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Waitangi Tribunal
14 Apr 2026
Ministry of Justice
WELLINGTON

Chronology of key events for the Wai 3553 Education Urgent Inquiry

Date	Event	Evidence
1989	Education Act passed	A43 – Andy Jackson, p 2
2008	Te Marautanga o Aotearoa (**TMoA**) was created in 2008 to provide guidance for those learning in te reo Māori	A17 – Jessie Moss, pp 2 – 3
2016	Ministry of Education (**MOE**) raised the topic of improving the quality and delivery of Te Reo Māori in English Medium Secondary Schools	A31(a) – Appendix to BOE of Dr Raewyn Janeen Mahara, p 62
2017	Curriculum experts published "Te Marautanga o Aotearoa: Visions of a National Māori Curriculum"	A17 – Jessie Moss, p 2
2018	Legislative requirement for the NCEA Review to be underway by December 2018	A24(a) – Melanie Webber, p 5
September 2019	Tomorrow's Schools Independent Taskforce released its final report, recommending that school boards give effect to Te Tiriti o Waitangi	A17(a) – Jessie Moss, p 128 and 173
22 October 2019	Cabinet Office Circular "Te Tiriti o Waitangi / Treaty of Waitangi Guidance" (22 October 2019) CO (19) 5	A43 – Andy Jackson – p 9, FN 23
2019	Introduction of Te Ahu o Te Reo Māori, supporting teachers to embed te reo Māori in the curriculum	A24(a) – Appendix A to BOE of Chris Abercrombie, p 56
2020	Kōrero Mātauranga consultation closed, with over 43,000 participants providing feedback on education sector changes	A24(a) – Chris Abercrombie, p 56
2020	Section 127(1)(d) Education and Training Act 2020 - Required school boards to "give effect to Te Tiriti o Waitangi"	A43(a) – Appendix to BOE of Andy Jackson, p 56 A31 – Dr Raewyn Janeen Mahara – pp 16 and 20 – 21 A28 – John Rangiteremauri Heremia, p 12
25 November 2020	Kawa Whakapūmau signed between Ngā Kura ā Iwi o Aotearoa (**NKAI**) and Ministry of Education	A 29 – Watson Ohia, p 4
2021	Aotearoa Social Studies Educators' Network (**ASSEN**) and New Zealand History Teachers' Association (**NZHTA**) received funding, to support the implementation of Aotearoa New Zealand Histories Curriculum and NCEA changes	A27 – Jane Jarman, p 1 A26 – Alicia Lynne Poroa, p 3
2021	Draft of Aotearoa New Zealand Histories Curriculum released.	A26 – Alicia Lynne Poroa, p 2

