



## President's Comment 6

11th March 2010

Dear Colleagues

The Ministry and NZQA are joining forces for a series of regional seminars for principals and selected senior staff on a range of NCEA related issues. The first couple of seminars have been held this week and all regions would have been covered by the end of April. Invitations come via the Ministry regional offices and items discussed in these important sessions include:

- Standards alignment:
  - Timelines
  - Assessment resources and exemplars
  - Transition arrangements
- Teaching and learning guidelines
- Literacy and numeracy benchmarks
- Subject endorsement
- University entrance review
- Marking external assessment trials

I encourage you all to attend these seminars as it provides an excellent opportunity for two-way dialogue on the development of NCEA.

Some other related matters that have arisen at recent forums are:

- Encourage HODs to check out the 'standards alignment' page on TKI for information on the expiry dates for curriculum based level 1, 2 and 3 unit standards. If a US is not mentioned then it is probably not curriculum based and will still be available in 2011.
- More trial schools are needed for a range of standards on several subject areas. Trial exemplars can only be produced if we have schools developing trial assessment resources. Teachers who have been involved in the process thus far report that it provides an excellent professional development opportunity.
- Learning media are contracted to develop and trial these assessment resources and a list of resources available for trialling are available at <http://plone.learningmedia.co.nz/nz/support>
- The level 1 project manager is Jo McCready, email [jo.mccready@learningmedia.co.nz](mailto:jo.mccready@learningmedia.co.nz) and for level 2 contact Heather Kirkman at [heather.kirkman@learningmedia.co.nz](mailto:heather.kirkman@learningmedia.co.nz)
- In a new initiative, NZQA will be producing an NCEA/scholarship annual report that will provide an overview of national statistics and associated commentary. The report will be released towards the end of March as a pdf document on the NZQA website.

The Ministry is looking into a much earlier release of the benchmark indicators.

Peter Gall  
President

Note: "A Review of Special Education: discussion document" is now available at <http://www.minedu.govt.nz/theMinistry/Consultation/ReviewOfSpecialEducation.aspx> You can provide feedback on the document via Vice President Paul Daley, [principal@sanctamaria.school.nz](mailto:principal@sanctamaria.school.nz) or by contacting the review team [SE.review@minedu.govt.nz](mailto:SE.review@minedu.govt.nz)

### Previous Comment

#### Comment 5 - 04.03.10

Internet Safety in your school.

#### From the SPANZ Office

AGM papers were mailed to all members today.

Symposium early bird registrations close 5th March 2010. Please fax your registration forms to 09 571 2244.

#### Contact Us

PO Box 11541  
Ellerslie Auckland 1542

Phone: 09 571 2233  
Fax: 09 571 2244

Email: [office@spanz.school.nz](mailto:office@spanz.school.nz)  
[www.spanz.school.nz](http://www.spanz.school.nz)