

Ngaumu Road

		Land Owned	Distance from School	Name/age	Current School
W Ritchie	Farmer	581 Acres	1/4 Mile	William 5 Jean 6 Gordon 3 Leslie 2	
R F Coulsen	Farmer	900	1/4	Robert 4 Joyce 3 Molly 2	
H Skeet	Farmer	482	1 3/4	Clarence 12 Harold 10 Mavis 9 Colin	Alfredton Alfredton Mauriceville Poroporo
T Ridgway	Farmer	150	1 1/2	Alfred 11 Walter 9	Masterton Masterton
J O'Hara	Farmer	734		Colin 11 Roy Edwin 5 Jean 4	Masterton
J Kennedy	Farmer	1127	1 1/2	Allan 7 John 5 Sheila 1	

1921



14th April Application to form a school

Distance from Westmere School (Poroporo) Ranged from 9 miles to 11 miles

2nd September Letter to Director of education

- a) Part of Poroporo settlement, a soldiers settlement. A small school has been established there
- b) This group of children can't attend because of Intervening height of hills and no direct road
- c) Note from Crowns land ranger included
 - (i) The road is bad in winter
 - (ii) Children can't go cross country because of Wainuioru River.
 - (iii) To convey the children to Poroporo would be considerable

(iv) This is why a small section is required.

- d) The Wellington Education Board has ascertained there is no building to be used and there are 12 children ready for schooling.

Nearest School Westmere Poroporo 10 miles

Taueru 14 miles

Te Ore Ore 18 miles

There is a 19 acre school reserve on Ngaumu Road

No timber available locally except for sarking which Mr Burling would cut at a reasonable price.

Site is fairly dry with some scrub on it. 10 chains frontage to Ngaumu Road

Board for teacher with Mr J Kennedy 1 1/2 miles from the school

15th October Letter from Lands and Survey The capital value of the site is £30.

1922

9th January Letter from Alfred Cowles Inspector to Wellington Education Board

- a) The roads are bad in winter and the children cannot go over the paddocks because of the Wainuioru River
- b) The site for the school is on a rise and dry. The rest of the 19 acres is flat and wet.

- c) If the school is to come from Wairere then it should be moved while the roads are good

9th February Letter from Director of Education to Wellington Education Board

- a) 3 acres is needed not 5 acres
- b) Why can't the neighbouring farmer pay for half the fencing?
- c) That an application for 11 dual desks is excessive for 12 children
- d) Why is a new stove be charged as a special grant?

Further memorandum Wairere is 49 miles away.

The cost of removal is high but £200 less than building a new school

11th February Letter to J H O'Hara from Wellington Education Board. That 5 acres from section 15 has been put aside.

That the building from Wairere School will be suitable and will be transported as soon as possible

24th February Sarcastic letter from Director of Education to Wellington Education Board

- 1) Cost of removal as stated is £200 but tender was only £167-8-6 with contingency of £15
- 2) That it appears that the offices could also be removed
- 3) It appears that the board is proposing to erect new latrines at a cost of £85

8th March Grant of £ 246- 8 -6d approved

Removal etc £182-8-6

Out Offices £45

Stove £ 10

Extra Furniture £9

The expenditure of £45 on a shelter shed is not warranted

11th June Letter from J O'Hara to Wellington Education Board

- a) The following were elected as School Committee, John Kennedy, William Ritchie, Frederick Coulson, Harold Skeet, John Henry O'Hara (Chairman and Secretary)
- b) Miss Richards arrived here safely this evening and I will duly open the school on the 19th
- c) She wanted to know if there was a cupboard for the school
- d) The school furniture has had a bad handling in transit. There are two of the desks with the tops split off, and are useless until repaired.
- e) There are two parcels which were too heavy to come out in the mail bag, awaiting to be called for in Masterton which I will get on Wednesday when I am in town.

12th May Letter from Wellington Education Board to Ministry

- a) The settlers there are poor and struggling
- b) Only one child is within 1 1/2 miles from the school
- c) Owing to the bad roads most children must ride to school in winter and a shelter shed for saddles quite apart from the children is essential.
- d) 17th May. Reply With regret no shelter shed.

20th June Desks dispatched in good order Carrier C E Daniells
19th June School opened with Roll of 11. Teacher A M Richards
7 pupils commenced school, 1 in standard 1, 1 in standard 2, 1 in
standard 4 and 1 in standard 6

19th October Inspector Cowles Report

- a) Standard 6: 1
- b) Standard 4: 1
- c) Standard 2: 1
- d) Standard 1: 1
- e) Primers :7

This school opened in June. The teacher has done good work the
pupils are keen and responsive. Order discipline and tone good.

Ample provision is made for warming, ventilation and cleaning, In
spite of bad roads and long distances the children attend well.

The new room is well adapted for its purpose. The grounds are as
yet unfenced.

Miss Richards opened the school in June. Only 4 children had
attended school before.

The infants are well taught.

4th December No school Exceptionally wet day.

