



# SPANZ

SECONDARY PRINCIPALS' ASSOCIATION OF NEW ZEALAND INC.



## Secretariat Address

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## President's Comment 10

Dear Colleagues

The tragic situation that resulted in the loss of one teacher and six student's lives from Elim Christian College in the past week is one of the worst possible events that could happen to a school community. I know all of us offer our support to Principal Murray Burton and our thoughts and prayers go out to the staff, students and families of Elim Christian College.

## ICP Council Meeting

As a member of SPANZ you are also affiliated to the ICP (International Confederation of Principals) which is an organisation that aims to link and support the international community of school principal organisations and their members. Day to day affairs of the ICP are managed by an executive committee which meets two or three times per year, with the governing body being the ICP Council which includes a representation from all member associations. Last week I attended an ICP council meeting in Shanghai and the following matters may be of interest to you.

The website for ICP is [www.icponline.org](http://www.icponline.org). To login to the members' area use the following:

User name: spanz  
Password: capetown

The next world convention of the ICP is to be held in Singapore from 6-9 July, 2009 and will be hosted by APS (Academy of Principals of Singapore).

ICP is involved in several projects to address common issues that principals round the world are confronted with and they include:

- Schools resourcing – Jim Spinks has worked with ICP members to develop a schools resourcing paper based on international research that will be a useful tool for principal associations to use to lobby government and develop a school resourcing policy.
- Interconnections – a project that addresses mental health issues of school aged children. ICP, in partnership with Intercamhs (International Alliance of Child and Adolescent Mental Health and Schools) is seeking to support schools in developing a better understanding of mental health and well-being issues and their affect on student learning. The project will lead to the development and supply of resource material via a module approach.
- Improving family engagement – Dr Steven Constantino (USA) is respected as an expert in the field of engaging families in the educational and academic lives of their children. In an informative presentation at the council meeting he highlighted the difference between family involvement in school and family engagement in learning, and presented a model on parent efficacy – parents' ability to produce an effect in the learning of their children. Dr Constantino's material will be available on the ICP website in the near future.

- Regionalisation of ICP – ICP has developed regional forums (NZ is in the Asia/Oceania region) to further promote ICP strategies and to attract new member associations from countries currently not represented.

China is an interesting part of the world and it is quite staggering when you start considering some of the numbers. As a small example, there are over 100,000 secondary schools in China – imagine trying to organise a national principals’ conference!

### Payroll Group

Following on from last weeks comment regarding Payroll, John would appreciate your feedback on the following questions. Please fax back to 09 5712244 (no header sheet required) – Thank you

1. How often do you use the Education Service Payroll website [www.payroll-serv.co.nz](http://www.payroll-serv.co.nz) ?

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2. What do you use the website for?

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3. Which aspects of the website do you like or find most useful? (consider the design and the information contained on the website)

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4. What website improvements would you like to see?

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No doubt many of you will be doing some schoolwork over the holiday but do take the time to have a bit of a break and spend quality time with family and friends.



**Peter Gall**  
SPANZ President