



Sandy Pasley
SPANZ President

24 June 2015

Dear Colleagues

Secondary Teachers' Collective Agreement Negotiations

Some of you may already have received a letter from the PPTA asking whether your part time staff are paid a rate that incorporates non-contact hours on a pro rata basis.

SPANZ is of the view there is no reason not to supply the data in response to the letter, however, if this is agreed to by the Ministry of Education, NZSTA and NZPPTA and becomes part of the negotiated settlement then it is funded by the Ministry. SPANZ would not like to see another "endeavour to" situation arise which has caused no end of consternation to Boards and Principals alike.

For some of you when completing the questionnaire it may be necessary to also articulate the number of part time teachers employed by your Board of Trustees who also have employment at other schools and may do day relief as well.

Measles Outbreaks

To the question of whether a school can insist that students that have not been vaccinated be asked to stay away from school.

Section 19 of the Education Act 1989 allows a Principal to preclude students from attending school if they believe that they have a communicable disease. So this would allow the school to prevent students with measles from attending school, but would not allow the school to prevent students from attending simply where they are not vaccinated, but do not have the illness. Strong encouragement from the school to vaccinate is okay, as is a request for vaccination certificates to be provided so that the school can be aware of the numbers of unvaccinated students.

The Ministry of Health website also has helpful information on this topic www.health.govt.nz

Attached is a notice from the Waikato District Health Board which sets out advice to schools in the Waikato region when in May 2015 there was two confirmed cases of measles in Waikato schools.

In the case of an epidemic of measles then your local district health board will issue guidelines to follow as will the Ministry of Education.

To the question of whether a school can ask a staff member to stay away if they are not vaccinated and there is a measles outbreak.

If they are not vaccinated the school cannot prevent them from working, but again can request vaccination certificates, encourage vaccination for those who are not, and pay for it on behalf of the staff member.

SPANZ Executive

Your Executive are meeting for two days at the end of this week. During their time in Wellington they will meet with the Minister of Education, Secretary for Education and the Deputy CEO of NZQA. The Executive value the opportunity to meet with the Minister and sector leaders to provide input to issues relevant to secondary education.

Nāga mihi

Sandy Pasley
President

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