# New Zealand Principals' Federation



# Federation Flyer 2015











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President's Message

Federation Flyer 11 - 30 April 2015

Tēnā koe

# Canterbury and what it teaches us

In the wake of the Canterbury earthquakes, something I learned from working as the president of the Canterbury Primary Principals' Association (CPPA) was that local regions often have the best solutions to their own issues.

When empowered to lead on those solutions and when the resources requested are forthcoming even the most devastating catastrophes can be worked through. That's how it was in Canterbury. The Ministry and CPPA immediately forged a relationship and worked closely together achieving some really good outcomes. It wasn't always easy as we worked together through what were sometimes controversial issues like closures and mergers, but our relationship was so much healthier than anything others were experiencing.

The current Secretary for Education, Peter Hughes is aware that the Ministry has acted in a very paternalistic way in the past and he wants to change that.

The latest issue to arise post-earthquakes is the high prevalence of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) amongst many Canterbury children. Research, led by the University of Canterbury Researcher, Kathleen Liberty is underway to study the identification, extent, effects and how best to respond to children with PTSD. The findings will have implications far beyond the Canterbury region. There are schools throughout New Zealand with children who may well be suffering the same PTSD symptoms through living in impoverished circumstances or living with drug and alcohol abuse, or who experience violence and physical abuse. Currently most schools respond to the behaviour problems these children present without understanding the underlying causes and that different strategies might be more effective in changing that behaviour.

Recognising that this research has wider implications, NZPF has brokered a meeting with the Secretary for Education, Peter Hughes, David Wales, Special Education and the University of Canterbury Researcher, Kathleen Liberty to discuss the research.

The outcomes we are seeking involve identification techniques and a suite of effective strategies that busy classroom teachers can use to help these children.

# **Northland**

Northland has been in need of support and resources for some time. It has a large number of first-time principals, a high turn-over of principals and the highest number of statutory interventions in the country. What NZPF has done is back our local associations in what they see are the issues and possible solutions. Local associations suggested that an advisor for schools would be a good start and NZPF lobbied for that position. A rural advisor for Northland has recently been appointed through a joint process between the Ministry and the local principals' association. It is time now for a more strenuous strategic approach to support Northland which will include not only the Ministry and local associations but also NZSTA and local iwi. NZPF supports this approach so that Northland support can be strengthened.

Whilst the process of appointing an advisor to support principals in Northland has been a welcome breakthrough, NZPF believes that as the role of principal becomes more and more complex, principals throughout the country could benefit from such advisors. Further, the Review of Statutory Intervention also recommended that support should be available to schools before problems get out of hand. Recently a proposal for principal advisors to be appointed in all regions of the country was sent to the Secretary for Education, Peter Hughes to consider.

Last week I asked you to tell me what administrative and leadership issues are dragging you down. Thank you to everyone who responded. Although I have not fully analysed all the responses yet, I can report that property, special education, charters and audits rank as the most time consuming issues distracting you from your more important leadership work. I can now use this evidence in lobbying for changes on your behalf.

# Special Education review

The Ministry is looking for your input to this review and meetings will be held across the country soon. Your local associations will have been in contact with the regional director for your area and you will be told when these meetings are taking place. If you haven't heard anything contact your regional director.

# NZPF Conference, Wellington

Recently a special Flyer went out to you all announcing that everyone who has registered for conference by May 20 will go into a draw to have their registration fee refunded – a cool incentive for those of you who just haven't got around to completing registration yet! But time is running out, so do put registration on top of your 'urgent jobs' list.

The programme for the Wellington conference is stunning – don't miss it...

Noho ora mai ra



**Denise Torrey** denise@nzpf.ac.nz

#### **UPCOMING DATES**

30 April 5 May 15-16 May David Stewart Memorial Scholarship applications close

Membership Awards applications close

Executive Meeting, Rotorua

#### **CONFERENCE 2015**



**CONFERENCE 2015** 

NZ PRINCIPALS' FEDERATION If you haven't already registered for the 2015 conference to be held in Wellington this year, register now by clicking here.

#### DAVID STEWART MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP





Applications are open for the David Stewart Memorial Scholarship, jointly funded by NZPF and NZEI. Check out the website for details. Applications close on 30 April 2015

Importantly the scholarship will be awarded to the postgraduate applicant who can demonstrate their intention to honour and advance Dr David Stewart's work, which followed the principles of the Te Ariki project. These principles include making sense of complexity, seeing education as an intellectual activity, developing reflective practitioners and building collaboration.

The scholarship timeline below is also available via this link.

#### 2015

January/February

- scholarship application forms on websites
- applications acknowledged on receipt

# 30 April

· applications close

# August

interviews of shortlisted applicants

#### September

- unsuccessful applicants informed
- announcement of recipient (timing agreed by the National Presidents of NZPF and NZEI)

# October/November

Scholarship funding released to recipient

proposed study activities carried out. Final study report received by Te Ariki Trust in December 2016

# **NZPF AWARDS**



It is now time to be thinking about who you may wish to nominate for NZPF life membership, associate membership or service with distinction awards. Nominations close on May 5 2015.

Please refer to the <u>awards</u> section on the NZPF website or click <u>here</u> for more information.

For a nomination form click here.

# PARTICIPANTS FOR RESEARCH IN CO-TEACHING

## Kia ora Colleagues

As you will be aware Canterbury is charging ahead into a rebuild. Most, if not all of the schools, are being re conceptualised as collaborative teaching and learning space.

Many other schools in New Zealand are exploring the power of collaboration between teachers and the opportunity for children to learn in collaborative spaces.

I am completing my thesis this year and have also been awarded the CPPA Fellowship for 2015. My research question for both is:

"What are the key components of an effective co-teaching relationship?"

To that end I am wanting to survey principals and teachers, and interview a sample, who have been involved in co-teaching (also called team teaching) for two years or more. The criteria for involvement in this study;

Have been involved in co-teaching for 2 or more years

- Understand co-teaching/ team teaching as two or more teachers working together to teach in the same instructional
- Happy to complete an online survey (may take up to 60 minutes)
- Would consider being interviewed if invited

My research findings will be published in two formats, a thesis together with a digital resource to be shared through the CPPA website for anyone who is interested. Participants (individuals and schools) will be anonymous and the research will also include some Australian schools that have met the criteria.

If you or some of your teachers meet the criteria and would like to participate please contact me at principal@waitakiri.school.nz and I will make contact.

Neill O'Reilly, Principal, Waitākiri School email: principal@waitakiri.school.nz mobile: 027 270 3300

## **BUSINESS PARTNERSHIPS**

One of the undertakings the NZPF gives its business partners is that at the very least, they are given the opportunity by members to quote for a product, service or solution. PLEASE support our business partners as their assistance is very important to NZPF and to you as members.

Gold

Silver

**Bronze** 



















































We welcome enquiries from businesses that are interested in engaging with schools. If you would like to know how a partnership with NZPF can add value to your business, while supporting New Zealand education, please email Gavin Beere (NZPF's Business Partner Convenor), for an information package and further details about NZPF

#### **National Office**

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For a map showing the location of the National Office in Wellington click here

To update members!

To update membership details click here