



PRINCIPAL MATTERS

NGĀ TUMUAKI O AOTEAROA

THE MOST RESPECTED AND INFLUENTIAL ADVOCATE FOR NEW ZEALAND'S PRINCIPALS

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President's Message



Kia ora e te whānau

I am proudly wearing my pink shirt today to support the message of Kōrero Mai, Kōrero Atu, Mauri Tū, Mauri Ora - Speak Up, Stand Together, Stop Bullying!

Celebrated annually around the globe, Pink Shirt Day began in Canada in 2007 when two students took a stand against homophobic bullying, after a peer was bullied for wearing a pink shirt.

Let's all commit to our schools being places where young people, staff and community, feel safe, valued and respected.

Reported rates of bullying in our schools are high! We have to call out bullying and create safe school environments that celebrate difference.

I know principals care deeply about this, so let's keep pushing hard and work for change.

Yesterday I attended the Budget Lockdown at Parliament followed by the Secretary of Education's briefing at the Ministry of Education. I was keen to learn about the Government's response to NZPF's strong calls for support for young people in crisis.

At the NZPF Moot 2021, Minister Tinetti committed to short, medium, and long-term solutions for behaviour.

I was pleased to note the following in the Vote Education 2021 Budget:

- \$24.3million to provide intensive support for our most vulnerable young learners at risk of disengaging with their learning
- \$17.7million of reprioritised funding to support young learners with wellbeing and behavioural needs that may be challenging to others
- \$4.4million to support alternative education services

The \$24.3million provides additional funding to improve provision of services in communication, behaviour and early intervention. This funding increase will have impact on more young people.

The \$17.7million will provide for a targeted increase in the number of places for the Intensive Wraparound Services (IWS). This is a direct short-term response to the call for more immediate help for behaviour. I was pleased to learn that the Ministry had completed a close analysis of the concern's principals had raised over the past few months through their examples of challenge and crisis with students. This analysis sought to drill down on the issues so that an immediate response could be generated that would provide the best targeted support. I am pleased to report that the Ministry recognises we need a referral pathway into IWS, that occurs at pace, when our most challenging young people are building to a crisis. To this end the Ministry will be working up an urgent referral process.

I am also pleased with the Ministry's commitment to stabilising the current alternative education options while the whole alternative education system is redesigned. I asked Minister Tinetti if the redesign would include alternative education options for primary and intermediate students and she confirmed, it would.

This is wonderful news. Principals have been calling for young people to have education options outside of the classroom so that we are not forced to suspend or exclude seriously traumatized young people displaying violent behaviour.

Minister Tinetti indicated that a further rollout of *Te Tupu Managed Moves* was being considered but that she needed more time to work through the redesign of alternative education.

I am pleased that Minister Tinetti has acknowledged the problem of dealing with complex young people and violent behaviour. I am pleased that this Budget shows the Government is listening, has provided a short-term response and has a plan for a more significant system response.

I acknowledge Minister Tinetti's integrity in responding to the concerns we have raised on your behalf. As a former principal, she understands the challenges of serious behaviour.

We now shift our focus to working with Government to further increase short-term resourcing for behaviour and progress the urgent redesign of alternative education.

Further provision of Learning Support Coordinators was not supported in Budget 2021. This is a glaring anomaly and inequitable. Ensuring this inequity is remedied is a major goal.

Also of significance for principals is the implementation of the *Tomorrow's Schools* recommendations to overhaul the Ministry - so it can refocus on serving schools through Education Service Agencies (ESA) - and institute a curriculum centre.

With a curriculum refresh underway, the work of this new curriculum centre will be pivotal. I am however less excited about the 'online curriculum hub'.

What we most need for schools to deliver a world class quality curriculum, is a team of expert curriculum advisors on the ground, not another website resource.

We have excellent curriculum subject experts working in our profession now, and they are the people who can make the curriculum refresh work. A curriculum centre staffed with practising educators who can lead in each curriculum discipline is key. We need to solve the plug-in between curriculum leadership and professional learning. Currently that link is broken, and we have a free-for-all PLD market-place.

