



Michael Williams  
President

Dear Colleagues,

The last four weeks have been a busy time, a new Minister, a budget and a SPANZ Exec meeting.

Minister Kaye has clearly signaled her willingness to engage with the sector and appears to be listening. Deidre

Shea and I had a very good meeting with her shortly after she took office; we were able to explain who SPANZ represents, how we would like to work with herself, the Ministry and the state agencies. We are looking forward to working with the Minister as she brings her priorities into focus for the sector.

The budget held no surprises; the commitment to social investment is good and will in time flow through to secondary education. The recognition that teacher supply and initial teacher education needs attention is good, but it is enough or too little too late?

I have suggested that some research is needed to find out why young graduates are not going into teaching, particularly in the STEM subject. The prevailing view appears to be that salary levels are not the problem and schools just need to promote the profession more.

On 18 and 19 May we had our first full meeting with the new Executive. A very productive two days as we tried to discuss the full breadth of issues that affect us. We had a very productive meeting with Pauline Barnes from Education Council and discussed a number of issues including:

- The possible establishment of a Registration Panel to assist with more challenging registration discussion
- Process to address re-renewal / practice certificates in cases where the Principal is unable to sign off and a process is in place to address the problem
- Online Registration and Practicing Certificates
- Changes to initial teacher education

We also hosted Iona Holstead, Secretary for Education, Deputy Secretary Ellen MacGregor-Reid, Karl Le Quesne, Kim Shannon and Mary Papich. We had a wide ranging and very productive discussion on many topics.

Our next Executive Meeting is Monday 3 and Tuesday 4 July, if you can send us your concerns we will do our best to ensure they are heard.

## INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

We have been working with SIEBA to address a problem regarding jurisdiction outside school hours. The good news is that in the Tertiary Education Amendment Bill which has moved to select Committee there is a section within the Bill which will address the problem.

We have joined the SIEBA submission in support of the legislation.

## PRACTICING CERTIFICATES

We have heard reports of a problem with teachers who have been out of school for a year or two and need to renew their Practicing Certificate. They are being told by Education Council staff that their former Principal can sign them off as they have had recent teaching service.

The advice from the Education Council is: don't sign off unless there is evidence of meeting the professional standards. The teachers in this situation should apply for "Subject to Confirmation"

## NZCER TEACHING AND SCHOOL PRACTICES SURVEY

The new Teaching and School Practices survey tool is now available: [www.tspsurveys.org.nz](http://www.tspsurveys.org.nz).

- This quick online survey for teachers and the principal gives useful information about effective teaching and school practices, and your own leadership
- The items are based on robust research and are consistent with the New Zealand Curriculum, ERO's School Evaluation Indicators, and the draft Standards for the Teaching Profession
- It's completely confidential. NZCER developed and hosts the surveys and safeguards the data
- It's free to schools in Terms 2 and 3 each year
- You get a set of reports back immediately you close off the survey in your school. These reports go to you only
- NZCER will provide a national report at the end of the year.

## RTLB - SURVEY PRINCIPALS

You will have received a Survey from the SPANZ office inviting you for your opinion around RTLB Cluster allocations. Please respond as your voice is important.

## E-ASTTLE

Concerns had been raised about the Ministry of Education's commitment to E-asTTle. We hear a lot about the PACT tool and learning progression framework but asTTle is seldom mentioned. We asked the Ministry about this and were told that they are seeing an increase in asTTle use and last year introduced a mobile version and saw a 30% increase in use.

Currently the Ministry is upgrading the platform to cope with expected growth. Hopefully the new platform will be completed by August.

## END OF AN ERA

At Conference we farewelled Ros, and acknowledged her huge contribution to the organisation, unfortunately she was unable to be there in person but has sent the following message:

"Thank you for your acknowledgements and best wishes to me on my retirement from my work in the SPANZ office. It has been a privilege to work with and for the secondary school principals of New Zealand. I wish you all the best for your role in leadership of secondary education with all of the challenges and rewards of Principalship."

Ros Robson

## POLICE VIDEOS ON REPORTING SEXUAL ASSAULT

The Police YouTube channel features a series of ten videos on sexual assault and consent. These videos aim to encourage more victims to come forward by quashing myths and alleviating any fears about the reporting process.

Four of the ten videos are applicable to all ages, and could be used to accompany Loves-Me-Not or secondary Keeping Ourselves Safe:

- Why People Don't Report Sexual Assault – university students share their views
- Sexual Consent – university students share their views
- Quick Facts: Sexual Violence – featuring Dr Cathy Stephenson
- Quick Facts: Sexual Consent – featuring Dr Cathy Stephenson

The other six videos cover the five steps of the reporting process for adults, and are all collated in this final video Reporting Sexual Assault To Police (Steps 1-5). The process for children or teenagers to report sexual assault is almost the same, but staff from the Ministry for Vulnerable Children, Oranga Tamariki are also involved. Their primary role is to ensure that the child or teenager is safe from any further harm, allowing Police to complete the criminal investigation.

All ten videos are available from the Police playlist.

If you would like more information about these videos, contact [Asa@police.govt.nz](mailto:Asa@police.govt.nz)

## YOUTH AMBASSADOR CHAPERONES

A reminder applications close on Friday 9th June for Principal Chaperones. The cost of travel, accommodation and meals are all covered.

Any queries please contact: Matthew Dyson, (04) 4952072

## SPANZ UNION UPDATE

Are you a member of the SPANZ Union?

The SPANZ Union is an independent organisation that exists solely to represent the views of New Zealand Secondary Principals through advocacy, negotiation and collective bargaining.

Your membership of the SPANZ Union supports us to support you in collective bargaining of the Secondary Principals' Collective Agreement.

At present your SPANZ Union Executive is working to gather information and prepare for the next round of collective agreement negotiations.

Specific issues that the Union Executive is considering at present include:

- Working with other stakeholders around a possible variation to the SPCA 2016-2019 to align the CoL Leader Remuneration clauses contained in the Primary and Secondary Principal Collective Agreements.
- Recognising and addressing the additional workload that CoLs are having for all principals - not just the CoL lead principals who are remunerated with time allowance
- Progressing the secondary principals' remuneration work-stream that was a negotiated feature of the last collective bargaining round.
- Exploring and quantifying the additional Health and Safety responsibilities for principals (and the personal liability that accompanies this) and building the case for additional principal remuneration in the next collective bargaining round.

As the only bargaining agent dedicated solely to represent your interests we need your feedback about the issues affecting our profession. To share feedback or to find out more about joining the SPANZ Union, please contact the SPANZ Office.

## SPANZ CONFERENCE

Next year's Principal Conference will be held at Rydges Hotel in Queenstown. They are currently refurbishing their hotel so it certainly has a different feel to the last time we were there. The dates for your diary are Sunday 18th March to Wednesday 21st March. Further information will be sent via the SPANZ office in due course.

Nga mihi

Michael Williams,

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