

Summary of the Principals' Council meeting held at NZEI Te Riu Roa National Office 25 – 26 February 2011.

Christchurch Earthquake

The Council observed a minute of silence to reflect on the Christchurch earthquake. This was followed by discussion around how NZEI might best provide support.

Plenary Session

The National President Ian Leckie welcomed new National Executive Advisory Group (NEAG) members followed by induction activities and discussion around NEAGs' roles in implementing NZEI sector strategies.

Darrell Ward provided an update on the MoE and NZEI actions to support Christchurch earthquake victims.

The National Secretary Paul Goulter spoke about government movement towards a value added approach in education.

Industrial Issues

Neil Hammond briefed the Council on the primary principals' collective agreement and the recently settled secondary principals' agreement; the upcoming area school principals' bargaining; information regarding support staff bargaining, and discussion about the principals' sector plan.

Professional Matters

Mary Chamberlain and Darren Gammie provided an overview of the Ministry's professional learning and development interventions for principals.

Sandie Aikin presented a summary of - the RAINS research; the paper 'National Standards: the Public Debate', and OECD education achievement ratings using assessment data from TIMSS, PIRLS and PISA.

The Council received updates on the following NZEI Campaigns:

- Quality Public Education (QPE) campaign and NZEI's vision for education.
- Election Campaign update - information was provided about the upcoming election hui and the next steps in the national standards campaign.
- Workforce Strategy – progress of the working group and an outline of actions advisory group members could undertake once the report has been published.
- Support Staff Fair Deal Campaign – the Support Staff National Caucus met with the Council to discuss how principals could support their campaign

Other Reports Received:

- National Executive Liaison – report on the work of the National Executive.
- RTLB Transformation Programme – a report on the meeting of the Principals' Working Group
- Principal Support Officers (PSOs) – update on work and activities of the four regional PSOs
- Payroll - latest information regarding payment of salaries to South Island school staff
- School Property – MoE assurance that regional school property forum meetings would be held this year
- Rural Education Reference Group Meeting – MoE update on school transport matters, RERG members' reports and work on drafting RERG priorities/position paper.