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President's Message

Principal Matters 1 – 4 February 2016



Tēnā koe

Welcome to '**Principal Matters**'! Whilst you were still in holiday mode, I was trawling through some of the NZPF archives at national office and found an enchanting little piece of history. According to former president Geoff Lovegrove, the first NZPF newsletter to principals was called 'Broadsheet', followed by the 'Federation Flyer'. Some 17 years later when Geoff became president he changed the title to 'Principal Matters' thinking this was a catchy new title, with a double message. I have no idea when or why it changed back to 'Federation Flyer' and if anyone does, please tell me! But I agree with Geoff and so have changed the publication's name back to 'Principal Matters'....because you do!

A new year brings renewed energy, heightened enthusiasm and high expectations for the children and staff in your schools to be the best they possibly can be. My wish to every principal is that at the end of the year these drivers will still be running high and getting positive results for you all!

As your national president for 2016, I am committed to being the most influential advocate for principals that I can possibly be! That means I first have to identify what the important issues are and where to direct advocacy efforts to make the greatest difference. You have elected a national executive to help guide my thinking and from time to time we will come back to you for further information in the form of surveys or we will seek your feedback through this newsletter, just to be sure we are on the right track. I sent out a survey to all the regional cluster leaders this week to identify what they see as priority issues for principals right now.

One issue that we already know will soon be affecting every principal, is Board of Trustees elections. As leaders in our schools and members of our school Board, we have a delicate line to walk sometimes. To ensure that we don't come 'unstuck' there is one relationship that we have to nurture carefully and that is the relationship with the Chair of our Board. It is great if we can build healthy relationships with all our Board members, but most especially the Chair.

The political, economic and educational environment in which we are currently working is both exciting and at the same time concerning. We are undergoing much change and innovation which is liberating especially when it creates positive learning opportunities for kids. Consecutively there are unsettling under-currents that can make our profession feel undervalued and compromised. These feelings are the result of policy announcements that come as surprises and on which we have not been sufficiently consulted and endless new initiatives and requirements, some of which have no relationship to kids and their learning. These things grind us down but we must rise above them to focus on the only goal that really matters – making a positive difference for our kids.

NZPF represents the interests of you all, and works to raise the capacity of our entire profession so that every principal can deliver a quality public education! To do this we must engage positively and purposefully; robustly and honestly with the Ministry of Education and the Minister. We are a stakeholder in this education world, as are they, and we must communicate with them meaningfully, and as effectively as we can, even when we disagree with their position! We must hold to our own values, and ethics and have a good grasp of what we see as the 'big picture'. That is what will give us the endurance, stamina and vision to complete our work with determination and focus.

So, as we embark on another school year let's be sure we have got that 'big picture' clear in our heads and in our hearts so we are always doing the best we can to benefit our kids.

Onwards and upwards for an exciting, motivating and purposeful year!
Noho ora mai ra

Iain Taylor
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UPCOMING DATES

9 February	'Safer Internet Day'
17 - 18 February	Executive meeting, Wellington
2 March	NZPF Membership Awards applications close

NEGOTIATING PRINCIPALS' CONTRACT

As President of NZPF, Iain Taylor has been present at the contract table representing NZPF for several days in January as well as before the summer holidays. NZEI's negotiating team and the Ministry's negotiating team still have a very long way to go. Iain will bring you further details as progress is made.

NZ PRINCIPAL MAGAZINE NOW ALSO ON-LINE

View or share NZ Principal Magazine online

You and/or your team members can now 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 www.nzprincipal.co.nz/view-the-magazine

INTERNATIONAL CONFEDERATION OF PRINCIPALS (ICP)

At the most recent ICP conference, NZPF President, Iain Taylor was elected as the representative for the Oceania region for the next two years. Oceania includes NZ and approximately seven other countries in the Asia/Pacific region. Iain will now be on the executive group of the ICP, the world body for principals' organisations.

