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**SECONDARY PRINCIPALS' ASSOCIATION OF NEW ZEALAND INC.**

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Friday 8<sup>th</sup> August 2008

**President's Comment 22**

Dear Colleagues

Our Executive met in Wellington earlier this week and as well as 'business as usual' we had productive discussions with the Minister, ERO, ministry officials and NZQA. Matters raised with the Minister included Schools Plus, the International Student Levy, SPANZ union status and EOTC. It is clearly evident that Schools Plus is a big ticket item for the government and we stressed the need for principals to be kept 'in the loop'. Next week's President's Comment will be an update on our union status.

A summary of other points conveyed to executive is as follows:

**ERO:** ERO reviews that take place in the remainder of 2008 and in 2009 will include an analysis of how ready a school is to teach the NZ Curriculum. They will be particularly interested in the thinking that has taken place in the design process, what issues have arisen and how the teacher tackled these. Schools are advised to keep a record of the process they have gone through including meetings (staff, senior management, HOD, community, etc) and professional learning sessions.

**KLP:** The Kiwi Leadership for Principals was released on Thursday after several iterations and copies will arrive in schools next week. The KLP will form a reference point for the development of a professional leadership strategy in the following focus areas:

- Leadership roles and responsibilities.
- Professional learning for educational leadership.
- Professional working conditions for school leaders.
- System capacity and coherence.
- Evaluation, research and development.

**SMAs:** Schools were notified in July of the number of the new senior management allowances (SMAs) allocated to them via a staffing entitlement notice. They can now be distributed to senior staff simply by informing Payserve (form ESP2t field 16) and backdate to 2 July. Rules for their allocation/distribution were included in the MOE circular 2007/21.

Finally I would like to acknowledge the excellent work done by our executive manager, Ros Robson, and her secretary, Jo Christini, in organising a highly successful PAs conference in Queenstown. Feedback from the attendees was overwhelmingly positive and, as well as enjoying the opportunity to network, they were involved in relevant, informative workshops and keynote addresses. This annual conference is a tangible way to recognise the valuable support that our PAs provide to us.

**Peter Gall**  
**SPANZ President**