



# PRINCIPAL MATTERS

NGĀ TUMUAKI O AOTEAROA

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

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## Issue 1, 31 January 2020

### President's Message



Ko Kaukau tōku maunga  
Ko Whanganui a tara tōku moana  
Ko Awakairangi tōku awa  
Ko Oriental tōku waka  
Ko Pākeha tōku iwi  
Ko Rush tōku hapū  
Ko Perry Rush tōku ingoa

Kia ora e te whānau

It is a privilege to write to you as National President of the New Zealand Principals' Federation.

Welcome to the 2020 school year, an election year no less. Working together, we can power up our collective professional muscle and set out our expectations for all political parties to consider.

I have taken time away from my principalship at Hastings Intermediate this year and I am very grateful to the students, staff and Board for allowing me to step away. I am also grateful for your support in electing me to the position of National President. Thank you. It is a responsibility that I take seriously.

The privilege of this job is that it lets you wonder out loud. I've been wondering about a few things lately.

I wonder why government has funded Learning Support Coordinators but not Student Counsellors for primary and intermediate schools.

I wonder why we haven't addressed the soup that is mathematics teaching. Achievement rates are declining.

I wonder why we don't congratulate more schools working in open, collaborate and flexible ways as brave and forward thinking. I wonder why we aren't talking more about the sort of teaching and approaches that enable these environments to be effective for every learner.

I wonder whether a Leadership Centre in the Teaching Council will straitjacket leadership with a fixed curriculum and ideas about 'a certain sort of leader' or whether it will fully embrace leadership in all its diversity and place the emphasis on practice-based leadership.

I wonder why, in the third decade of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, 180 years after the signing the Treaty of Waitangi, we are still debating whether Te Reo Māori should be compulsory in schooling.

I wonder how teachers can teach the practice of visual art, drama, dance and music when many pre-service training programmes in universities have no such practice-based component.

I wonder why we aren't talking more about the experience of being a young person in this modern age. We have one of the highest youth suicide rates in the OECD. What practical steps are we taking to address this appalling situation?

I wonder when we will act on managing the damaging aspects of 'social media' and 'open internet access' for young people.

I wonder how we might showcase the schools with outstanding and innovative approaches to localising their curriculum.

I wonder whether we can articulate our beliefs about learning, concisely and with conviction.

This year, I encourage you to participate in the conversations you have been wanting to have about school leadership and

schooling. We shouldn't be shy about attacking the issues that will bring change. It is our responsibility to influence schooling.

I am concerned that successive governments have beaten the sass out of school principalship. Let's find it again. Let's be true to our commitment to hold practice-based leadership and respect for diversity at the heart of everything we do even if that offends our political masters. It is the wellbeing of young people and the integrity of the learning experience that holds us accountable.

In the 'Useful Information' section of this newsletter (see below), I have included a few headings introducing some critical issues we are dealing with right now including the Coronavirus, the Education & Training Bill, Teaching Council fees increases and a new digital technologies tool.

Have a fantastic year and start by expecting change. I want to hear your wonderings and more than that, I want to see action on the issues that matter. I value your feedback about all things educational or otherwise. Do please be in touch.

Ngā manaakitanga

Perry Rush

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## 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

### Coronavirus

If you missed the Special Flyer sent on Tuesday, then please find it [here](#).

The advice provided by the Secretary of Education about managing the risk presented by the virus is clear. The links provided are an excellent source of up-to-date information. As we track how this challenge unfolds please use these resources to keep abreast of advice and act with confidence as you respond to keep your students, staff and community safe.



### Consultation on the Education and Training Bill

You may not be aware that this Bill replaces the Education Act. It is particularly important that you understand the proposed changes and consider making a submission. The Bill is huge with 621 clauses however the section dealing with provision for primary and secondary schooling is Part 3 of the Bill. Much of the Bill is unchanged from the Act. The best way to appraise yourself of the proposed changes is to review [this summary](#).

Submissions must be made by 14 February and can be made [here](#).

NZPF will make a submission on your behalf and we will share this with you in due course. Should you feel strongly about any aspect of the proposed changes then please contact me directly as your perspective will assist us in developing depth and breath as we frame our submission.

My email is [perry@nzpf.ac.nz](mailto:perry@nzpf.ac.nz)

## NZPF Notices



### NZPF Moot

The NZPF Moot will be held on Friday 13 March 2020. All regional and large cluster presidents will be invited to this one day event, which provides an opportunity to give feedback from regional membership. What we look forward to is a robust debate on prominent issues that you raise.



### APPA-NZPF Trans-Tasman Conference 2020

This year's conference will be held in Melbourne from 15 - 18 September 2020.

Click [here](#) for registration or to find out more information.

# TEACHING COUNCIL

NEW ZEALAND | Matatū Aotearoa

## Consultation on the Proposed Changes to the Teaching Council of Aotearoa New Zealand Fees

Feedback is currently sought about the proposed fee increase. Many teachers and principals may be surprised at the scale of the proposed increase. I encourage you to read the background information provided by the Teaching Council. It can be found [here](#).

It provides excellent information about the role of the Teaching Council, a summary of the proposed changes and importantly, comparative information about fees charged by other professional bodies. I encourage you to consider what the Teaching Council provides and its mandate and make a submission. It is in the interests of our profession to have a strong and effective professional body.



## Digital Technologies Support Tool

The Ministry of Education has recently launched the Digital Technologies Implementation support tool. It can be found [here](#).



## Ann Milne Online

We all know that our education system needs to do much better for our Māori and Pasifika learners. These new online courses bring my decades of experience and leadership in this field directly to you. I'll guide you each step of the way through the often challenging but immensely rewarding process of developing a critical, culturally sustaining approach in your teaching and leadership.

Learn in your own time, online, at your own pace.

- Three courses – five modules in each, approx. 10 hours per module.
- Each course builds on the previous one, but they may also be done separately and in any order.
- Course One will be available from 31 January 2020 (first three modules, with the remaining two modules launching 14 February)

- Courses Two and Three will be available from April 2020.

ALL details including special rates and course outlines are available at <https://www.annmilne.co.nz/online>

Ann Milne Ph.D.

## 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



### Silver Partners



### Bronze Partners

