



PRINCIPAL MATTERS

NGĀ TUMUAKI O AOTEAROA

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

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President's Message

*E huri rā o mahara, e Toi e.
O Toi, your thoughts are in a whirl.*

Tēnā koe

Today is the second day of Spring, and with it comes bouncing new life and fresh green trees. We hope it also comes with fresh green traffic lights marking the end of our covid restrictions. Covid numbers are in decline along with general winter illness. Let's hope Spring also marks an end to your very trying relief and teacher shortages.

Many principals have been in touch with the MOE resourcing team, to find out how to apply for relief funding. I acknowledge the MOE Workforce Team for their responsiveness to our advocacy for relief staff funding and their follow up work to sort out coding details.

To the principals who attended the online MOE Leadership ZOOM sessions last week, Thank you. You shared your insights about what leadership strategies worked well during the pandemic and what supports would be useful for the future.

You navigated the technology, including the Miro board, and gave the MOE facilitators invaluable information for future planning.

This was an opportunity for principals to share their PPK or 'personal, practical knowledge' to inform and influence decision-making at a national level. NZPF has continuously advocated for change processes 'for the sector' to be done 'with the sector'. We need to evolve new collaborative ways of working so this becomes the 'kawa' going forward, so principals' voices and views are heard and actioned.

Curriculum change steps – 'Treading water?'



Whenever conversations occur about the 'Curriculum Refresh' we hear about the timeline and workload. Underlying the kōrero is a level of anxiety about what is coming, when it is coming and what to do when it comes. The latest revised 'Curriculum Refresh' timeline shows that Literacy and Numeracy curriculum documents and resources will be in schools in Term 2, 2023.

While people feel like they are 'treading water', waiting for the official refresh to begin, there are things that can be done between now and Term 2, 2023.

a) There is a 'Readiness Self-Assessment Tool' that will be available to school leaders on September 20 that will help schools review where they currently are at with curriculum planning, pedagogy, delivery and evaluation.

b) Support for developing a localized curriculum can be found online at

[Aotearoa NZ's Histories – Getting Started](#) This link includes video clips, content cards to support collaborative planning and access to the [Resources Library](#), which offers teaching guidance, teaching resources and leadership guidance.

c) The Curriculum Mathematics Road Show ZOOM hui resources are available so you can review mathematics teaching and learning in your school. Please email office@nzpf.ac.nz to request the resources.

d) For schools in Tauranga, Gisborne, New Plymouth, Timaru, Invercargill, Kerikeri and West Auckland, there is a NZPF-MOE Mathematics Road Show coming to your town. Please email office@nzpf.ac.nz to register

The best tip of all would be to take time to meet with colleagues to discuss different ways to plan and lead the 'Curriculum Refresh'. We have implemented new curricula before and experienced principals have much to offer.

Between mid-September and mid-November invitations for 'Early Adopter Schools' to trial some of the 'Curriculum Refresh' tools and resources in English and Mathematics, the Te Mātaiaho framework and the implementation pack, will be shared with the sector. The MOE curriculum teams need feedback from schools to make sure that what comes to the sector in 2023 is the best it can be. If interested, please register at nationalcurriculum.refresh@education.govt.nz

NZPF is advocating for 'Curriculum Teacher Only Days' for the 'Curriculum Refresh' programme for the next three years, as of right, rather than negotiating this time through the collective bargaining process, as has been suggested. Principals have also recommended that exemplars, sample templates and supporting curriculum resources be developed by the curriculum team.

This is important work and will potentially influence teaching and learning for decades to come but, at every level, we need to 'Start where we are, use what we have and do what we can'.

Board of Trustee Elections – shaping what comes next

Board elections in 2022 have attracted more media attention than at any other time, largely due to a drive from the 'Voices For Freedom- VFF'(a group that has been particularly vocal in the anti-vaccination, anti-mandate and anti-government lobby), to infiltrate not just school Boards of Trustees but also Local Body elections. Whilst Minister Tinetti is investigating the legislation that applies to those standing for school Boards of Trustees, there is no definitive ruling on this issue just yet.

