



Mayor D-103900
27 August 2009

Te Whiri Tuakana
Te Kura o Otaki
Mill Road
OTAKI

Dear Teina, Amokura Rangiheuea, Te Aniwa, Te Rangiamohia Nikora-Davis, Ngarui Waahitia-Manukau, Rautini Thompson, and Maria

There are so many deficiencies of both fact and logic in your letters, that I barely know where to start.

Perhaps sacking your teacher for allowing such misapprehension to flourish?

When your class starts addressing the real issues affecting Maoridom -- particularly the appalling rate of child abuse and child murder within Maori society, then I will take the rest of your views seriously.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Laws". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Michael Laws
Mayor

PS Consider your "args" might be a start!



Mayor D-104943
3 September 2009

Te Whiri Tuakana
Te Kura o Otaki
Mill Road
OTAKI

Dear Teina, Amokura Rangiheuea, Te Aniwa, Te Rangiamohia Nikora-Davis, Ngarui Waahitia-Manukau, Rautini Thompson, and Maria

Last night I was contacted by a reporter from the "Dominion-Post" who asked me about my reply to your letters on the spelling of Wanganui. I now read that some of the adults associated with Te Whiri Tuakana Te Kura o Otaki think that I was somehow "bullying" in my reply. If that is the impression that I conveyed to you, then I want to assure you it was the furthest thing from my mind.

You see I was rather shocked by the tone of the letters from yourselves. Especially that almost every letter said that you were either "angry" or "very angry".

Given that I represent the views of the majority of people who actually live in Wanganui – and that you do not – the anger you wrote of seemed rather odd. Hence my reply.

However, if you wish to have a face-to-face chat, I invite you and your parents to my mayoral office in Wanganui. Then I can explain the real history of the naming of Wanganui and why it should not be seen as an offence to Maori people. I'd be happy to provide the afternoon tea as well.

Best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Laws".

PP: Michael Laws
Mayor