At the Ministry of Education briefing yesterday we were informed that it is the intention of the Ministry to employ 48 new Advisors in the Education Service Agencies (ESA), at this stage they have yet to be designated 'curriculum' or 'leadership' and will be appointed by mid-2024. The exact detail around their role and relationship to professional learning is yet to be understood. We know the Ministry of Education has signaled the building of the ESA model in partnership with the profession starting in the second half of 2021 so we look forward to participating in this process. We want to once again establish a curriculum advisory service that provides the professional leadership in curriculum and pedagogy that our profession so sorely needs.

We look forward to learning more from the Secretary for Education. Waiting until 2024 before the provision of advisors is not a timely response to the urgent need for expert curriculum leadership and we urge the Government to provide the funding to establish these services at pace.

Ngā manaakitanga

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NZPF Notices



NZPF Conference Early Bird Deadline Closing Soon!

The Early Bird registration deadline has been extended to **Wednesday 26 May**. Get in now and take advantage of this at <http://www.nzpfconference.com>.

Speaker profile - Dr Michelle Johansson

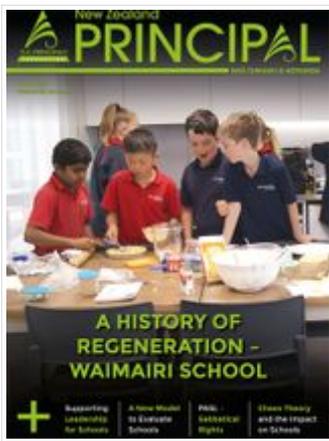
Michelle is a Polynesian theatre-maker and mother, doctoral scholar and former high school dropout. She serves as Kaitiaki|CEO of Ako Mātātupu: Teach First NZ; as Kaiwhakahaere at Māia Centre for Social Justice and Education; and as the Creative Director of the Black Friars Theatre Company. South Auckland, decile one born and bred, she is proud to work in the spaces where Education, Equity and the Performing Arts meet for Young Brown Scholars. Michelle brings high energy, passion, humility, strength and challenge to the conference - you will enjoy hearing what she has to say.



NZPF Grants for Rural Principals' Groups

NZPF annually awards grants of up to \$1000 to assist local Rural/Teaching Principals' Groups to run their own seminars and conferences. The following groups have been awarded grants to assist them in 2021:

- West Coast Primary Principals' Assn
- North Canterbury Principals' Assn
- Matamata Principals' Assn
- Gore and Districts Principals' Assn



NZ Principal Magazine also Online

You and/or your team members can easily access the NZ Principal Magazines online, as an e-magazine or as a PDF. Additionally you can search for a previous issue, an article by title or by the author of the article. All magazines back to Term 1 2012 are available in this format. To view or search click [here](#).

Useful Information



Dr Siouxsie Wiles to judge new STEAM competition

Samsung New Zealand is launching Solve for Tomorrow, a nationwide competition challenging New Zealand's next generation of innovators to change the world for good.

Delivered in partnership with the Museum of Transport and Technology (MOTAT) and open to Kiwi kids in Years 7-10, Solve for Tomorrow is designed to build interest and proficiency in STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics).

Award-winning scientist and 2021 New Zealander of the Year, Associate Professor Dr Siouxsie Wiles will judge entries alongside Julie Baker from MOTAT and Simon Smith from Samsung. The winning individuals or teams will share \$20,000 in prize money and Samsung tech for them and their school.

Solve for Tomorrow entries are open now until 31 August 2021. The inaugural New Zealand winners will be announced in September. To find out more, visit: www.samsung.com/nz/solvefortomorrow

Business Partners

NZPF assures its business partners that, as members, you will contact them to have a conversation if you are purchasing products, services or solutions for your schools that a business partner supplies. Please support our partners as their assistance to NZPF means better membership services to you.

Gold Partners



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Bronze Partners

