

NZEI Student/Beginning Teacher Newsletter

Issue 3, May 2011



Hi all student and beginning teacher members of NZEI! This third newsletter brings us news from YMN Hui, upcoming seminars and some great opportunities to get involved in local campaign activity.

YMN Hui was held at Silverstream Retreat in Wellington, from 20-21st April, and we had a blast! 20 students and 20 beginning teachers attended from all over the country, primary and early childhood (and one support staff member!). We brainstormed some great ideas for local activities; from organising someone from NZEI to come and talk to student teachers, filming a clip for youtube, to encouraging local primary beginning teachers to 'adopt an ECE teacher' and vice versa. Everyone left the hui with a clear action plan for their area.

We've also revamped the YMN page on the NZEI website. Check it out at www.nzei.org.nz/ymn. It features a short presentation that outlines the benefits of NZEI membership- take a look if you need to refresh your memory, or if you've got friends who want to join too!

And finally, don't forget our Facebook page (search NZEI for Students and Beginning Teachers). We've recently updated it with photos from YMN Hui, and you can see how....interesting....our venue was!

Cheers guys- have the best term two / end of semester one ever!

Cordelia Huxtable

National Student/Beginning Teacher Organiser

P.S: the New Zealand Teacher's Council have just completed a research project in Induction and Mentoring for beginning teachers. They've come up with guidelines for beginning teachers, tutor teachers and school/centre leaders. Check it out at www.teacherscouncil.govt.nz!

YMN Hui 2011!



FAQs Relievers! (Primary and ECE)

Registration and starting an Advice and Guidance programme

The minimum amount of work you must do for a school or a centre to provide you with an advice and guidance programme is:

- 12.5 child contact hours per week (equal to 0.5 FTTE)
- Blocks of 10 weeks minimum

Q: I have two part time teaching positions at different learning centres. Can I combine my hours to meet the minimum of 0.5 FTTE?

A: Yes. However, you can only have one tutor teacher, and they must be able to observe you teaching at both schools/centres. Again, you have to be at both of these sites for 10 weeks minimum.

Starting on the correct salary step as a casual reliever in schools

Q: I need to fill in a salary assessment form so I'm not paid at an untrained teacher rate. However, I need to get a principal to sign this form, and I don't have a job yet. I'm starting off with casual relieving instead. What do I do?

R: Download the Salary Assessment form from www.schoolpayroll.govt.nz. Make sure you have all of your documentation ready, and then when you are hired for your first teaching job— even if you're not sure you will be back at that school again— ask the principal to check over and sign your form.

Need more information?

- **Ring 0800 NZEI HELP**
- **Visit <http://www.nzei.org.nz/Teacher+Registration.html>. There is lots of information on salary, employment conditions and advice and guidance programmes**

What's coming up on the NZEI calendar?

June– July: seminars for beginning teachers

See article below left

1 July– Nationwide ECE Day of Action

Protests! Marches! Placards! Check out our Facebook page for information on what's being organised for your area

16-19 July: Te Kahui Whetu, Wanganui

Te Kahui Whetu is the annual NZEI Hui focusing on Māori Education. If you're keen to attend as a student or beginning teacher, get in touch with your local Aronui Tomua, or contact yymn@nzei.org.nz for more info.

20-21st August: NZEI Annual Meeting, Wellington

Check out the 'How do I get to Annual Meeting' article. We strongly encourage students and beginning teachers to consider attending this important NZEI event.

September: Starting Out Workshops for graduating ECE students

Are you an ECE student graduating mid year, or end of year 2011? Then come along to our free workshops and find out how to apply for registration, starting an induction and mentoring programme, making sure you're being paid correctly, and meet other ECE teachers in your area! Keep an eye on our Facebook page for more information over the coming months.

And do you want to know the best part? All of these events are free to attend with NZEI membership! So take advantage and get involved!



Seminars for beginning teachers (ECE and Primary)

We've got seminars for beginning teachers coming up all over the country. These are all short sessions (2-3hours) and will give you tips and information about working towards full registration, information on your entitlements in our collective agreements, and a chance to socialise with other beginning teachers in your area! These are for primary and early childhood teachers.



Check out the information on how to register at www.nzei.org.nz/yymn. Click on the "courses" tab.

How do I get to Annual Meeting?

Students

NZEI Area Councils have an entitlement to send their Chairperson and **2 student teacher members**.

If you are a student, and don't already have links with your Area Council:

- find them (we can help)
- talk with them about the YMN Hui and what's happened since (offer them a copy of your branch report...)
- tell them you'd love to attend AM to learn more / participate / support your colleagues



Beginning Teachers

Branches / Aronui Tomua / Komiti Pasifika have an entitlement to send a certain number of members based on a formula (approx 1 rep per 95 full-time equivalent members).

