



SPANZ

SECONDARY PRINCIPALS' ASSOCIATION OF NEW ZEALAND INC.

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President
Peter Gall
Papatoetoe High School

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Dear Colleagues

The changes to NCEA announced earlier this week are, I believe, a step in the right direction with the one criticism being the time it has taken to respond to concerns raised by principals and teachers. Increasing moderation of internally assessed work to 10% is probably the most significant of the changes and, along with the other announcements that lead to increased accountability for schools with their internal assessment procedures, this should provide greater levels of confidence in the qualification.

There will be some who believe the changes did not go far enough and I have no doubt that the system will continue to evolve in years to come.

Endorsement at certificate and subject level will go some way to improving the motivation levels of some students. All students, however, need to be affirmed that their NCEA qualification is credible, well accepted and well understood and any deviation from this will be de-motivating for them.

It is in this regard that we, as principals, play a vitally important role in promoting the new developments as being positive in any discussions we have with our students, school community and the media. The last thing our students need is for NCEA to become centre-forward in a game of political football.

Best Regards

Peter Gall
President