

## President's Comment 13



**Sandy Pasley**  
**SPANZ President**

6 November 2015

Dear Colleagues

Early this week, Minister Parata announced a review of the Education Act. Along with the review, a consultation process has been developed.

The framework of the review is around the following five points identified as needing to change:

**Making sure everyone knows the goals for education.**

- The goal for education being 'raising achievement for students' is very much at the heart of what we do. To have it explicitly stated makes sense. What is more debatable is what the national priorities for learners should be!

**Supporting schools' and Kura Boards to focus on what is important.**

- Red tape removed – great!
- We will all have views on how Boards can respond more effectively to lift student and school performance.

**Enabling collaboration, flexibility and innovation.**

- Communities of Learning in the legislation.
- Focusing resources to get better outcomes for whole communities (Funding allocated how?) It would be a concern if schools that are struggling were given less resources as suggested in the media.

**Make every school and Kura a great one.**

- No one can argue that this should happen – graduated responses to schools when schools are in difficulty. It will be interesting to see what the intention is here.

**Make best use of local education provision.**

- How local arrangements can support choice and diversity?
- Schools opening, closing and merging.
- Enrolment Scheme fine-tuning? (Compulsory enrolment schemes when schools refuse!)
- Ministry of Education directing enrolments?

Given that the consultation period ends on 14 December, it is important for us all to have our say on such a significant review. If you would like SPANZ to put forward your views in a submission we would welcome your input.

**Heads-up for your 2016 Calendar**

SPANZ Conference for next year will be in Queenstown from 3 to 6 April.

Nga mihi

Sandy Pasley  
**President**

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