Findings from the 2013 NZCER primary and intermediate schools national survey

## WHAT IS IT?

The NZCER primary and intermediate schools national survey was carried out in July- August 2013. We questioned principals, teachers and trustees at a representative sample of schools, and sought the views of a random sample of 1 in 4 parents in 36 of these schools. In all, the survey gathered data from 180 principals, 713 teachers, 277 trustees and 684 parents. Full details of the response rate and sampling methodology are available on the NZCER website.
www.nzcer.org.nz/reserch/national-survey

## PRINCIPALS AND TEACHERS SAY:

IENJOY MY JOB
2013 2013

## MY WORKLOAD IS MANAGEABLE

$\square$

| 200 | $58 \%$ |
| :---: | :---: |
| 208 | $49 \%$ |
| 200 | $56 \%$ |

MY MORALE IS HIGH OR VERY HIGH
$2013 \quad 72 \%$
2010

$$
2010
$$

MY STRESS LEVELS ARE HIGH OR VERY HIGH


WHAT I WOULD CHANGE ABOUT MY JOB (TOP FIVE)

| MORE TIME TO READ/REFLECT/BE INNOVATIVE | 68\% |
| :---: | :---: |
| MORE TIME TO FOCUS ON EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP | 59\% |
| REDUCE ADMINISTRATION/PAPERWORK | 54\% |
| IMPROVE PUBLIC UNDERSTANDING OF EDUCATION 48\% |  |
| MORE ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF SUPPORT 42\% |  |


| REDUCE ADMINISTRATION/PAPERWORK |  |
| :--- | :---: |
| MORE TIME TO WORK WITH INDIVIDUAL STUDENTS | $\mathbf{7 4 \%} \%$ |
| MORE NON-CONTACT TIME | $\mathbf{6 0} \%$ |
| MORE TIME TO REFLECT/PLAN/SHARE IDEAS | $55 \%$ |
| BETTER PAY | $54 \%$ |

## THE SCHOOL STATS

Top five challenges facing schools (as ranked by principals)


ADEQUACY OF ICT EQUIPMENT AND
INTERNET ACCESS


10\%


TOO MUCH IS BEING
ASKED OF SCHOOLS


PROPERTY


38\%

SCHOOL
DECILE I-2

DECILE 3-4

MEDIAN PAYMENT


MEDIAN PAYMENT RATE


GOVERNMENT OPERATIONAL FUNDING MEETS OUR NEEDS

| 2013 | $\%$ |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2010 | $\%$ |

SCHOOL HAS PROBLEMS FILLING VACANCIES
2013 2g\%

2010 44\%

TEACHING STAFF ENTITLEMENT IS ENOUGH TO MEET NEEDS
$2013 \quad 29 \%$

## CURRICULUM AND LEARNING

 [10]

38 percent of principals and 39 percent of teachers see the New Zealand Curriculum as a driving force in the school.


About a third (31 percent teachers/ 34 percent principals) say the focus on English and mathematics and statistics had taken their attention away from other aspects of the NZC.


21 percent of teachers say
National Standards are driving the school (3 percent of principals agree)

## STUDENT WELLBEING AND BEHAVIOUR

Student behaviour causing serious disruption to teaching was an issue for almost half the teachers, with 13 percent experiencing disruption frequently. 85 percent of teachers had never felt unsafe at school, 14 percent occasionally felt unsafe and less than one percent frequently felt unsafe.

Schools are changing their approach to student wellbeing. Most schools report active teaching of goal setting and problem solving, relationship and social skills, and emotional skills.

## RELATIONSHIPS

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\begin{array}{l|l|l}
59 \% & 72 \% & 26 \%
\end{array}
$$

of schools compete directly with other schools for students.
Figure is higher for decile 1-2 schools - 81\%
of schools belong to a professional learning cluster

## 26\%

## 26\%

of schools are pooling their administrative support (10 percent in 2010)

of staff visit other schools to learn from them

of staff are involved in inter-school moderation of National Standards data
(13 percent in 2010)

of schools could provide continuity of reo for students coming from kohanga.

## PARENTS

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Most parents were able to access their school of choice - only 6 percent said it was not their first choice. 11 percent of Māori parents and 12 percent of Pasifika said it was not their first choice.

89 percent of parents said they were happy with the quality of their child's schooling.

Parents of children in decile 1-2 schools were the most satisfied with their child's experience across a range of measures.

Parents of Year 7-8 students were less positive than parents of younger students about most of the aspects of their child's experience.

## PARENTS' TOP FIVE ISSUES

## FUNDING

## INGREASING PARENT SUPPORT FOR CHILDRENS LEARNING

$\square$
IMPROVING STUDENT BEHAVIOUR

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES



48 percent of trustees had some other governance experience


49 percent of trustees have a university degree


Most trustees spend
1-2 hours a week on their role, with board chairs spending longer.

## MORE INFORMATION

The survey covers many other topics, including technology in schools, the role of boards of trustees, and teacher professional development. The full report from the survey is available for free download from our website at: www.nzcer.org/research/national-survey

