

MOOT 2006

A summary of the recurring issues raised during group discussions. Groups were asked to suggest solutions – these are recorded as suggested by the groups.

Principalship

- Leadership / Management debate
- Day to day management load of school leader makes it difficult to lead improvements
- Principal support for dealing with “alligators” – rogue boards/parents ERO, Ministry, sometimes NZEI
- Profile – education (Rotorua) is not perceived well at all

Suggested solutions

– **work with local media to support and promote the profession**

– **promote all the great things**

– **advocacy for NZPF**

– **promote the positive aspects of the profession**

- Sabbatical Leave – an issue of decision making responsibility when Principal away
- Term dates – members need to know what is happening
- CRT – lack of relievers/quality of
- Disparity of Units between primary and secondary

Transiency – social issues have high impact

Suggested solutions:

- **inform/educate parents of impact of transiency**
- **use of “One School is Cool” type of strategy (Manurewa principals)**
- **advertise these brochures nationwide?**

Truancy Review – concern re the number of children who simply disappear

Suggested solutions:

- **NZPF to keep members informed**
- **need to keep it at a local level**

GSE

- **Behaviour issues** - ever increasing complexities and severity - students getting younger; also concern from Otago – severe cases must go via RTLB service in Otago – process too slow when urgent cases arise (query is this a NZ wide policy?)

Suggested solutions:

– **NZPF lobby for resourcing for schools (not contestable and not heaps of forms) and appropriate training for teacher aides and communicate successes from this**

– **NZPF needs to continue to lobby for more Social Workers in Schools**

- **ORRS Funding** – expectation that .1 or .2 teacher time allocation be used to supplement insufficient TA hours nor should have to use SEG monies

Suggested solutions:

– **guidelines from NZPF on how to use ORRS funding**

– **NZPF to take this back to Sally Jackson**

ORRS students – difficulty to get students verified, difficulties when such students shift schools

Suggested solutions – NZPF continue to lobby around these issues

- **Students with special needs** – not enough money to deliver appropriate services
- **Supplementary Funding** – Taumaranui unable to access at same level as Hamilton schools
Suggested solutions – funding should be needs based not location based
- **Transition from ECE** – lose hours in move from ECE to school
Suggested solutions:
 - more NZPF consultation and support
 - NZPF to work on this so funding goes with the child

Hauora – principals under stress

- accessing help (STA and NZEI may be in conflict)
- Legal Benefits Scheme
- Good that it has been pursued - time to move off this
- Keep up email tree

Resourcing

- **Office staff** – the cost of employing suitably qualified staff
- **Cost of ITC in schools** – Ops grant – not covering it
Suggested solutions:
 - NZPF disseminate the information through the email tree
 - open it up for discussion
 - need to identify all those costs that have been put onto schools in the last ten years
- **Underspent Banked Staffing** – Government taking back the money is wrong
Suggested solutions:
 - spread it over the year
 - NZPF lobby for rollover or reimbursement
- **Compliance costs** e.g. fire extinguishers – Schools need to be effectively resourced to deal with compliance
Suggested solutions:
 - a watchdog group monitoring legislation changes and the impact on schools
 - lobbying for schools to be effectively resourced