



# PRINCIPAL MATTERS

NGĀ TUMUAKI O AOTEAROA

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

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## Issue 26, 26 September 2019

### President's Message



Kotahi - As one

Kotahi te hoe, ka ū te waka ki uta

Padding in unison the waka will reach land

Kia ora e te whānau

There are several issues to share with you in this last *Principal Matters* for the term. I apologise, in advance, that this panui is a little longer than usual.

### Equity Index to replace Decile System - but not till at least 2021

Discussions about the decile system of equity funding, are not new. We know that deciles are a blunt instrument for applying equity funding and we know that since their introduction we have seen a gradual shift of students from lower to higher decile schools. This is largely because people have come to see the decile number as a measure of quality, which it isn't.

NZPF welcomes the scrapping of the decile system and replacing it with an equity index form of funding for equity instead. The decile funding amounted to less than 3% of school funding, whilst comparable OECD countries are funding equity at 6-7%.

The index is intended to reflect the actual level of socio-economic disadvantage faced by children. It will consider the whole school population when assessing disadvantage, not just individual students.

Work already completed earlier on a Risk Index will be used in constructing the Equity Index but application of the equity index will be expanded to include education supports and resources such as school staffing, support for wellbeing, PLD and interventions.

Consultation on developing the Equity Index will begin soon and will be led by the Ministry. When that cycle is completed, a final recommendation will be sent to the Minister and Cabinet will discuss funding an Equity Budget, before the policy is implemented in schools.

The Ministry has released more information on this topic which you can access by clicking [here](#).

I urge you all to participate in the consultation phase as soon as it opens, so that all potential problems can be resolved before the final version of the policy goes to Cabinet for funding. For example, how will the equity index accommodate high levels of transience when students might attend three or four different schools in a year? How will equity funding travel from school to school? You will have many more questions for which you want answers.

The NZPF executive also has many questions and as a peak body we will be participating in the consultation process at a more formal level. You are welcome to contact me with your questions and comments about this policy and I will ensure they get heard in our own consultation work group.

NZPF believes that to have any chance of successfully addressing the inequities in our school system, we will need to apply at least 6% to the equity index funding budget. That would be at least double the decile funding budget.

## \$150 Donation Policy

You will all be aware of the \$150 donation policy that the Minister announced in May 2019. But you may not be so familiar with how it will operate in practice. It is important that you are up to speed on this issue because in another month's time you have to have completed your declaration form if you wish to opt in.

To opt into the donations scheme, Boards of Trustees from decile 1 – 7 schools have until **14 November** to do so. They will have to complete the online declaration form. Click on [this link](#) for the form.

There are three other forms that you need to be familiar with too. These are:

- [What families/whanau need to know about school/kura donations](#)
- [Draft requirements for Boards of Trustees of decile 1-7 schools and Kura choosing to Opt in to the donations scheme](#)
- [Draft requirements for decile 8-10 schools/kura Not opting in to the donations scheme](#)

## Board Elections

Earlier this year we had Board of Trustees elections. For many of you, there will have been changes including changes to your Board Chair. I want to emphasise the importance of the relationship between you and your Board Chair and encourage you all to quickly forge a strong and healthy working relationship with them.

As we look at our own NZPF helpline data and data from our Principals' Advice & Support [legal] scheme, most major issues you encounter stem from a severance of the relationship between you and your Board Chair. Look after yourselves and your Boards by keeping communication lines open.

Early next term, we will send out a special Flyer on legal and related advice. That way you have options about how you to protect yourself.

## Digital Technologies Curriculum

At our recent Executive meeting we discussed the Digital Technologies & Hangarau Matihiko (DT&HM) curriculum and our readiness to deliver this new curriculum. There is a self-review tool available to assess your school's level of DT&HM capability. Here is the link to the [self-review tool](#).

Once you have a good idea of the professional learning required of your staff you can access services to get ready for the delivery of the DT&HM curriculum by 2020.

Here is the link to those [professional supports](#).

## Principal Leadership Advisory (PLA)

I am including this section to remind you that Leadership Advisors are now available to support experienced as well as beginning principals. Leadership Advisors are all principals or recently retired principals and are employed under contract to Evaluation Associates.

Back in 2015 NZPF recognised that advisory and support services for principals had all but disappeared. They were invited by our Australian colleagues to visit New South Wales to observe and learn about the advisory system that operated there. We were then able to put together a proposal to the Ministry for a principals' advisory service for New Zealand principals. Once that was accepted and piloted, the Ministry accepted Evaluation Associates as the provider of the service and it has grown from there.

There are now 38 PLAs throughout the country supporting principals every day. PLAs work as coaches and mentors to principals. They are all experienced in many different school settings and bring professional credibility.

If you feel you want to talk through an issue or seek some advice on something, do not hesitate to call the service. You can have on-going support for up to two months if necessary. Here are the [contact details](#).

