



President's Comment 18



Sandy Pasley
SPANZ President

15 March 2016

On Friday the Honourable Hekia Parata, Minister of Education held a National Cross Sector Forum in Wellington. This was attended by representatives from Early Childhood, Primary, Secondary and Tertiary. The Forum contained interesting information and asked for feedback in certain areas. As you know the Education Act is presently being updated. The presentation of Ellen MacGregor-Reid (Deputy Secretary Strategy, Planning and Governance) is attached with two updates. These are really important reading as they will determine the future framework for how we will work under the new updated Act. Please look at the resources attached, both the Pathways on the Act and the two pages with feedback on the Act.

One important question asked was if principals and staff trustees should be voting members of their Board of Trustees. The Ministry is keen to get feedback on these questions and would like any feedback to be in prior to the papers on the Education Act going to Cabinet. After that there will be further opportunities to have input through the Select Committee process. The Minister is keen to have the Select Committee meet throughout the country so that people can more easily make submissions to that Committee.

The second matter discussed was around workforce planning. We have been concerned as principals for a long time about the shortage of teachers in certain subject areas particularly Maths, Science, Physics, Chemistry, Technology and Te Reo. The work that the Ministry of Education has done is to collect data to tell a story about the teaching workforce. The research of Lisa Rogers (Deputy Secretary Early Learning and Student Achievement) and comments by Graham Stoop are attached.

Principals may not be aware that if you have a hard to staff subject area, Education Personnel Recruitment Company have been charged with helping schools source teachers. The cost of sourcing teachers in hard to staff subject areas will be paid for by the Ministry of Education. The Ministry is also working with Immigration to fast track teachers with appropriate high level qualifications that will help in areas of need. They are also exploring voluntary bonding and studentships.

The details of these proposals have to go to Cabinet for approval.

To assist the Ministry of Education with knowing information about the teachers in our profession, there will be a secondary teacher census on 30th March.

An update on Communities of Learning was presented by Katrina Casey (Deputy Secretary Sector Enablement and Support) and the Minister announced a new exchange opportunity for principals with South Australia.

For further information, visit:

<http://www.education.govt.nz/school/working-in-a-school/#PrincipalExchange>

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SPANZ Elections for Officers and Executive

I have been elected unopposed to the position of President of the Association for a further year.

I am delighted to congratulate the successful candidates for Officers and Executive of SPANZ Professional for the 2015/2016 year and look forward to working with them. All of the candidates were elected unopposed to their positions.

Vice Presidents	Deidre Shea, Principal, Onehunga High School Mike Williams, Principal, Pakuranga College
Executive	Vaughan Couillault, Principal, Papatoetoe High School Elizabeth Forgie, Principal, Kerikeri High School Scott Haines, Principal, Waimea College Patrick Walsh, Principal, John Paul College Mark Wilson, Principal, Cashmere High School

Profiles of all candidates is attached to this Comment.

SPANZ Conference 3-6 April, Queenstown

There is still time to register for Conference. Since my last Comment Conference registrations have climbed considerably and Ros tells me there are over 120 currently and of that number 25 are newly appointed Principals. Visit www.spanz.school.nz for a registration form if you have misplaced the original.

Nga mihi

Sandy Pasley

President