

Kia ora members

Following the lead provided by a group of NZ academics last week, the APPA is also collecting signatories to our own Open Letter.

Please read below and reply to this email with your name and your school name if you would like to be added to the list of signatories. Jill Corkin (Snells Beach) and Kevin Bush (Te Hihi) have signed to get the ball rolling. Please reply by this Wednesday noon, as we hope to release this to the press on Wednesday afternoon. The letter will also be sent to the Prime Minister, the Minister of Education, other members of parliament, other principals' associations and groups, and relevant government officials, and will be published on the APPA website also.

We understand that you may face a dilemma in this matter in terms of having a differing view from your Board of Trustees. It is up to you, of course, to decide whether you can or will put your name to it - it is clearly stated as a principals' professional view for this reason.

We look forward to your participation.

Open Letter from Auckland Primary and Intermediate School Principals

As educational professionals we fully endorse concerns recently expressed by many New Zealand academics relating to the proposed publication of league tables of NZ primary and intermediate school students' performance based on this government's national standards.

The vast majority of NZ principals have expressed serious concerns about the validity of the national standards data since the inception of the policy. The experience of other countries is that the publication of league tables is damaging and misleading, and does not lead to improved learning outcomes.

As educational professionals we condemn any published league tables and urge the NZ public to do likewise.

Signatories

Kevin Bush	Te Hihi School
Jill Corkin	Snells Beach School