



Tēnā koutou katoa.

Ko Appalachian ngā Maunga.

Ko Ranatiki te Moana.

Ko Eno te Awa.

Ko Koru, Aotearoa, te waka rere rangi.

Nō Amerika au, engari, ināianeī e noho ana au ki Hauraki.

Ko Jim Hoover tōku matua.

Ko Helen Alexander tōku whaea.

Nō Iowa a rāua whanau.

Ko Tom Sorensen taku hoa tāne.

Ko Ann Hoover ahau.

I am one of the Learning Support Coordinators for the Thames Kuaeranga Kāhui Ako. The other Learning Support Coordinator is Lynley Russek. We work in all the surrounding primary schools and Thames High School. We are also making connections with the nine Early Childhood Centres.

I have a varied career as a classroom teacher and as a Resource Teacher of Learning and Behaviour. I have taught in both primary and secondary settings. My first teaching position in Thames was at Thames High School in 1999, where I ran the Experience Unit. My most recent classroom teaching role was at Paeroa College where I was one of the cross curricular teachers for Year 9 and Year 10. Prior to that position I was an English teacher,

teaching Year 9 – Year 12 English. In 2017, I joined the Hauraki RTLB service. I was a RTLB based at Pārāwai School until the end of 2019. I am married to Thames High School alumni, Tom Sorensen. I am the proud Step-Mum to four daughters and two sons in law, proud Mum to one son and two daughters, and the super proud Gran to four grandsons and one granddaughter.

The Learning Support Coordinator role is a new initiative by the Ministry of Education. “The purpose of the LSC role is to make sure that children and young people with mild-to-moderate neurodiverse, or high-and-complex learning support needs receive appropriate help when they need it.” (MOE, 2020, p. 5). Our mandate is to work with whanau, tamariki, taiohi, staff, and other agencies to provide the support students need to thrive. One of our first task is to create a register of the learning needs in our community. This includes the learning needs of students with giftedness or exceptionalities, as well as students who are disengaged or in danger of being disengaged. Another aspect of our role is to ensure that transitions from Early Childhood to primary, from primary to secondary, and from secondary to jobs/tertiary education are well planned. The role of Learning Support Coordinator is an exciting one that is meant to be responsive to the needs of our community. Please feel free to contact me or Lynley if you have any questions about our new role. I look forward to working and learning with you.

Ann Hoover

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027 315 4838

Ministry of Education. (2020). *Learning Support Coordinator A Guide to the Role*. Cognition Education for the New Zealand Ministry of Education.