



PRINCIPAL MATTERS

NGĀ TUMUAKI O AOTEAROA

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

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President's Message



*He nui maunga e kore e taea te whakaneke, he nui ngaru moana mā te ihu o te waka e wāhi.
A great mountain cannot be moved, a giant wave can be broken by the canoe's prow.*

Tēnā koe

I want to begin by acknowledging the outstanding work our Nelson colleagues, school leaders, teachers and staff have done to support students and whānau through the weather events that have hit the region. You have taken daily logistics planning to a whole new level. As with the pandemic, we sincerely hope you are now through the worst of the winter weather.

Managing self and mental health:

This week I had the privilege of attending the AIMS Conference in Taupo. The conference team did a great job, lining up a series of expert speakers. Professor Richie Poulton spoke about the 'Dunedin Study' which started 50 years ago. This longitudinal study is regarded as one of the most important in the world. He highlighted a key finding from the study, which is

that *self control* is the most significant predictor of success in life.

From as early as two, children's levels of self-control were evident. Taking into account socio-economic factors and context, tracking 1007 participants over 50 years has shown that participants' EQ has mattered more than their IQ. Over time, participants who had stronger self management from an early age were more focused, found it easier to make friends, did better at school, had positive relationships as adults and generally have made choices that helped them lead positive, successful lives.

When we consider this finding in the context of a pandemic and a general societal increase in anxiety, stress and trauma, mental health is another learning area we need to understand and know more about. In doing so, we will better support the mental wellbeing of students coping with disrupted learning routines, lost learning time, emotional upheaval, isolation from friends and unfiltered social media influences.

Some schools have initiated some excellent ways to create a safe, welcoming environment that caters for students with increasingly diverse needs. These include trauma-informed practice PLD; mindfulness and how to integrate mindfulness techniques within the school day; yoga; counselling for students staff and/or whānau and individualized programmes for vulnerable students.

Dr Michael Carr-Greg, a renowned child and adolescent psychologist, challenged school leaders to get creative and initiate solutions to build students' resilience. He suggested teaching students strategies to manage their anger, to make and maintain good friends and to engage in learning based upon their strengths, interests and talents.

What support would help?

To support students' mental health, we need to think at school level and systems level. While schools create the mental health initiatives, systems support needs to include

- Stabilization of the 2023 staffing, so excess teachers could be used to develop and lead initiatives in this area
- Funding of the next tranche of LSCs
- Regional MOE community navigators to support schools to find specialist support needed for our most 'at-risk' students and whānau
- Mindfulness PLD, resources and activities for schools

We need to invest in our tamariki now because "While children may be 20% of the population, they are 100% of our future". (Tony Blair)

- Panel responses to challenging questions about the PGC and leadership development from principals
- A final word from the webinar facilitator

The webinar will be recorded, so people who cannot attend in real time, will be able to view it. To register your interest please follow the [link](#)

A Collective Bargaining Update:

We are now officially in the season of 'Collective Bargaining' with both PPCB and NZEI have initiated bargaining with the MOE. The MOE will be negotiating with each union separately.

To support all NZPF members in the collective bargaining process, at our recent NZPF Executive meeting, the team voted to accept the NZEI offer to have a NZPF Representative at the NZEI bargaining table.

Each bargaining team will be doing all they can to ensure all principals get the best possible outcome from this collective bargaining round. We wish them well.

Relief teaching wins and the complexities of coding

The Bulletin this week provided more information about relief teaching support for schools. Thank you to those principals who highlighted the need to be able to use different codes for relief staff funding – and thank you to the MOE Workforce Team, who have worked hard to resolve as many of the issues raised as possible.

There is still work being done to resolve the teaching principals' dilemma of no release because there are no relievers.

If you need support to interpret the information about relief funding that has been provided please contact resourcing@education.govt.nz.

Wondering of the Week:

[How much expertise does your school staff have at this time, to respond to the mental health needs of your students?](#)

- School staff have strong knowledge, skills and strategies to support students' mental health and wellbeing
- School staff are developing knowledge, skills and strategies to support students' mental health and wellbeing
- Some school staff have some background in supporting students' mental health and wellbeing
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Leadership and the 'Professional Growth Cycle' – A PLD offering:

NZPF and NZEI, through the 'Ariki Trust' and The Teaching Council of Aotearoa, New Zealand have been working on a joint Leadership PLD project for principals.

To support principals to learn more about the 'Professional Growth Cycle' being used to underpin principal appraisals and leadership PLD, we have engaged Dr Lyn Bird to facilitate a webinar session for school leaders.

This will take place on Wednesday 21 September, 11.30 am to 12.30 pm.

The webinar will include

- An introduction to Te Ariki Project
- A panel sharing initial thoughts and experiences of leadership PLD (NZEI, NZPF, Ariki Trust member)
- From the Aotearoa Teaching Council - a 5-minute overview of the PGC, leadership

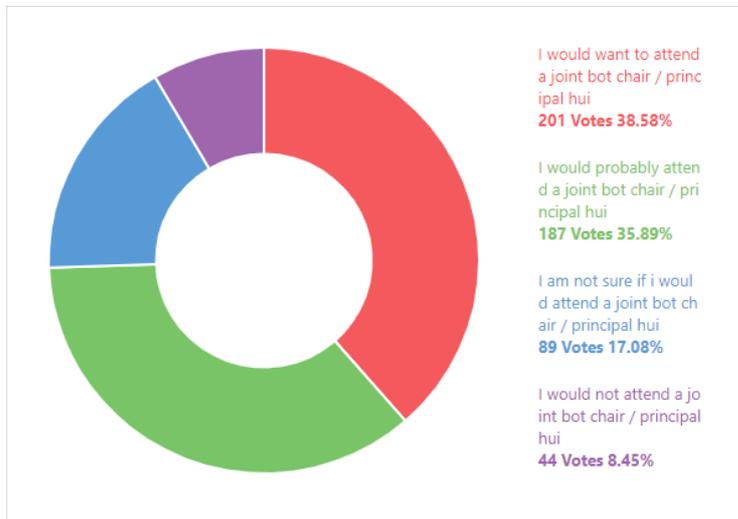
Development and its links to Ariki leadership and values

School staff need to access PLD in this area to support students' mental health and wellbeing

Vote

Results of last Week's poll:

The relationship between BOT chairpersons and principals is one of the most important in a school. If we were to organize a joint NZPF – NZSTA event / hui / conference for principals and BOT chairs to attend, would this be something you would support?



Ngā manaakitanga

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NZPF Notices



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](#).



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

Mathematics Curriculum Road Show

Details of the next eight Mathematics Road Show events are below.

Region	Date	Place	Time
Gisborne	5/9/2022	Lawson Theatre- The Rose Room	9am-2.30pm
Tauranga	6/9/2022	Armitage Hotel	9am-1pm
New Plymouth	7/9/2022	Plymouth International	9am-1pm
Central Otago	22/9/2022	Cromwell Presbyterian Church	9am-1pm
Bay of Islands	25/10/2022	Turner Center- Kerikeri	9am-1pm
West Auckland	7/11/2022	Black Salt Bar	9am-1pm
Invercargill	14/11/2022	Corinthian Centre	9am-1pm
Timaru	15/11/2022	The Grosvenor Hotel	9am-1pm

If you wish to register at one of these events, please email office@nzpf.ac.nz.

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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Bronze Partners

