

Federation Flyer 2015



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President's Message

Federation Flyer 22 – 20 August 2015



Tēnā koe

Last weekend I attended the PB4L conference in Auckland. My personal congratulations to Martin Henry, PPTA for the superb organisation of the conference and to MC, Phil Palfrey of NZPF who kept continuity throughout with reflective comments and his irrepressible wit.

The conference engaged and inspired teachers and leaders of schools already subscribing to this uniquely New Zealand programme and excited many more seeking to join it.

The programme was born of discussions between the Ministry and sector leaders. Both groups shared common concerns about the growing diversity and intensity of behavioural issues facing teachers and principals in our schools. Since its inception some five years ago, the PB4L programme has grown in strength and popularity and there are now 602 schools involved in the programme with a further 200 seeking to join.

PB4L is a perfect example of successful collaboration between the Ministry and sector organisations. The conference reflected the concept of collaboration in both its organisation and its programme. What is so powerful about PB4L is that it has been developed especially for the New Zealand context. It is based on evidence drawn directly from our own schools. It is real and it is responsive.

In my last Flyer I reflected on the recent ICP conference where participants were urged to implement the same type of collaborative practice in policy setting. We know that when we have true collaboration between government, Ministry and the profession, we have a high chance of embedding policies which will work for the benefit of our children. We know that successful implementation of policy will occur when the profession has a voice in its development, because we are the ones who will bring the evidence, the context and every day reality to the policy making process to make it relevant. To achieve this we need the will and commitment of all three parties. We are currently some distance from reaching this goal.

Recently we joined with parent groups, teacher and leader organisations and boards to work with the Ministry on developing a set of common principles to co-construct a school resourcing policy. This work is now scuttled despite compelling evidence.

The result of government driving policy without recourse to the profession is that we get policy that is not helpful to children's learning or achievement.

For example a survey by the Te Tai Tokerau Principals' Association found that 51percent of the schools in their region lack appropriate resourcing and help from outside agencies for special needs students and students with behavioural challenges. As the findings of this survey emerged we simultaneously heard that there will be a third round of private charter school applications to be resourced from (public) vote education. Days earlier we heard that a failing private charter school in Whangaruru would be propped up with another \$129 million, a sum of money which could provide 7,000 hours of help for special education and children with behavioural issues in Northland. It is my belief that if the voice of the profession was heard in these policy discussions, far more New Zealand children would get the support they deserve and need to succeed.

We also listen to our international colleagues, such as Pasi Salsberg of Finland, who tells us that high performing education systems pay close attention to equity and excellence, to gender equality and to children's need for play. These are three important considerations in policy making if we want to achieve our own government's stated goal of lifting achievement.

On quite another matter, many of you have responded to the new requirements to be appraised against all practising teacher criteria, the professional standards and principal career structure development goals. Your comments indicate that you are finding all of this rather daunting and even unreasonable. I am working with ERO to produce some clear advice for you on this matter of appraisal.

Finally, a couple of reminders. First, the leave project requires your attention. Your CSV must be submitted by September 14. I have asked the Secretary for Education, Peter Hughes to consider some additional resourcing to support this project. Secondly, 2016 budgeting is not far away which means monitoring your banked staffing costs very carefully.

Noho ora mai ra

Denise Torrey
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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 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](mailto:Gavin.Beere@nzpf.ac.nz) (NZPF's Business Partner Convenor), for an information package and further details about NZPF.

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

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