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<th>To:</th>
<th>Hon Chris Hipkins, Minister of Education</th>
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<td>Date:</td>
<td>20 February 2019</td>
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<td>Priority:</td>
<td>Medium</td>
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<td>Drafter:</td>
<td>Patrick McKibbin</td>
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<td>Business and Employer Liaison Manager</td>
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<td>DDI:</td>
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<td>Key Contact:</td>
<td>Rose Jamieson</td>
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<td>Deputy Secretary (Acting),</td>
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<td>Parent Information and Community Intelligence</td>
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<td>Messaging seen by</td>
<td>No</td>
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<td>Communications team:</td>
<td>Round Robin: No</td>
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Tēnā koe Minister,

Purpose of Report:

This report provides you with information about the Y-Tech 2019 event on Saturday 23 March 2019. Y-Tech is a free student organised event aimed at providing youth aged 14 to 20 with insight into the field of technology and work. Y-Tech would like to extend an invitation to you to record a short video offering your support and encouragement to the students attending.
Recommended Actions

The Ministry of Education recommends you:

a. note that Y-Tech2K19 is being held on Saturday 23 March 2019 in Auckland;

b. agree to record a short video that would be played at the event;

c. proactively release this Education Report as part of the next publication.

Rose Jamieson
Deputy Secretary (Acting)
Parent Information and Community Intelligence

19 / 02 / 2019

Hon Chris Hipkins
Minister of Education

24 / 2 / 19
Background

1. Y-Tech are events created by youth for youth to help connect, motivate, inspire and educate secondary students on how technology is part of every business and career today.

2. Y-Tech held their first event on Saturday 17 Feb 2018 in Auckland and was organised by a group of seven students from Manurewa High School, Aorere College, and McAuley High School. The event, attended by over 100 students, was focused on introducing students to the world of technology at work. The event was hosted by Datacom and supported by a number of organisations which ran workshops and presentations including Air New Zealand, ICE Professionals, OMGTech, Microsoft, Xero, Media Design School, and GirlBoss.

3. For the first Y-Tech event the Prime Minister provided a short video welcoming and encouraging the participants to the event. The video was played at the start of the day and at the afternoon session. It was well received by the young people at the event. The link to this video is: https://www.facebook.com/ytech2k18/videos/prime-ministers-message-for-ytech-attendees/170653050206/.

4. In August 2018 the same Y-Tech student team organised and ran a second event, 'Walking on Mars' in Auckland. This event took students through a space journey by Tom Soderstrom: IT Chief Technology and Innovation leader at NASA’s Mission Control. It was attended by over 150 young people, parents and teachers from across five schools in Auckland. Approximately 40% of attendees were female students. The event was hosted at Manukau Institute of Technology and supported by Michelle Dickinson (Nanogirl), NASA, Microsoft, Datacom, ATEED and Techwomen NZ.

2019 Y-Tech Event

5. In 2019 a new group of eight students from Manurewa High School, Marist College, Papatoetoe High School, Westlake High School, Western Springs High School and McAuley High School are organising the first 2019 Y-Tech event.

6. The Y-Tech 2019 event will be focused on Artificial Intelligence (AI) and will be held at the University of Auckland, School of Computer Science on Saturday 23 March. The event will:
   - introduce over 250 students, parents and teachers to the world of AI
   - feature hands-on workshops supported by Amazon Web Services, Datacom, IBM, Air New Zealand, as well as two PHD students from AUT
   - Connect via video link to two successful New Zealand entrepreneurs working in the USA. They are
     - Alex Kendall, Co-Founder at Wayve.ai who is pioneering AI software for self-driving cars
     - Craig Neville Manning, Chief Technology Officer at Sidewalk Labs, who are developing AI based new urban technologies.

7. The organising students have asked that you consider shooting a short video to introduce and support the event and the students who have organised the gathering. The video would be up to 1 minute and 30 seconds and would be in a relaxed and informal style.
Video Content Notes

8. We have prepared some suggested content for the video for your consideration. The content is based on the development and growth of AI and how this links to the Digital Technologies and the Hangarau Mathiko curriculum. A draft script is attached as Annex 1.

Proactive Release

9. We recommend that this report is proactively released as per your expectation that information be released as soon as possible. Any information which may need to be withheld will be done so in line with the provisions of the Official Information Act 1982.

Next Steps

10. If you agree to shoot the video we will work with your office to make the arrangements.

Annexes

Annex 1: Draft video content
Kia ora everyone.


I'm sorry I'm unable to join you today, though I wish I was there. I saw the invitation and it looks like a lot of really cool and exciting stuff is in store for you today.

I understand that for this year, Y-Tech is all about artificial intelligence and the skills that young people must start learning now to succeed in a future where technology plays a bigger role at work and in our everyday life.

Technology continues to evolve at such a rapid pace and we must keep up – to continue learning and upskilling ourselves – to not be afraid of it and ensure that we maximise its benefits.

I think it's sometimes easy for us to underestimate just how wide the impact of these technologies might be. But I think if I'd told some of my predecessors, that as Minister of Education I'd be having conversations with people about education through Facebook Live, they'd be surprised to see how far – and how fast – technology is changing the way we work and interact with each other.

This event is a great opportunity for you to see and think about how the technologies of today, such as Al, can shape the future for you, the education sector and New Zealand. This event is an important step in shaping your thinking about your possible pathways and careers and how you can be best prepared to ensure that you have the right skills when you enter the workforce.

As Minister of Education, I'm excited about this because it links well with the roll out the Digital Technologies and Hangarau Mathihko curriculum and careers education across all schools and kura to help equip learners with the skills and knowledge to participate, create and thrive in whatever pathway they choose to take.

I would also like to congratulate the young students who organised this event. Aimee, Angela, Gauri, Grace, Simran, Tia, Luisa, Daniel, Durresameen and Jack - you should be proud of yourselves for what you've accomplished. This is a great example of young people taking leadership and initiative to see what's out there and build relationships with the industry. I wish you all the best and hope you enjoy the rest of the day.

[ENDS]