



Update from the latest NZSPC meeting

The New Zealand Secondary Principals' Council met in Wellington on 21 and 22 June and covered a number of current issues, as well as meeting with the new Minister of Education. NZSPC discussed Investing in Educational Success (IES) implementation and some ongoing challenges and inconsistencies. PPTA advisory officer Rob Willetts presented interim findings of the PPTA Communities of Learning (CoL) survey, which will be on the PPTA website soon.

School transport

Ministry of Education officials presented on the changes to school transport, the organisation of which is being taken back in-house after 30 years of being contracted out. There are eight regional transport advisors who will be contacting schools.

school.transport@education.govt.nz is the new email for school transport queries.

Special education dispute resolution and ITE changes

Other MoE staff discussed the new special education dispute resolution service.

Education Council staff spoke about the consultation on changes to initial teacher education. More information (and submissions on this) can be found on the Education Council website.

[Initial teacher education consultation](#)

Check out the NZSPC website

For a more detailed meeting report, daily news updates and secondary principal resources visit the NZSPC website.

[Secondary Principal's Council meeting notes, June 2017](#)

Meeting with new Minister of Education

A delegation from NZSPC went to meet with new Minister of Education Nikki Kaye and Secretary for Education Iona Holsted last week. The agenda covered PLD provision, the funding review, IES, the Education Act and school governance. The minister was eager to listen to the concerns raised and indicated that she was keen to make an announcement about the funding review replacement for decile before the election. She also indicated that there may be 'greater flexibilities' in regards to CoL achievement challenges and pointed to the Otumoetai CoL's well-being focused challenge as one she thought was a sign of that.

Teacher supply



The recognition of a problem seems to be sinking in, with the minister acknowledging that there are around 300 teachers short in Auckland at present. PPTA's annual staffing survey demonstrated that the supply situation is worsening across the country with:

- Principals more pessimistic about recruiting and retaining teachers than they have been since the late 1990s
- Average number of applicants per job the lowest since 1998
- One in 11 classroom teaching positions advertised had no applicants
- One in three middle leadership positions had no choice of applicants

There is still far too little action on this from the ministry. PPTA continues to push for action on the agreed recommendations in the Teacher Supply Report, but believes that even if all the agreed recs are carried out, the problem would not go away. The implications of this for the STCA round in 2018 will be significant.

[Secondary school staffing reports](#)

Favourite Teacher Awards

Nominate your most inspiring teacher



We wouldn't normally promote this sort of thing, but this is a nice opportunity to shine a light on some great stories about schools and teachers. The Sunday Star Times and TVNZ Breakfast are running entirely unscientific and fun 'favourite teacher' awards, and are profiling teachers from around the country for the next month. You may want to put a link to this in your school newsletter and encourage parents or students to nominate.

All the stories from around New Zealand will be running on the Stuff website which provides a link to the nominations page and you can also link to the nominations page directly if you wish to highlight the awards in your newsletter or on your website.

[Favourite Teacher Awards](#)

[Favourite Teacher Awards nominations page](#)

[A great 'favourite teacher award' example involving some of our members](#)

Nominations close on Friday, July 21. The regional winners will be announced on Sunday, July 30, and the overall winners a week later. The winners - both the nominator and the nominated teacher - will get a nice weekend away: travel, accommodation, a dinner out and double passes to Matilda, the Musical.

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 **Forward**