

Federation Flyer 2015



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President's Message

Federation Flyer 7 – 19 March 2015



Tēnā koe

Tomorrow, I will welcome presidents from the regions to our annual NZPF Moot in Wellington. The programme for the day has been carefully crafted around the theme 'Taking the Lead'. We have chosen this theme to reflect the outstanding innovative practices that are occurring in our schools every day and have invited a number of different principals to share their work in collaborative practice, innovative ways of encouraging Māori to succeed as Māori, practices that lift Pasifika achievement, staff appraisal, PLD, and e-learning. The past six years have been tough, as education reforms have kicked in, and many have felt demoralised as a result. What hasn't changed however is the passion we, as professionals, feel for children and their learning. A principal very recently commented 'Schools are going really well...it's all the other stuff that is driving us mad!' That's why it is important that we revive our optimism and focus on taking the lead or more accurately, taking **back** the lead.

In preparation for the Moot, we surveyed regional presidents and found that right now the top leadership issue is support for principals and the most critical issue in schools is special education. Other issues identified included knowledge and skills for raising Māori and Pasifika student achievement. Your national executive had already identified these two issues as priority some time ago and I am pleased to report that work is well underway to addressing them.

Principal Support

ERO has demonstrated that when governance and leadership work together, it's magic and the positive impact on student outcomes is significant. The opposite is also the case. In fact we know that the complexities and demands of the principal's role are now such that principals are becoming more and more vulnerable.

NZPF noted last year that there are cases of Board/Principal conflict that have resulted in 'without prejudice' agreements in which a principal resigns, on the grounds that they will not be reported to the Teachers' Council. NZPF became aware of such cases (the details of which remain confidential under the 'without prejudice' agreement) last year and reported this to you. NZSTA argues that NZPF has provided no evidence to support such cases. That's not surprising! The use of 'without prejudice' communication is used so that offers can be made to settle claims without fear that those communications will later be used by the other party as an admission of liability. It's a kind of 'gagging' clause. So NZSTA is correct – NZPF will certainly **NOT** be supplying details of the cases.

In the wake of these and many more relationship break downs between principals and boards, NZPF lobbied to have a rural principal advisor appointed in Northland. Northland had a relatively high number of schools with statutory interventions and many of these were smaller rural schools. It is the view of NZPF that the principals of such schools are not receiving sufficient support and advice thus relationship issues escalate. We are thrilled to announce that the Ministry in partnership with Te Tai Tokerau Principals' Association, has now appointed the recently retired principal of Whangarei's Totara Grove School, David Hain, to this new position. It is entirely appropriate, in our view, to have an experienced, credible, former principal giving advice on leadership and management. The Ministry funds this position, whilst 'Team Solutions' University of Auckland, will be the employer. An advisory board is to be established comprising Ministry personnel, a 'Team Solutions' representative and a member of the Te Tai Tokerau Principals' Association. Despite criticisms from NZSTA that the advisory position will cross into their domain of responsibility, NZPF welcomes the move and congratulates the Ministry on establishing the position. Our lobby will now be for the Ministry in partnership with local principals' associations, to replicate this model in other areas of the country to support more principals.

Special Education

As the most pressing issue of all, special education has also been identified by the Ministry as needing improvement and streamlining. Throughout April and May this year Ministry staff will be holding regional meetings to seek your input and advice and I encourage you to participate in this process. It is your chance to have your say about what is working well in special education and what isn't. Until all your feedback is documented and categorised, there will be no positive progress on untangling the confusion in which 'special education' is currently enmeshed.

Collaboration

The Moot survey also asked presidents what was going well in the regions and to my surprise the most repeated answer was collaboration and collegiality. On the strength of this finding it would seem we don't really need a government policy to tell us to collaborate, but having access to money for funding collaborative projects would be a great policy! That is what NZEI

intends through its Joint Initiative. Currently NZEI staff members are visiting regions to talk about what forms of collaboration you would like to have funded through the IES funding allocation. Click [here](#) to access NZEI's 'Joint Initiative' document and contribute to the consultation process.

There are now fewer than three weeks left of term one. I hope you can all take some time to reflect and find pleasure in what you, your staff and your children have achieved so far.

Noho ora mai ra

Denise Torrey
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UPCOMING DATES

20 March	NZPF Moot for all presidents of regional principals' associations, Wellington
19 & 21 March	Executive Meeting, Wellington
6 April	Papers for Annual General Meeting close
5 May	Membership Awards applications close

CONFERENCE 2015



NZ PRINCIPALS' FEDERATION
CONFERENCE 2015

If you haven't already registered for the 2015 conference to be held in Wellington this year, register now by clicking [here](#).

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.

SINGAPORE CULTURAL CONNECTIONS TRIP FOR PRINCIPALS AND TEACHERS



Asia New Zealand
Foundation

Building New Zealanders' knowledge and understanding of Asia



The Singapore Cultural Connections Trip is an initiative to assist New Zealand schools to build connections with schools in Singapore.

The Asia New Zealand Foundation will lead 10 participants on a six-day tour to Singapore from 5 - 11 July 2015. Participants will spend time at schools and gain an understanding of Singapore's education system.

Applications due by 5pm Monday 30 March 2015

For more information click [here](#)

Contact: Sean O'Connor, Schools Coordinator email soconnor@asianz.org.nz DDI 64 4 470 8707 W asianz.org.nz

NZPF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



The Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held in Wellington on 2 July 2015. Section 16.9 of the constitution requires that any member wishing to give notice of any motion for consideration at the AGM must forward written notice of the motion to the National Secretary not less than 60 clear days before the date of the meeting.

If you do have a motion to put to the AGM, now is the time to send it in.

NZPF AWARDS



It is now time to be thinking about who you may wish to nominate for NZPF life membership, associate membership or service with distinction awards. Nominations close on **May 5 2015**.

Please refer to the [awards](#) section on the NZPF website or click [here](#) for more information.

For a nomination form click [here](#).

TTS – TELCO TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

NZPF extends a very warm welcome to our new bronze business partner [TTS](#), an ICT solutions, pedagogy driven company. That brings the total number of our bronze partners to seven. The NZPF president congratulates TTS and we encourage you to have a conversation with TTS to see whether they can support you to find solutions for any ICT issues in your school.

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](#)

To update membership details [click here](#)