

Update 09/04/2019

We have received the updated plans this morning and we are thrilled to see the changes being actioned by Tom Nisbett the architect. He listens to what we require as a school and does his best to make the plans reflect that. We have a limited budget so we know that we cannot make structural changes and that some things will rely on our community getting into gear to make them happen.

We are still in negotiations with the Ministry of Education to look at every possibility available to us as a school before the board makes the call on what we do, and where we go during the build process. The whole decanting option is a brain teaser and we are working hard for the best solution. We don't want to delay the rebuild, or add unnecessary costs which will be taken off the building project. Every dollar spent on temporary buildings and utilities and decanting (moving off site) comes off the build budget. The board is carefully weighing up comparative costs and the potentials for delaying the project and adding more costs on. To stay or to go is the question. We know how strongly we all feel about this place, our turangawaewae, and the sacrifice it will take to leave temporarily in order to have the school we deserve. Once upon a time, not so long ago, a new school for West Spreydon was not even a consideration.

The board is juggling expensive repairs to the existing utilities in the school to keep us operational until the school is demolished. Our water, sewers and electrical systems are not fit for purpose and we are limping to the finish line without having to outlay too much money in the interim. We know that the minute we touch any infrastructure that the school will not be operational and that the costs of creating temporary systems are prohibitive. There are lots of people in our school with the strengths of positivity and this means they can figure out ways to get things done in a creative way along with our strategic thinkers.

There are some lovely features like "kid shaped and spaced windows," quiet spaces, withdrawal learning spaces, five maker spaces including kitchens, covered outdoor areas and the possibility of study hives (for those we need a skilled joiner and upholsterer) we think that we can do this kind of joinery cheaper in our community than we can through a contract.

The outdoor landscaping will be our community project. We want spaces that children will love being in even when the weather is a bit dodgy. We loved what Rawhiti have done to their outdoor kids spaces. I can just see the full sized sand pit with the running water trough, decorated by an old row boat.

We'd like you to sit with the name change and think about what this means for our history and future. We have strong connections with Te Ara Koropiko West Spreydon or West Spreydon Te Ara Koropiko. The meanings are beautiful and it has been very special to have this name gifted to us from Ngai Tahu.

Ingoa Maori (Name)Whakapakeha (Translation)Whakamarama (Explanation)1.Te Ara Koropiko Te – The, Koropiko –bend/ loop, Ara –PathwayAra -breaking of the waters (childbirth); way, path, track, route.

Koropiko is a former geographic feature. West Spreydon School are just below the loop in the former river.

The river loops triangulating and then moves on much like children arrive, stay there for a while to learn and move through-circumnavigating to get their bearings (knowledge) before moving on.

The nearby school is named Te Kura o Mokihi. (Spreydon) Once the name has been chosen, the runanga asks that it is acknowledged explained on the school website. Janina Konia, Naming Document, Matauraka Mahaanui, 29/11/2018

We will keep you informed as we get our updates. Woohoo. We are getting closer to our lovely new home.

Naku I runga I aku mihi ki a koe

Marriene E Langton

Principal

West Spreydon School