

# **Otahuhu College Service Academy**

**2010 to 2013**

# Origins

- Began as the result of considerable research.
- Truth - a random conversation with the MOE in 2009.
- Seemed like a good idea to the Principal.
- November 2009 more action
- Confirmed early January 2010
- February 1 no director no kids no programme

# Beginning 2010

## February

- Director
- Twenty students selected
- Programme sorted

## March

- Waioru Camp for two weeks
- Maths teacher “me”
- English lucky to find one
- Two options
- Rest military stuff such as marching, map reading fitness etc.

# 2011

- Changes
- Principal out of the teaching
- English from school staffing
- Problem with returnees
- Services' commitment changed

# Outcomes

- Literacy and numeracy at level 1.
- Some other credits.
- Vastly improved attendance.
- Retained all but one for the year.
- Huge improvement in general behaviour of the group.
- Five came back in 2011
- Academic achievement better in 2011

# Unexpected Outcomes

- Staff sceptics convinced of value.
- Vast health improvements for some.
- Queue of students to join academy.
- Desire to start junior academy.

# Evaluation

- Has it been a success?
- Reviewed by ERO in 2011.
- Sustainability is the issue.
- Politics.
- Another educational experiment based on ?
- What if NZ education had a real strategic plan?

# ERO review

- Service academies are a highly effective secondary school initiative.
- Motivation, academic achievement demeanour and fitness of many students had improved.
- Culture was inclusive and supportive.
- Ethic of teamwork and collaboration was demonstrated across the academies