

**IN THE MATTER OF** the Resource Management Act 1991

**AND**

**IN THE MATTER OF** Private Plan Change 95 Pencarrow Estate  
Pongakawa to the Western Bay of Plenty  
District Plan

---

**STATEMENT OF EVIDENCE OF CRAIG HAGGO  
ON BEHALF OF KEVIN AND ANDREA MARSH**

---

1. My name is Craig Haggo, principal of Pongakawa School. I submitted on Plan Change 95 and I want to once again express my support for Plan Change 95 from a professional perspective.
2. I believe that the increased homes and amenities will allow Pongakawa to grow as a community which will bring opportunities to the area that it currently does not have. The school campus is on a large site with capacity to grow. The Ministry of Education is aware of the subdivision and planning is already underway to support this increase in growth should it occur. Indeed the subdivision would give the school surety of roll rather than the peaks and troughs experienced for many years.
3. This is particularly the case in respect of an early childcare centre, which would seem opportune in the nominated commercial area fronting Arawa Road. An early childhood centre provides for continuity of education here in Pongakawa from pre-school to the end of intermediate school level. This does not exist at present, with many of our parents addressing early childcare needs in Te Puke, Papamoa, Mount Maunganui or Tauranga.
4. This continuity will provide for an in-depth relationship between the families in the area and the school. These relationships will support the children's education as they grow.
5. The addition of new recreational areas and playground will be a welcome addition to the residential area of Pongakawa at Arawa Road, complementing the excellent facilities here at the school.
6. The school regularly receives regular enquiries about properties or sections available in the area, with families coming to the school as part of employment opportunities in the area. The development will provide housing opportunities for families relocating here for any employment opportunities. I have personally witnessed the substantial expansion of kiwifruit orchards in the

area in recent years. The development would obviously provide a closer housing base for these persons seeking to locate in Pongakawa. In addition to this, Pongakawa School is held in very high regard by The Education Review Office and we have families wanting to move to the area specifically so their children can attend here.

7. I thank you for your consideration of my submission evidence and am happy to answer any questions of the commissioners on my submission points.

Craig Haggo

24 October 2024