

## Federation Flyer 2015



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### President's Message

Federation Flyer 21 – 14 August 2015



Tēnā koe

This week I attended the International Confederation of Principals' Council (ICP) meeting in Helsinki, Finland. Forty six New Zealanders, mostly principals, took this opportunity to learn more about the Finnish education system, listen to other educators, interact with colleagues from 46 nations and some of our secondary colleagues presented workshops. Interacting with international colleagues gave us the opportunity to identify common issues as well as better understand differences.

The ICP Council met for two days prior to the conference and discussed a variety of topics. The Council is an umbrella organisation representing principals across the globe. NZPF is a member of the ICP council. Its members are individual, groups and organisations of school principals and aspiring principals. The Council's role is to connect and support the international community of school principals. The meeting highlighted the commonality of issues facing principals world-wide.

The first issue highlighted was principal health and well-being and how local principal associations can best support each other. Philip Riley, Associate Professor of Educational Leadership at the Australian Catholic University presented the findings from his survey research which indicated that urgent intervention is required to reverse the decline in principal health and well-being. His findings are echoed in the research undertaken by Cathy Wylie of the New Zealand Council for Education Research (NZCER).

The major findings of Riley's research were that unsustainable workloads, excessive accountabilities and unrealistic expectations are contributing to principal 'burn out'. This message resonated around the Council table.

The principals of a number of the countries are already supported by providing mentors or coaches. NZPF lobbied strenuously to establish a similar role and a principal advisor has been appointed in Northland. We are now working alongside the Ministry, NZCER and the Te Tai Tokerau Principals' Association to build a model for evaluating the position. The evaluation evidence will in turn provide support for a bid in the next Budget to appoint further positions.

A second major theme emerging from the Council meeting was the importance of principal groups having influence on policy development, and not just tinkering with what is handed down by governments. It was agreed that it is time to step up to this leadership challenge. In NZ, our sector leaders recognise it will take courage, creativeness and collective action to achieve this. As a first step we have formed an action group to work together on school resourcing.

The latest OECD's PISA results will be released later this year and like many of our international colleagues, NZPF is concerned about the simplistic way in which the results are reported by media and governments. League tables devoid of any country context are the basis of reporting. The full OECD report is information rich but too complex to be synthesised into media sound bytes. Some would argue it might also favour a government's agenda to keep debate focussed only on the simple league table results. ICP will be releasing a statement later in the year highlighting that country context should accompany the publication of league tables in future. NZPF will be endorsing that request.

Our warm congratulations to NZPF's Vice President, Iain Taylor, who has been elected to represent the Asia/Oceania region for ICP. Iain's role will be to foster collaboration amongst the countries of this region. He will be working closely with our Australian colleagues to develop ways in which we can strengthen regional ties and support colleagues in less advanced countries.

To access presentations from the ICP conference click on the link <http://www.confedent.fi/icp2015/>

Noho ora mai ra



Denise Torrey  
[denise@nzpf.ac.nz](mailto:denise@nzpf.ac.nz)

## UPCOMING DATES

25 August	Electoral roll for national elections closes
28-29 August	Executive Meeting, Auckland
1 September	Electronic voting for national executive underway
20 September	Electronic voting closes
24 September	Election results declared

## NOTICE FOR SCHOOL NEWSLETTERS

We have had a request from the Herald on Sunday to assist with the dissemination of an online survey for parents. They are looking for parent responses to the survey to provide evidence for trend-based stories. Parents do not have to identify themselves.

If you would like to support this request, below is a notice you could cut and paste into your next school newsletter.

### Be involved in school/parenting survey

The Herald on Sunday has this week launched an anonymous online survey on schooling and parenting and would love to have you involved. The survey takes about five minutes to fill out and can be found at: <http://form.jotform.co/form/50757154478868>. Respondents don't have to provide their names to the newspaper. The Herald on Sunday plans to write several trend-based stories on the survey responses.

## NZPF SERVICE AWARDS – RETIRING PRINCIPALS



To mark the retirement of school principals, NZPF has developed a special Service Award. If your local principals' association is aware of any retiring principals in your region then have your president [email](#) with the principal's name(s). We will prepare a Service Award which will be emailed to your president for framing and presenting at your local principals' association function

## TE AKATEA CONFERENCE

### Te Akatea, the Māori Principals' Association, is holding a national conference September 9 -11 2015

The theme is 'Our Children, our Treasure, our Future' and the programme includes world recognised experts in the field of indigenous education. The programme will also include the student voice because who better to listen to than the very young people for whom education is intended. Click [here](#) for the full programme and bios of speakers. As time is running out make sure you get your [registration](#) in immediately!

## BUSINESS PARTNERSHIPS

One of the undertakings the NZPF gives its business partners is that **at the very least, they are given the opportunity by members to quote for a product, service or solution. PLEASE support our business partners as their assistance is very important to NZPF and to you as members.**

### Gold



### Silver



### Bronze



### Interested in becoming an NZPF Business Partner?

We welcome enquiries from businesses that are interested in engaging with schools. If you would like to know how a partnership with NZPF can add value to your business, while supporting New Zealand education, please email [Gavin Beere](#) (NZPF's Business Partner Convenor), for an information package and further details about NZPF.

### National Office

New Zealand Principals' Federation | Level 8, The Bayleys Building | 36 Brandon Street | P O Box 25380 | Wellington 6146

Tel: 04 471 2338 | Fax: 04 471 2339 | Email: [office@nzpf.ac.nz](mailto:office@nzpf.ac.nz)

For a map showing the location of the National Office in Wellington [click here](#)

To update membership details [click here](#)