For large branches that means a lot of reps, for small branches often only 1 rep and 1 observer.

If you want to get to AM, branches will be selecting reps at their meetings (some have already started this process).

They will be looking for a range of members to take, and will be interested in those who show a willingness to be active and involved.

- make contact (in person, by phone- be brave!) with the branch president
- ask when the next meeting is, and plan to attend it
- ask them what the process is for getting selected to go to AM
- tell them you'd love to attend AM to learn more / participate / support your colleagues

Be friendly and enthusiastic!

If you didn't attend YMN Hui, but like the sound of Annual Meeting and think that you'd be a good rep for students and beginning teachers, email ymn@nzei.org.nz

Student? Want to know more about what we do?

We organise NZEI lectures for all first and third year students, but some people slip through the gaps. If you'd like someone to come and talk to your class then have a chat with your lecturer and send me an email. We'd love to come and tell you what we do, plus fill you in on important things like teacher registration, salary, and sick leave!



(Mmm pancakes...a lot of our student recruitment revolves around free food! BBQs, pancakes, soup- we do it all!)

If you already are a student member, and would like to spread the amazingness of NZEI and YMN to your peers, then I have tons of great resources for just that purpose! Email ymn@nzei.org.nz and we can have a chat about the best thing to do on your campus.

The Magical World of Online Communication!

Become a fan on **Facebook**, search **NZEI for students and beginning teachers**. The page is updated with events specific to students and BTs, photos, links, videos, FAQs and students and BTs chatting with each other from all over the country!

If you're looking for deeper discussion about issues, then join the YMN **Google Group**, where students and BTs talk about professional and political issues, share classroom ideas and resources with each other, plan YMN action and support each other. To join you have to be added, so email ymn@nzei.org.nz

The 2011 government budget continues chronic cuts to education

**WE'RE USED TO BUDGET FOOD,
BUT
WE WON'T ACCEPT A**



Join the campaign. Like us on facebook. Sign on to stay updated.
www.demandabetterfuture.org.nz

Check out the campaign against cuts to tertiary education run by NZUSA on their facebook page (search: "Demand a Better Future") or website www.demandabetterfuture.co.nz

At NZEI, we're interested in hearing from any student teachers who are going to be negatively affected by these cuts. If you think you're one of these people, let us know at ymn@nzei.org.nz.

Election-a-rama! NZEI's "Big Idea"

Unless you're living under a rock (or, actually, just too flat out in your classroom/centre, for which you'll be forgiven) it'll be hard to ignore the fact that this is an election year – November 26th to be precise! NZEI recognises that NZ has a world class education system, despite what we're seeing in the media. We're calling for a Big Conversation- or 100,000 Big Conversations! That's right, we want every member to have a conversation with two other people about moving our education system from great to excellent.

So, I challenge you with this: visit <http://www.nzei.org.nz/Whats+On/The+Big+Idea.html>, read up on our Big Idea and see why we're doing it, and then go out and have at least two conversations! And here's a some suggestions, nicely structured into a short conversation to start you off with! Yes!

<p>I love teaching because every child is unique. They learn at different rates and in different ways, they have different interests and strengths. My job is to teach each of them to realise their full potential.</p> <p>You may not know it, but New Zealand's centres and schools are rated amongst the top in the world. But some kids are still missing out. That's why we need more investment in education to meet every child's needs.</p>		
<p>If you're in an Early Childhood context...</p>	<p>If you're interested in boosting Māori achievement...</p>	<p>If you're in a school...</p>
<p>Every child deserves a fully qualified early childhood education teacher to give them the best start in life.</p> <p>They deserve teachers who know how to build strong relationships with children, grow their strengths and interests and work with them to develop a keenness to learn and explore.</p>	<p>Most Māori kids are in mainstream ECE centres or primary schools. Most Māori children do well.</p> <p>But all children deserve to get an education that recognises and values their own culture and identity. Every child should have the opportunity to learn in and through Te Reo Māori.</p>	<p>When they get to primary school, every child deserves a broad education that meets their needs, not a narrow "one size fits all" approach like National Standards. They need school to boost their confidence to learn, not label them as failures.</p> <p>Teachers can give a better picture of a child's progress and achievement than any national standard.</p>
<p>We want to Government to move education in the right direction for all our children and invest in what we know works best for children and their learning.</p>		

Photos of NZEI members wearing campaign t-shirts at Annual Meeting 2010.

I bet these guys are having some great conversations!



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www.nzei.org.nz/ymn