This is a major step for New Zealand. Only once before has a New Zealand principal ever been appointed to the International Confederation. That was in 2000 when former NZPF president Nola Hambledon was elected. Nola was the first New Zealander, the first woman and first primary school principal to be elected to the Confederation. Iain will be the second New Zealander and first Intermediate school principal to take his seat at the international council table.

TRANS-TASMAN PRINCIPALS' CONFERENCE 31 MAY – 3 JUNE 2016 SKY CITY AUCKLAND



Trans-Tasman Principals' Conference 2016
31 MAY – 3 JUNE 2016, AUCKLAND, NEW ZEALAND

This year's NZPF conference will be hosted jointly by our Australian colleagues (APPA) and NZPF. It is a special event, held every four years, and provides an opportunity to showcase New Zealand education in 2016. It will follow theme strands aligned with the values of the NZ Curriculum.

The theme of 'Knowledge in Our Hands' will bring together practitioner and expert stories from around New Zealand, Australia and the world. [Early Bird Registration](#) is open now.

For full details of the conference programme, speakers and registration, go to www.transtasmanconference.co.nz

NETSAFE – SAFER INTERNET DAY 9 FEBRUARY 2016



The NZPF supports Netsafe, an independent non-profit organisation, which supports safe and responsible use of digital technology in schools. It offers excellent advice on cyber bullying prevention, privacy and copyright issues.

You can visit the [Netsafe website](#) for more information.

Netsafe is promoting safer internet use by hosting a 'Safer Internet Day' on **9 February 2016**. We urge you to diary this date and participate in the promoting of safer internet use in your school.

VIRTUAL LEARNING NETWORK (VLN) PRIMARY SCHOOL



The Virtual Learning Network Primary School (VLNP) is a collaborative community of schools throughout New Zealand working together to provide improved educational opportunities for students through online learning. The programmes on offer will broaden students' learning opportunities by participating in flexible

and dynamic virtual learning classes that extend beyond the traditional classroom setting. Schools can become part of established collaborative learning programmes that provide students with authentic and engaging learning opportunities. To find out more click [here](#)

SOLE CHARGE AND RURAL PRINCIPALS' CONFERENCE



The 2016 conference for sole charge and rural principals will be held 18 – 20 May at the Function Centre Havelock North. Principals who have previously attended the sole charge conference repeatedly tell us how valuable they found the experience. It is one of a kind and specially tailored to providing excellent advice for the lone principal who has to do everything by themselves and the rural teaching principals who similarly have very high demands.

To register and access the programme, click [here](#). For further information or if you have any other questions about the conference, contact [Janine Remnant](#)

NZPF AWARDS



It is now time to be thinking about who you wish to nominate for NZPF life membership, associate membership or service with distinction awards. Nominations close on **2 March 2016**.

Please refer to the [awards](#) section on the NZPF website or click [here](#) for more information.

Click [here](#) for a nomination form

NZPF SERVICE AWARDS – RETIRING PRINCIPALS



To mark the retirement of school principals, NZPF has developed a special Service Award. If your local principals' association is aware of any retiring principals in your region then have your president [email](#) with the principal's name(s). We will prepare a Service Award which will be emailed to your president for framing and presenting at your local principals' association function.

BUSINESS PARTNERS

One of the undertakings the NZPF gives its business partners is that **at the very least, they are given the opportunity by members to quote for a product, service or solution. PLEASE support our business partners as their assistance is very important to NZPF and to you as members.**

Gold



Silver



Bronze



Interested in becoming an NZPF Business Partner?

We welcome enquiries from businesses that are interested in engaging with schools. If you would like to know how a partnership with NZPF can add value to your business, while supporting New Zealand education, please email [Gavin Beere](#) (NZPF's Business Partner Convenor), for an information package and further details about NZPF.

For a map showing the location of the National Office in Wellington [click here](#)

To update membership details [click here](#)

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

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