



# SPANZ

SECONDARY PRINCIPALS' ASSOCIATION OF NEW ZEALAND INC.



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**President**  
Peter Gall  
Papatoetoe High School

## President's Comment 13

Our executive had its first full meeting last week with a full and robust discussion taking place on the motion passed at our recent AGM requiring "the Executive of SPANZ to move forward with the process of registering as a Union for the purpose of representing members". We have considered the basic requirements to register as a union and key issues are as follows:

<b><i>What are the basic requirements?</i></b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We must be an incorporated society.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SPANZ meets this requirement.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We must have a set of rules that comply with both the Incorporated Societies Act 1908 and the Employment relations Act 2000.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The current rules for SPANZ would need to be added to and this would require a special general meeting.</li> </ul>
<b><i>Are there any possible impediments for us with the registration requirements?</i></b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Employment Relations Act 2000 states that unions must be independent of employers. It is unclear whether principals being board of trustee members compromises this requirement or not.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clarification required from Registrar of Unions.</li> </ul>
<b><i>How long/difficult is the registration process?</i></b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Once all of the basic requirements are met the registration process is straight-forward and results of an application are known within a few weeks.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The requirement to change our rules at a special general meeting would be the limiting factor here.</li> </ul>
<b><i>If SPANZ were to register as a union would there then be the possibility of different collective agreements for secondary principals in NZ?</i></b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No. All secondary principals would be covered by the one collective agreement that would be negotiated by all groups eligible to be at the bargaining table.</li> </ul>	

Any feedback that you are prepared to provide on this issue will be most welcomed.

Clearly we will not be in a position to register as a union for the next round of collective agreement negotiations. In the interim we are continuing our discussions with NZSPC of the PPTA and to that end I will be meeting with the chairperson, Arthur Graves, in the near future.

The executive confirmed their respective portfolios for the year and a summary is included here so that you know who to approach for information and advice.

Peter Gall Papatoetoe High School	President	Liaison with the Minister, MOE, ERO, NZQA, NZSPC, Regional Principals' Groups, Sector Groups, Media, International Relations, Operations Grant review, Leaders' Forum, Schools' Consultative Committee, Productive Partnerships, Property.
Graham Young Tauranga Boys' College	Immediate Past President	Leadership/principalship.
Paul Daley Sancta Maria College	Vice President	Professional Learning, SPANZ Finance, Student Welfare SPANZ Secretariat
Linda Tame Lincoln High School	Vice President	Curriculum, Principal Workload
Jan Anderson Otago Girls' High School		Curriculum, Leaders' Forum
Elizabeth Forgie Kerikeri High School		Professional Learning, Leaders' Forum, SPANZ Secretariat
John Rogers Marlborough Boys' High School		NZ Teachers Council. EOTC
Mike Tribe Dannevirke High School		School Demographics, Rural schools, EOTC, School Transport
Kelvin Whiting Hillcrest High School		Schools' Resourcing, Principal Workload

Also confirmed at our meeting were the dates for our symposium next year which will be held in Nelson from 30 March to 2 April.



Peter Gall  
President