7th December. Holiday for election day

1923

23rd January That a shelter shed be erected for £64-15- 6 half to
be paid by Wellington Education Board from its rebuilding fund
and half by special grant from Ministry

1st February Roll 11. One proficiency holder having left

21st February Holiday for Masterton Show.

26th February School shed in course of erection. Finished by March
3rd (Mr W Hope Carpenter)

29th March School closed for Easter holidays, Reopened on
Thursday 5th April owing to inconvenience and impossibility of
transit for teacher to open school on Wednesday. With chairman's
permission school was held on Saturday 7th April in lieu

19th to 23rd April School Committee working at fencing remaining
three sides of school section. 170 trees given by Wellington
Education Board (Pinus Insignes) Most planted and a few kept in
reserve.

August 23rd August 23rd taken as holiday in place of 4th June
(Queens Birthday) inadvertently missed

18th-19th September. No school owing to absence of teacher in
Masterton with poisoned finger.

26th September Dominion Day

8th November. Inspectors report

- a) Roll 12
- b) Attendance satisfactory in the circumstances.
- c) The general efficiency of the teacher is very satisfactory
- d) Most of the pupils had received little or no education before
the school was opened last year and the general progress is
very creditable to the teacher

20th December. School closed for summer holidays. Four pupils
obtained attendance certificates

Gave over charge of this school A M Richards

1924

5th February School reopened Miss E F Ferris

15th February School closed for Westmere (Poroporo) School picnic

11th June New stove for school arrived

12th June School Committee installed new stove

11th November School inspection A N Burns

20th November No school today teacher in town to see Doctor

Inspectors report

- a) Roll 14
- b) The school is well organised and managed
- c) Shelter trees have been planted and grown well.
- d) It was very pleasing to see that the teacher kept the little ones fully employed at useful work, and older ones when left to themselves immediately got out books to read.
- e) Miss Ferris has succeeded very well considering this is her first permanent position

19th December Standard 6 pupil obtained his proficiency certificate.

1925

1st March Commenced Home Lessons Course. Schools still closed owing to prevalence of infantile paralysis.

11th May School closed half day on account of death of Premier The Honourable Mr W Massey.

21st May Inspectors report. Miss Ferris is a young conscientious teacher and is doing very satisfactory work History is well taught and the singing is Melodious.

The primer children are very backward for their age and time at school

18th December. Two prizes presented by School Committee for most improved work during the year won by Allan Kennedy Standard 4 and (Girl) Jean O'Hara Standard 3

1926

20th October Inspectors Report

- 1) Roll 14
- 2) This is a well conducted school
- 3) The boys cleared the manuka from the grounds and the School Committee have erected a good wire netting fence round the garden I have not seen gardens in better order this year,

1927

15th March Re Outbreak of Whooping Cough. Stating that unless closed by an officer of the Health Department the school should remain open so long as any children are present.

18th March School closed for Settlers and school picnic

During the month of March the attendance has been low because of Whooping Cough in the school

1st July 12th August Relieving teacher Miss M Donald

1st August-14th August. Leave for Miss Ferris approved.

1st December. Summertime Bill. Stating that school must be open by 9.20 am. Schools had this flexibility.

16th December The 5 Standard 6 pupils gained their Proficiency Certificates.

1928

22nd March 5th April Teacher absent with quinsy and measles.

4th May. Gave over charge of school E Ferris

4th April Letter to J H O'Hara The board regrets to learn from your letter of the 2nd Inst that Miss Ferris is suffering from measles and it trusts she will soon be quite well again.

19th April LOA granted to Miss E Ferris

Letter from E Ferris to Mr O'Hara Would you kindly allow me to have a 1.00 day on Thursday as I want to get home for Easter and missing the bus on Thursday means a wasted day travelling.

Miss Ferris Teaching until 1928

21st May H B Mitchell started

Roll 13 School room clean and in order.

Received 2lb (pound) of cocoa from School Committee for children's use in cold weather. Also received quantity of foolscap and blotting paper.

11th June New shelves erected in school room by School Committee

14th June Received inspectors report W J Bodin

- a) Teacher Miss H B Mitchell. Primers to Standard 7,14
- b) At present the work in all classes is quite sound.
- c) For Standard 7 I would advise advanced English, Mathematics, Book Keeping, Geography and History
- d) All the written work is neatly done

22nd June Snow Storm Attendance of 4

12th to 19th July Leave of Absence granted by Board. Home circumstances

7th- 8th August Pine and Gum Trees transplanted by School Committee from vegetable gardens.

17th August School closed for holidays. Outhouses etc thoroughly cleaned.

31st October 2nd November School closed for extremely wet weather and floods.