Last week I heard a message so powerful, I want to share it with you. It goes like this:

Imagine a river. On the left bank is Te Ao Māori and on the right bank is Te Ao Pākehā. Spanning the river is a bridge called Te Tiriti o Waitangi. Mostly it is Māori on the left bank who are walking across to the right bank, but not so many on the right bank walking to the left. The question is, where do you see yourself, as a school principal, on the bridge? Are you well across the bridge? Are you a short way onto the bridge? Or are you still on the bank?

I leave you with that thought as you head off for the last break before the summer holidays.

Ngā manaakitanga

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## NZPF Notices



## NZPF Grants for Rural Seminars and Conferences

NZPF annually awards grants of up to \$1000 to assist local Rural Principals' Groups to run their own seminars and conferences. Applications need to be made now to fund your conference in 2020.

For further information and an application form click [here](#). Applications close on 1 November.



## APPA-NZPF Trans-Tasman Conference 2020

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

Watch [this video](#) to find out more!



TE AKATEA



MĀORI ACHIEVEMENT COLLABORATIVE

## MAC Regional Facilitator - Job opportunities

Ka hikitia! Ka hikitia! Hiki hikitia! Tēnei te ara, ko te ara o ngā mātua tupuna he ara oranga, poipoia ngā mokopuna ngā rangatira mo apopo, ka tihei, tihei mauri ora!

Te Akatea Māori Principals Association seek Māori Achievement Collaborative (MACs) facilitators to deliver the MAC Kaupapa in a number of regions across Aotearoa.

These positions are fixed term from 28<sup>th</sup> January 2020 up to 27<sup>th</sup> January 2022. You would need to be a high performing, highly experienced principal with a background of success, knowledge, skill and ability in Māori education. You would also need to be either an accredited facilitator or meet the criteria for initial accreditation.

[Click here](#) to find out more or contact Hoana Pearson – Te Pītau Mātauranga (National Coordinator MAC). Email: [hoana@mac.ac.nz](mailto:hoana@mac.ac.nz) or phone 021 0664 152.



## 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



Tertiary Education Commission

Te Amorangi Mātauranga Matua



## Drawing the Future

If you are Principal of a Primary or Intermediate school, the Tertiary Education Commission (TEC) would like you to take part in Drawing the Future.

Drawing the Future asks students to draw what they think they'd like to do when they grow up, and answer a few simple questions.

It's an easy 30-minute exercise and a fun way to get children thinking about their futures.

## Why Drawing the Future?

- The drawings will help the TEC understand children's career aspirations and what factors influence these.
- The findings will be used to develop a programme called Inspiring the Future that shows tamariki all the career pathways that exist, helping to broaden aspirations for all our young people.
- Schools that take part will be amongst the first to receive a Drawing the Future research report.
- Every class that submits five or more drawings goes in a draw to win one of 10 art supply packs!

## Look out for your Drawing the Future Pack

Every Primary and Intermediate School will receive a Drawing the Future Pack on Monday 14 October. Each pack contains 30 drawing templates. Teachers will be able to request more packs from 14 October from [careers.govt.nz](http://careers.govt.nz).

Questions? Contact [andrea.howey@tec.govt.nz](mailto:andrea.howey@tec.govt.nz)



## National Survey of Primary and Intermediate Schools

NZCER would like to hear from the principals, teachers, trustees, and parents who have received their surveys. To give everyone more time to respond, the survey closing date has been extended to Friday 25 October.

Please put your completed surveys in the post before the Labour Weekend break.



Applications close on 10 October.

## 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



## Teacher PD Opportunity in China

The Asia New Zealand Foundation is offering up to 12 places to science and digital technology teachers from New Zealand to take part in a professional development opportunity in China. The trip will take place on 21-28 March 2020.

The purpose of the trip is to:

- provide teachers with first-hand experience of the rapidly growing science and digital technology industry in China as well as the economy, history, culture, and customs.
- allow teachers to learn about how science and digital technology is taught in China.
- inspire teachers to include more Asia content in their teaching.

The majority of the programme will take place in Guangzhou, China.

To be eligible, applicants must:

- be New Zealand citizen.
- be New Zealand registered Primary teachers with a STEM focus and Secondary teachers of Science, Digital Technologies or Robotics.
- be currently teaching at a school and have the full support of your principal.
- not have travelled to Guangzhou previously.

For more information and to apply on-line, go to the [website](#).

Applications close 5pm, Wednesday 6 November 2019.



## Prime Minister's Science Prizes

Nominations for the Prime Minister's Science Prizes are now open. There are five prizes in total with a combined value of 1 million dollars. Two of the categories which are most relevant to your schools are the Science Teacher Prize and Future Scientist Prize. Click [here](#) for more information about these prizes.

If you would like to apply or know of anyone that would be suitable to apply, then go to [www.pmscienceprizes.org.nz](http://www.pmscienceprizes.org.nz) to find out more.