

President's Comment 28



Sandy Pasley
SPANZ President

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Dear Colleagues

Sabbatical

After five years as a Principal you are entitled to apply for Sabbatical leave. Please consider it seriously and don't put it off. It's important you talk to colleagues about the opportunity for Sabbatical, it can provide time out for rest and refreshment but also time to strategically think about the direction of your school. This year only 28 Secondary Principals' applied for a sabbatical and there were 45 available. It is also important you submit a quality application, the application needs to be well planned and robust to be approved. The criteria for awarding a scholarship is outlined in the link given: <https://www.teachnz.govt.nz/teacher-awards/directory/secondary-principals-sabbatical/>.

Maori Achieving Success as Maori and Kia Eke Panuku

A resource to support you in your work in regard to Maori Students Achieving Success as Maori. Ngā Huatau Taiohi gathers the discussions with students at nine Hui Whakaako from Whitiara Marae in the Far North to Te Rau Aroha Marae at the Bluff, about what they understood by enjoying and achieving success as Maori. We are grateful to Dr Mere Berryman for her leadership and these resources. The Kia Eke Panuku website at www.kep.org.nz is a rich source of material. We also commend to you for holiday reading the Reports from the Office of the Auditor General at: <http://www.oag.govt.nz/2016/education-for-maori-summary>

News from Executive Member Mark Wilson in Christchurch

Christchurch Schools Rebuild (CSR) programme - "watch this space"

Just this last week a special delegation from the OECD was hosted here in New Zealand to observe our education system in action, and view how some Christchurch school's new post-earthquake property designs are supporting shifts in learning. These are part of the Ministry of Education led CSR programme with just over \$1 billion being spent repairing and rebuilding the state primary and secondary schools across greater Christchurch.

As these new developments near completion over the next few years Christchurch schools will become a beacon for educationalists to view a range of new innovative teaching spaces. There are a range of new approaches being taken, for example: completely new schools such as Rolleston College, Shirley Boys and Avonside Girls both be completely rebuilt on a new shared site, Aranui High School being replaced with the new Year 1 to 13 Haeata Community Campus, some schools modifying existing buildings by removing walls and experimenting with integrated cross curriculum programmes, while others such as Cashmere High School are blending in some new flexible break out spaces with conventional specialist learning areas. Over the next couple of years Christchurch will certainly be a place to watch with the most modern schools in the country, and a range of new developments in learning and teaching environments and practice.

Nga mihi

Sandy Pasley, President

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