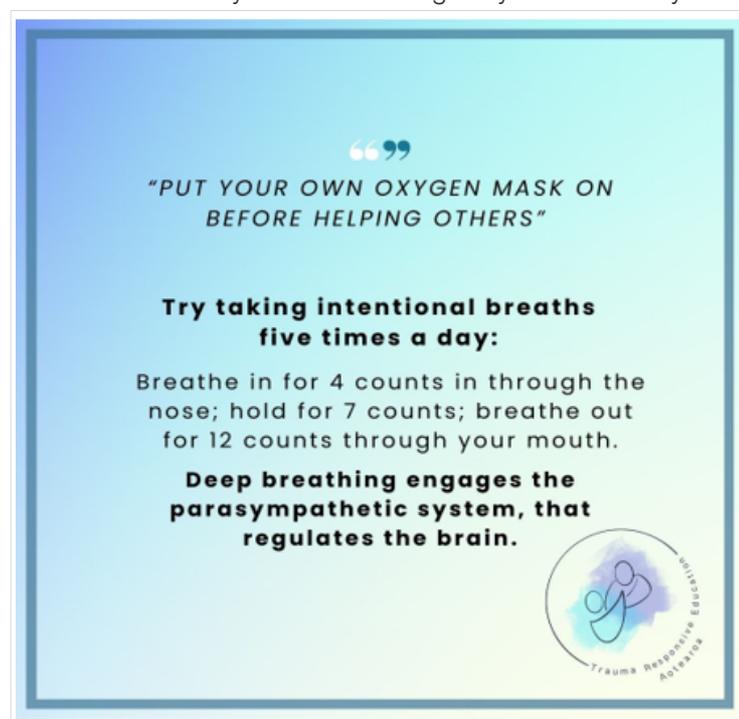
That said, many of you will end up with new Board of Trustees members. As you are aware building relationships, especially with your Board Chair, is critical to the good governance of your school, as is having a clear shared vision and plan for working together.

Last week I asked if you would be interested in attending a hui of Board Chairs and Principals if it was offered. 75% of principals indicated that they would.

In response to that feedback, I can now report that NZSTA and NZPF will be co-hosting a 'Board Chairpersons and Principals Hui' early in 2023. We will get details to you as soon as possible, so you can book this in your diary for next year.

Well-being 'Tip for the Time':

Finally, I leave you with a 'Well-being Tip for the Time'. Sustained stress has created levels of trauma across our communities. While principals strive to look after their students, staff and whanau, they often don't prioritize themselves. Below is the first of a series of 'Tips for this Time' based on 'Trauma-informed Education' for your personal kete - to be well and stay well as the taonga of your community.



Wondering of the Week:

Are you currently a member of a 'Professional Learning Group' that meets regularly, either face-to-face, online or a mix of both?

Yes and we meet regularly.

Yes, but we do not meet regularly at present.

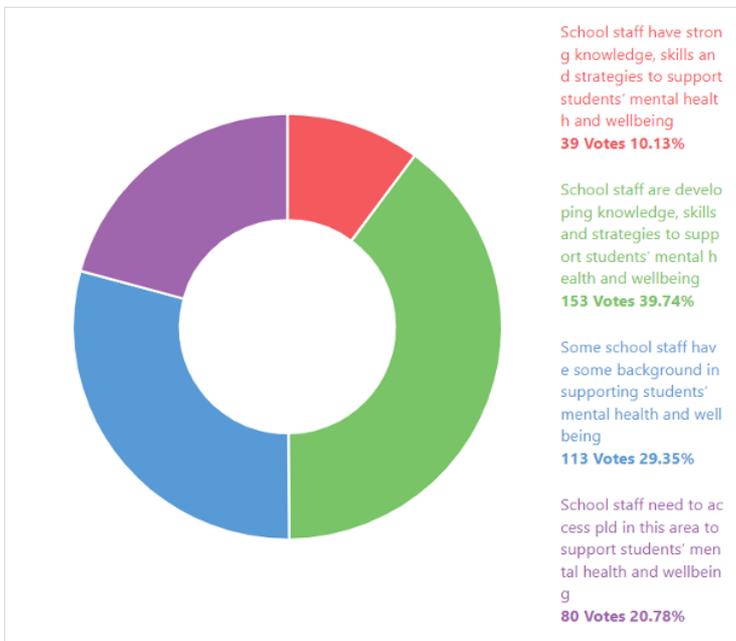
Not at the moment, but I intend to in the future

No, I am not part of a PLG.