19th December Two Standard 6 pupils passed their proficiency exams

There were two children in Standard 7

1928 1929 1930 H B Mitchell Teaching

1929

4th February Roll 13

8th September With permission of the School Committee school closed for the local settler's picnic

25th March Load of wood brought to school by School Committee

24th April Appropriate lessons on meaning of Anzac Day

19th June As chimney was smoking so badly and we could have no fire, school was dismissed at 1 pm

20th June. Chimney fixed and cleaned by Mr Clarke

16th September. School grounds ploughed by School Committee to be later sown down in English Grass

1930

3rd February Roll 10

7th March Half holiday for the children to attend the Westmere School Picnic

20th March Paths round school metalled by School Committee .
Chimney renewed

31st July Gave up charge of this school H B Mitchell

5th September. Unnamed reliever until 22nd August

8th September Miss M Whiteside.

9th September. No school very wet day.

9th October Mr Burns Inspectors report

- a) Roll 9
- b) Recitation has been well taught
- c) The Form 1,2,3 pupils show a keen interest in current events and are very willing to speak about them.
- d) If there are Form 3 children next year they should take bookkeeping, algebra and geometry with the correspondence schools
- e) On the whole your teaching is very good.

Memorandum to minister

Some years ago a new school was erected but the site was never secured . The land was 30 pounds and surveying £12-18- 6d would you please pay the costs.

1931

2nd February 9 children present

13th-17th April The school was closed for the whole week as I had to go to Whakatane due to the bereavement in my family

12th August Sent in 6 Swedes from school plots for Wellington Winter Show to Mr Brockett's residence in Cole Street

22nd August. Gave over charge of this school M Whiteside

16th September. Teacher Phyllis M Ticehurst Relieving.

1st December One pupil sat proficiency examination. All other pupils have been given a holiday as directed by the Wellington Education Board

18th December Gave over charge of this school Phyllis M Ticehurst

1935

An application to reopen the school

Coulsen, O'Hara. Ridgway and Colin O'Hara families

30th June Reopen a grade O school. Department turned down application because of small number of children

19th July The Wellington Education Board wish you to reconsider matter. To director of education.

1947

24th October Letter to Masterton County Council from Wellington Education Board. County Council will reopen the school if there are 5 children of school age The school year to start 1948

24th October Letter to Director Of Education The conservator of Forests has made application for a reopening of the school as four families will be in the district from February next year
30th October. Approval given for reopening.

1950

17th October Letter from Wellington Education Board to NZ Forest Service.. The children go to Ngaumu Road School from Ferneyhurst Road by the teacher driver.

The numbers now exceed the carrying capacity of the teachers car and the Board wishes to provide a school building at the Stronvar camp and convey from Ngaumu Road. It will not be economical to shift the Ngaumu Road School;

Could a small school be built on Forestry land

9th October Letter to Department

- a) The teacher lives of Ngaumu Road lives in the Forestry Camp on the Ferneyhurst Road. His daily mileage is 22.2 miles Rate 1/- per mile Capacity 10
- b) The forestry number will build up currently 12
- c) The manager of McKillop estate has 3 children 2 who go to Johnsonville School. The family wish them home
- d) The proposals are

- (i) To increase mileage to 20 miles. To enable 10 children to be taken to Ngaumu Road direct and the car return to Motukai Road to pick up the children from there
- (ii) To erect a prefabricated classroom on Ferneyhurst Road on Forestry Department land
- (iii) When this accommodation is provided Board to rearrange transport services. The teacher will reside at Ferneyhurst Road

1952

31st July It was unanimously agreed at a meeting that a new school be built on the Westmere Road corner. (*Wainuioru School*)

1959

Land was transferred to the Crown

Ngaumu Road School

1948 Patricia Vaney teacher

Roll 5

Maureen Beer 13 years 9 Months, Standard 6

Edwin O'Hara 7years, 5 Standard 2

Leslie Beer 7.9 ,Standard 1

Noeline Skeet 7.1 Standard 1

Margaret Skeet P 1

1949

D N Davies

Edwin O'Hara oldest Roll 5

1951

M E Chapple Roll 7

1952

W F Greenlees

5 Boys 8 girls

1953

W F Greenlees

3 boys 5 girls

1954

W F Greenlees 13

1955 W F Greenlees

Roll 14

1956 C W Parekowhai

19 Roll

1957 C W T Parekowhai

11 roll

1958 C W T Parekowhai

23

Sewing teach Mrs O'Hara

1954 Report

- a) It is proposed to convert the fenced off garden area into a lawn
- b) One cut of the rotary hoe has already been done

c) Another will take place next year prior to grading, rolling and sowing

d) Individual plots and experimental plots will be cut out of the lawn

e) The pine tree situated in the Phys Ed area because it is preventing the sun from keeping the sun from keeping grass in this area dry enough for Phys Ed work

f) It is hoped a fence which will considerably reduce the playing area but will allow stock to be placed on the outside area which is covered with long rank grass.

Calf and lamb day at Mauriceville, Ngaumu Road not represented because of measles.

1955 Mid term report

Removal of Wendy House. With the school roll increasing the Wendy house has gone to the playshed

Firewood additional logs have been cut up by the boys and the School Committee have agreed to cut up the logs with a chain saw.

A springboard has been made for tumble mat activities but it should be used with discretion on account of the potential dangers involved in its use.

Additional woodwork tools have been purchased.