

**Information from**  
David Burke-Kennedy  
Ph 021 2732 372  
On behalf of  
**Wesley College**  
Steve Hargreaves, Principal,  
Ph. 09 237 0224 / 027 371 4842

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## **MINISTER PRAISES SCHOOL ACADEMIC TURNAROUND**

South Auckland's Wesley College, whose previously poor academic performance attracted critical scrutiny from the Ministry of Education, is being praised by the Minister of Education for its NCEA achievements over the past 2 years under new Principal Steve Hargreaves.

Hon. Hekia Parata cited significant improvements in Levels 1,2 and 3 – especially with Maori and Pasifika students.

In 2015, 000 Level 1 pass rate went up by 13%, Level 2 up by 9%, and UE up by 3% last year.

Ms. Parata said that achieving NCEA qualifications, particularly Level 2, opened up a wide range of opportunities for students through further study or employment.

Established in 1844, Wesley is the country's oldest secondary school and is traditionally associated with sporting achievement and many of the country's top international sportsmen and women.

In 1976, it became the first Private School to integrate into the State Education system and today operates like any other state school, but under the government of a Board of Trustees.

Wesley College is designated a Special Character school, based on a relationship with the Methodist Church of New Zealand and has day and boarding facilities for both sexes.

Principal Steve Hargreaves welcomed the school being recognised for its academic achievements and not just its All Blacks.

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