



SECONDARY PRINCIPALS' ASSOCIATION OF NEW ZEALAND INC.

Secretariat Address

P O Box 11541, Ellerslie Auckland 1542
Phone: 09 571 2233 : Fax: 09 571 2244
Email: office@spanz.school.nz



6th November 2008

President's Comment 32

Dear Colleagues

In 2007 a number of changes to NCEA were announced to address growing concerns about the credibility of the qualification and student motivation. NZQA and the Ministry, in consultation with the sector, moved quickly to implement changes such as certificate endorsement and increased moderation of student work for internally assessed standards. The following is a summary of progress made thus far in targeted areas of development.

1. **Certificate endorsement:** Implemented for 2007 and has been well received by schools and students. Anecdotal evidence supports certificate endorsement as a positive factor in motivating students, especially the more able, to achieve higher quality results.
2. **Increase moderation to 10% of student work:** Current data from NZQA shows that 10.9% of student work for internally assessed standards will be moderated in the 2008/09 moderation round. This represents a significant increase and should provide a high level of confidence in internal assessment decisions by schools.
3. **Review of school based standards to align them with the NZ curriculum:** The standards review represents a major piece of work and is divided into four parts. The first was to establish guiding principles for what a good standard looks like and then subject associations were contracted for the next stage, which is to establish a matrix for each subject area showing the standards that will be available and how they align to the NZ Curriculum. Many of these matrices are now available in draft format and it is intended that a link be placed on TKI to each of them in the near future. Your teachers are encouraged to provide feedback on these matrices to the various subject associations.
4. **Opportunities for reassessment:** Currently there is variable practice in relation to reassessment opportunities and this raises a credibility issue. A paper is due to be released before the end of the year that provides an indication of how schools will be expected to tackle reassessment.
5. **NCEA statistics:** The current method of recording NCEA statistics has been reviewed and schools will soon be made aware of the new format for 2009 results.

Peter Gall
SPANZ President