



SPANZ

SECONDARY PRINCIPALS' ASSOCIATION OF NEW ZEALAND INC.

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President's Comment 5

Dear Colleagues

Recently you received the *Kiwi Leadership for Principals* (KLP) draft which aims to set the direction for principals' professional learning. This work has evolved following wide consultation with sector groups, including SPANZ, and the Ministry is now seeking your feedback. I encourage you all to take the opportunity to complete the feedback form that was provided as this will generate important data in the development of a follow up piece of work – a *Professional Leadership Strategy*.

In reading through the KLP document I reflected on the work that I actually do on a daily basis and the accountabilities I have. There are a few questions that I have about the KLP as it is currently presented. Does the KLP...

- ... adequately describe the unique nature of principalship in New Zealand? (Self-management, direct accountability to central government via the BOT, having high autonomy, etc.)
- ... emphasise strongly enough the importance of the principal-board chairperson relationship and principal-board relationship?
- ... provide you with a useful resource to base your future professional learning on?

It is admirable that government is giving some priority to the development of principals and thinking about succession planning for leadership in our schools. The KLP sits alongside other initiatives such as the Aspiring Principals' Pilot, First Time Principals, Leadspace and Principal Planning and Development Centres.

Perhaps, however, the most significant work that will inform secondary principals on their future professional learning will be the *Best Evidence Synthesis on Educational Leadership*. This BES is in the final stages and is sure to be an excellent resource that will have the potential to help shape the future of principalship.

Regards

Peter Gall
SPANZ President