School and Mt Roskill Primary School. The inclusive school culture provides a positive environment in which all students are encouraged to participate in school events. The school's special education unit for students with high physical and learning needs continues to provide high quality learning opportunities across the curriculum. Modifications to learning equipment and programmes enable students with high needs to access the school's curriculum.

The wide variety of ethnicities among the student population has resulted in a school culture that is based on respect for difference and on valuing what these cultures bring to learning in the school. Positive interactions between students and their teachers enhance student participation in a range of learning opportunities and promote student achievement. Students engage well in learning and enjoy frequent opportunities to explore ideas and share their learning.

The principal and two deputy principals provide effective professional leadership. They work collaboratively to bring about well paced and skilfully managed changes in teaching practice. The school curriculum provides students with good opportunities to relate cultural and personal experiences to their learning. The board of trustees has high expectations for student achievement and sets increasingly challenging achievement targets for literacy and numeracy. These targets reflect the school focus on improving student achievement.

Students make very good progress in literacy and numeracy during their two years at the school. Teachers are developing effective teaching strategies to accelerate student achievement in numeracy and literacy, and are supported by relevant professional learning and development. As a result, increasing numbers of students are reaching age-related expectations for achievement before they leave the school.

Over the last three years, managers across the campus have worked collaboratively to develop processes to ensure that students experience seamless transitions between the three schools. This collaborative work includes exploring and sharing successful teaching approaches, aligning curriculum systems, and building closer links to the communities that contribute to the schools. Senior managers are beginning to accumulate student achievement data that will enable them to analyse the effectiveness of programmes in improving learning outcomes for students as they progress through the three schools.