



SPANZ

SECONDARY PRINCIPALS' ASSOCIATION OF NEW ZEALAND INC.

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President
Peter Gall
Papatoetoe High School

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Dear Colleagues

As a principal I am constantly reminded of how wonderful the young people in our schools are and the past few weeks have been particularly uplifting following prizegivings and special awards ceremonies. I am sure you have all shared in a similar sense of pride, occasional lump in the throat, perhaps a slight adrenalin rush or even a tear in the eye. The top students in our schools are superb advertisements for the New Zealand way of life, the opportunities that exist here and the way they are supported, nurtured, motivated and encouraged by their families, teachers and principals.

And so we should all give ourselves a small congratulatory pat on the back because decisions we have made, opportunities we have assisted to provide and support we have given have contributed to the development of a very talented group of young people. Well done to you all – in a few weeks you can have a break from this energy sapping stuff and do some serious relaxing.

Thank you for the feedback on the jointly signed letter to the minister that raised our concerns over the lack of resourcing for the new teachers' collective agreement. No formal response has been received as yet.

Other matters of interest:

- **Administering of drugs to students.** An updated legal opinion on a school's obligations and potential liabilities regarding the administering of drugs to students has been posted on the SPANZ website www.spanz.school.nz
- **Survey of school finances.** SPANZ is supporting a pilot survey on school finances that was signalled in the operational grant review. The Ministry has engaged Poulson Higgs to conduct this research and many schools have already been contacted. The research team appreciates how busy principals are at this time of the year and sincerely thank those who have completed the initial exercise. If you are one of the 'chosen ones' and have not responded yet or have not completed the survey questionnaire please do this soon! For further information contact Michael Rondel on (03) 366 5282 or email michael.rondel@ph.co.nz

Peter Gall
President