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March 2022	Aotearoa New Zealand's Histories Curriculum **(ANZH)** released – compulsory in all schools from Term 1, 2023	A24(a) – Chris Abercrombie, p 12
December 2022	Indigenous Māori structure of Tirewa agreed	A17(a) – Exhibits to BOE of Jessie Moss Hayward, p 6
February 2022	Ministry announced Te Rōpū Whāiti advisory group - Expert advice on redesign of TMoA	A17 – Jessie Moss, p 3
2023	Te Mātaiaho co-designed version accepted - Centred on Te Tiriti o Waitangi	A17(a) - Exhibits to BOE of Jessie Moss Hayward
Nov 2023	Maori Advisory Group (**MAG**) was established	A17 – Jessie Moss, p 6
Throughout 2023	Te Rōpū Whāiti continued work on Tirewa model - Framework for TMoA	A17 – Jessie Moss, p 5 and 14
January 2023	MAG Terms of Reference set - No Māori on MAG	A17 – Jessie Moss, p 6
March 2023	Ministry progressing procurement of Lead Writers - Te Tirewa Marautanga, aiming to complete eight Tirewa Matamua by end of 2023	A17 – Jessie Moss – p 6
Late December 2023	Minister Stanford engaged with MAG Chair - Authorised work outside MAG Terms of Reference	A18 – Bevan Holloway, p 3
April 9, 2024	Te Rōpū Whāiti disestablished	A17 – Jessie Moss, p 7
April 12, 2024	Education Report recommended design principles – New Zealand Curriculum (**NZC**) refresh	A17(a) – Exhibits to BOE of Jessie Moss Hayward, pp 63 – 64
April 16, 2024	Education Report signalled shift in TMoA redesign - From localised curriculum to national curriculum	A17 – Jessie Moss, p 8
April 30, 2024	Minister Stanford received Education Report - TMoA	A17 – Jessie Moss, p 9
29 May 2024	Cabinet Social Outcomes Committee Minute - "Establishing a Knowledge-rich National Curriculum Grounded in the Science of Learning"	A44 – Pauline Cleaver, p 6, FN 13 and 14 SOU-24-MIN-0051
4 June 2024	Cabinet Paper "Establishing a knowledge-rich national curriculum grounded in the science of learning"	A17(a), Exhibits to BOE of Jessie Moss Hayward, pp 94 – 106
31 July 2024	Cabinet Social Outcomes Committee Minute "Clarifying Obligations and Strategic Priorities for School Boards: Release of Consultation Document"	SOU-24-MIN-0088
September-October 2024	Ministry consultation on school board objectives and changes to s 127. Lessels describe in detail the Ministry's September – October 2024 consultation on	A12 – Ripeka Lessels, pp 11 – 25

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	changes to s 127, New Zealand Educational Institute (**NZEI**) submission on 11 October 2024, and the inadequacy of that process.	
2 September 2024 to 14 October 2024	Consultation on school board objectives	A12 – Ripeka Lessels
16 September 2024	Briefing note sent to Minister - Approach to remaining NZC writing groups and content for refreshed NZC and redesigned TMoA	A 17(a) – Exhibits to BOE of Jessie Moss Hayward pp 179 – 187
28 March 2025	Ministerial approval for Senior English Curriculum release	A 18(a) – Exhibits to BOE of Bevan Holloway, p 187
7 April 2025	Education and Training Amendment Bill (No 2) introduced to Parliament	A12 – Ripeka Lessels, p 6, para 27
14 May 2025	Bill sent to Select Committee	A12 – Ripeka Lessels, p 6, para 27
12 June 2025	NZEI written submission to Select Committee.	A12 – Ripeka Lessels, p 7, para 28
11 July 2025	NZEI oral submission to Select Committee	A12 – Ripeka Lessels, p 8, para 33
23 July 2025	Minister Stanford public interview - Intent to remove Te Tiriti from the Act "in one go"	A18 – Bevan Holloway, p 8
17 September 2025	Ministry of Education Report - The Treaty References Review and relevant clauses in the Education and Training Act 2020	A43 – Andy Jackson, pp 200 – 213 METIS 1352221
15 October 2025	Cabinet agreed to removal of s 127(1)(d)	A29 – Watson Ohia, para 44
28 October 2025	Draft updated NZ Curriculum | Te Mātaiaho issued	A44 – Pauline Cleaver, p 38, para 100
11 November 2025	Bill passed third reading	A12 – Ripeka Lessels, p 42
19 November 2025	s 127(1)(d) removed / Act came into force	A29 – Watson Ohia, at pp 21, 33, 43 and 45
26 November 2025	NKAI Executive Board resolution to support this Tribunal case	A29 – Watson Ohia, p 87
November 2025	"Te Rārangi Rangatira – Schools that will continue to give effect to Te Tiriti o Waitangi" petition	A 14 – Naomi Taylor and Sian Smith, p 4
3 December 2025	NKAI AGM; decision to bring NKAI's voice formally before the Tribunal	A29 – Watson Ohia, p 14
24 April 2026	Consultations close on NZC and TMoA	A44 – Pauline Cleaver, p 38, para 100