



SECONDARY PRINCIPALS' ASSOCIATION OF NEW ZEALAND INC.



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Dear Colleagues

Welcome to the final school term for 2008 – no doubt your diaries look quite daunting for the next few weeks! Prior to our school holidays I attended the Australian Secondary Principals' Association annual conference in Perth. Although attended by only about 300 delegates, there were excellent keynote speakers at the conference including Professor Stephen Heppell, Professor Martin Westwell and Michael McQueen. Details of their presentations can be accessed via the ASPA website – www.aspa.asn.au – click on to Conferences then ASPA Conferences then 2008 Conference Report. Audio recordings of the presentations can be easily accessed as well as comprehensive notes (simply click on to the presenter's name in the 'article index' column). Michael McQueen's analysis of generation Y is highly topical and very entertaining.

The Minister's recent announcement of secondary schools receiving two teacher only days in 2009 to assist the implementation of the new curriculum is indeed good news and something that SPANZ has strongly advocated for in meetings with him.

Other matters:

- Two reports on "Students' Transition from Primary to Secondary Schooling" based on research carried out by the ministry are available on the education counts website – perhaps useful for your pastoral care team to peruse
- An excellent UK-based website with hundreds of informative educational videos on subject related issues and general professional development (including school leadership) is www.teachers.tv – add it to your "favourites".
- SPANZ diary and election flyer. These were posted out in the last week of last term – if you didn't receive your copy please contact the SPANZ office (email office@spanz.school.nz).

Good luck for the term ahead.

Peter Gall
SPANZ President