Vote

Results of last Week's poll:

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
39 Votes 10.13%

School staff are developing knowledge, skills and strategies to support students' mental health and wellbeing
153 Votes 39.74%

Some school staff have some background in supporting students' mental health and wellbeing
113 Votes 29.35%

School staff need to access help in this area to support students' mental health and wellbeing
80 Votes 20.78%



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](#).

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](#).

Useful Information



Free Webinar on Student Digital Wellbeing

NZPF and Linewize present a free webinar about community empowerment and student digital wellbeing for all New Zealand educators.

The digital landscape has changed dramatically for students since the pandemic, with significant increases in challenging online behaviours and wellbeing concerns. More than ever, young people need greater support from school communities in navigating their digital lives. Recognising that digital safety and wellbeing is a collective responsibility, schools can help ensure all stakeholders are engaged to play their part through community empowerment strategies.

NZPF and Linewize present the digital discussion -

"Elevating Student Digital Wellbeing Through Community Empowerment"

September 7th at 3.45 pm

The free event is open to all New Zealand school leaders, educators and pastoral staff.

By attending the webinar, you will learn:

- How the digital landscape has evolved, including the increasing digital risks

- The impact these changes are having on school communities that are not widely empowered or engaged
- Practical ways to empower your school community and elevate student digital wellbeing and learning.

[Register now](#) to secure your place.

The expert panel consists of:

Shane Buckner (NZPF Board Executive & Principal of Rangiora Borough School)

Yasmin London (ySafe Cyber Safety Expert & Former Police Officer)

Saunil Hagler (Digital safeguarding technology expert, Linewize)

Pauline Spence (Head of School Governance and Capability, Linewize).



Helping our Tamariki manage the Internet

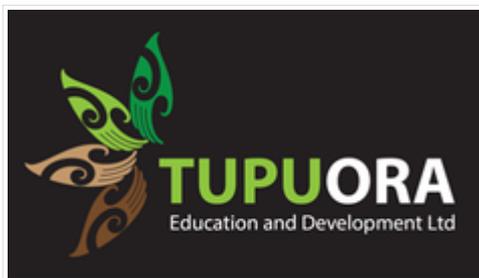
Zareen and Rob Cope, are authors, educators and the filmmakers responsible for the documentary "Our Kids Online".

Following the release of their film, which was screened in Parliament, they spent almost two years travelling New Zealand speaking to Teachers and Parent Communities, sharing information on the impacts on Tamariki of unfettered, unlimited access to the internet, together with recommended solutions. They learned that many Teachers and Principals are facing many of the same challenges. Students unable to concentrate or even falling asleep in class, fights starting on social media or gaming being brought into classrooms, nudes and inappropriate material being passed around, cyberbullying and more.

Taking all this knowledge, they spent six months creating The Informed & Empowered Programme, a fully facilitated online educational film series with modules that educate Students as well as Parent Communities, made by New Zealanders for New Zealand schools.

Here's a short explainer video with more information on what the programme entails: [Introducing The Informed & Empowered Programme](#)

And here is the link to take you to the course [Informed & Empowered Years 1 - 13](#).



Te Ahu o te Reo Māori

TupuOra invites you to participate in their Te Ahu o te Reo Māori free, 10-week, te reo Māori course for schools and whānau.

A guiding principle of the course is to create a culture and environment of inspiration and to grow te reo Māori and tikanga Māori capabilities. By participating in the programme, you will benefit from the knowledge and expertise of key te reo Māori champions and educators.

Term 4 registrations are now open for Te Tai Tokerau (Northland), Te Moana a Toi (Bay of Plenty), Tainui, Taranaki, Whanganui and Manawatū.

To register, go to tupuora.co.nz/teahuotereo.

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

