

**September 8 2009/e6**

**Kia ora, greetings to you all!**

### **Invitation to Annual Meeting Lobby Network activists lunch forum**

Thanks to all of you who have responded to our survey about the lobby network, either on-line or by phone. Based on your feedback, we've decided to postpone lobby seminars until early 2010, when NZEI campaign plans and political strategies for the year ahead should be clearer and the seminars will have more value for planning our lobbying.

In the meantime, all lobby network activists attending Annual Meeting at the end of September are invited to a lunch forum on Wednesday 30th September. The venue will be a meeting room in the Town Hall and lunch will be provided. Please RSVP to Stephanie Mills [stephanie.mills@nzei.org.nz](mailto:stephanie.mills@nzei.org.nz), ph 027 448 6226 by Monday September 21st.

### **Lobbying about National Standards**

The Government will shortly be confirming the numeracy and literacy standards, and they will be gazetted in October. NZEI is keen to see the profession's views on national standards communicated clearly to MPs.

In brief:

- NZEI supports the right of parents to clear reporting of their child's learning progress and achievement
- NZEI wants to see national standards implemented in a way that is educationally sound and reinforces effective teaching and learning
- NZEI opposes the creation of school "league tables"
- NZEI believes the Curriculum – which provides expectations for learning across a wide range of areas – should drive teaching and learning. National standards and other assessment practices are tools to support that teaching and learning.

### **Actions for Lobbyists**

**Please book an appointment with your MP to discuss national standards, and if possible, invite them to visit a local school to watch teaching and learning in action.** Discuss with the principal/senior teachers how MPs can be involved in gaining a greater understanding of current assessment practices and the new curriculum.

Go to:

<http://www.nzei.org.nz/Membership+Networks+Menu/Membership+Networks/Lobby+Network.html>

to download a briefing for MPs about NZEI's views on national standards and an action sheet with guidance for you. There are also a number of background papers at <http://www.nzei.org.nz/National+Standards.html> and further discussion of key issues at [www.nationalstandards.org.nz](http://www.nationalstandards.org.nz)

Don't hesitate to contact me if you have any queries or want further information.

Looking forward to seeing those of you attending Annual Meeting!

Best wishes

Stephanie Mills  
NZEI Communications Director