



# PRINCIPAL MATTERS

NGĀ TUMUAKI O AOTEAROA

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

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### President's Message



*Ko Tāne pupuke.  
Tāne is welling up.*

*Designs, thought and plans are springing up in profusion*

We have just celebrated Queen's Birthday weekend and with it the Queen's Birthday honours. My warmest congratulations to all educators who received awards and special congratulations to Patrick Walsh who receives the honour of Member of the Order (MNZM). Patrick is currently Principal of Sacred Heart College in Auckland, and was briefly an NZPF national executive member. He also serves on the Governance Board of the Teaching Council and has been a former President of SPANZ.

Today regional presidents and cluster leaders from across the country have descended on Wellington for the NZPF annual MOOT. A tradition begun in 1993, the MOOT is more of a discussion than an adjudicated Moot. Education Ministers of the day are invited to address the Regional Presidents, to share their priorities for education and Regional Presidents have the opportunity to ask questions of the Minister(s). Much of the day is spent discussing education issues and feeding back

regional views, aspirations and ideas.

Looking back, the same issues are raised again and again. But this year, there is a sense that while issues are the same, there is a possibility that we can make progress; to work with the MOE and other organizations and co-construct solutions to better support our tamariki. Why?

We are rebuilding -

Through the disruption of a pandemic, we have changed how we work at school. Because of logistics, time, energy and COVID, principals continue to prioritize what is most important and focus on that. Lots of layering of 'other stuff' has been stripped out, has fallen away, has been buried and is 'gone' – at least for now. Principals have been focused on how to support learning – at school and at home and on supporting teachers and staff to support learning – at school and at home.

The MOE are engaged -

At the same time the MOE has significantly shifted its 'modus operandum'. Across the country, MOE regional leaders have become real people, who have shared information through ZOOM sessions. They have listened to principals' questions and concerns and then looked at how best to address them. Not being 'miracle workers' they have done what they can with the resources they have. But, what has happened is they are facing the sector. They have engaged with the sector. They have worked hard to be responsive to the sector.

What to drop – what to keep -

As we look ahead, we need to make sure we are not too hasty in picking up all the missing pieces and shoving them back into the jigsaw that represents how schools worked 'pre-covid'. We need to carefully review the pieces that fell away and decide whether or not they are still 'fit for purpose'. From what we used to do, what has enough value to stay? If we have different learning priorities now because of COVID, do we need to build a new jigsaw that better meets the needs of our staff and students?

True collaboration works best -

At a systems level, the pandemic has accelerated our understanding of collaborative models that can be used to develop new knowledge. To share knowledge is one thing. To use the knowledge of the practitioners, the MOE and expert providers to create new knowledge together could create a stronger, truer and more enduring collaborative way of working. We have created the blueprint with COVID. We now need to apply this collaborative, co-constructed template to the 'Curriculum Refresh', leadership PLD, principal wellbeing, special needs, learning support, reengaging students in learning and mental health initiatives.

Could this be the taonga that comes from the legacy of a global pandemic?



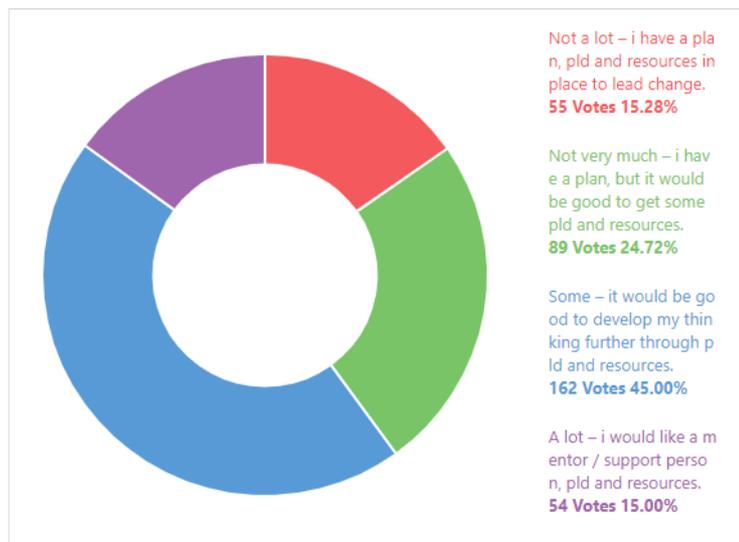
Wondering of the Week:

To what extent do you think collaboration between school leaders and the MOE has improved through this pandemic?

- Collaboration with the MOE has improved significantly.
- Collaboration with the MOE has improved a lot.
- Collaboration with the MOE has improved a bit.
- Collaboration with the MOE has not improved.

Results of last Week's poll:

When leading learning in my school, the amount of support I want is?



Ngā manaakitanga

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### NZPF Conference - Christchurch

The overarching theme of this year's conference is **Aotearoa ki te whai ao!** - Aotearoa and Beyond. We will be celebrating, sharing and learning from leaders, artists, pioneers, scholars and everyday people who have a connection to Aotearoa, have taken their talent to the world, and who push boundaries to achieve the very best for us and our country!

The conference will be held at the new **Te Pae, Christchurch Convention and Exhibition Centre**, on 14 - 16 September.

For further details and to register for the conference, please visit the [website](#).

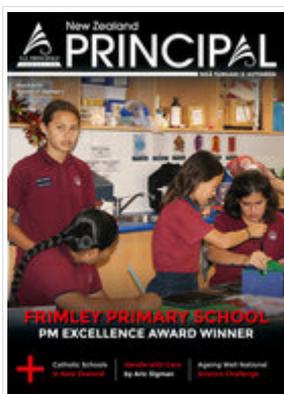


### Nominations for NZPF Election 2022

Nominations are now open for NZPF President and Vice President for 2023.

Click [here](#) to download a nomination form.

Nominations close on 5 August and the electoral roll closes on 25 August. Your subscription payment must be received by this date in order to be eligible for voting.



### 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](#).



### Sir David Levene Essay Competition

How do we break down barriers between communities to improve social cohesion in New Zealand?

That's the question Year 12 and 13 students will be invited to answer in a new essay competition to acknowledge the immense contribution of the late Sir David Levene.

The Auckland businessman and philanthropist, who died last August, changed the lives of many New Zealanders. He supported more than 400 charities including the Halberg Foundation, helped establish Outward Bound and backed champion New Zealand golfer Lydia Ko.

The essay competition is being run by the [Astor Foundation](#) which is a charitable organisation co-founded by Sir David to empower young people and communities achieve all they can – and to make New Zealand a better place.

For further details about the competition, click [here](#).



### Shine a light on extraordinary teachers and principals

#### National Excellence in Teaching Awards

Nominations are now open for the [Futurity](#) sponsored, National Excellence in Teaching Awards (NEiTA). Now in their 27<sup>th</sup> year, these awards recognise talented, caring and dedicated teachers and education leaders who display outstanding resilience and passion. Nominations can be made by anyone in the wider school community including parents, fellow educators, school councils and other community members [here](#). Up to six educators will receive a professional development grant of \$5,000, or \$10,000 to further their career. The 2022 nominations are open until 17 July. Download a nomination pack for your school [here](#). Let's acknowledge the hard work and dedication shown by teachers in Aotearoa. [Nominate](#) an educator today.

## 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.

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