

20 January 2010

Support Staff Online Survey August/September 2009

Questions asked in survey

- In your job do you have direct contact with teachers and students?
- In your job do you have in-direct contact with teachers and students?
- In my role I am valued by my Principal for my support of teaching programmes.
- In my role I am valued by the teachers I work with for my support of student learning.
- I have a positive impact on student learning.
- I have a positive impact supporting teaching programmes.
- In my workplace I get relevant profession development opportunities.
- I have an effective appraisal process.
- I have input into student Individual Education Plans (IEPs).
- We have regular support staff meetings.
- I am invited to participate in regular whole staff meetings or professional development meetings.
- I feel involved in the educational processes of the school.
- I know I am doing well in my job because:
 - I am treated with respect by my colleagues
 - I am treated with respect by the community ie: parents
 - I feel valued as a staff member
 - My suggestions are valued.

Data

- 97% of respondents have direct contact with teachers and students in their daily job.
- 70% felt highly or very highly valued by their Principal in supporting teaching programmes.
- 78% felt highly or very highly valued by teachers, for supporting student learning.

- 89% of respondents felt they made a positive or very positive impact on student learning.
- 87% of respondents felt they had a positive or very positive impact supporting teaching programmes.
- More than a third of respondents (40%) had little or no professional development opportunities.
- 60% confirmed they had an effective appraisal process in their school.
- Almost a half of respondents (47%) had almost no input into IEP's for students.
- The opportunity for support staff to meet together in schools was variable with over half (57%) having regularly scheduled meetings, and 22% never having the opportunity to meet as a group.
- 74% of respondents do not have the opportunity to engage in whole school professional development

Comments

Almost 2000 NZEI Te Riu Roa support staff members responded to this online survey which was 'live' for a period of six weeks in August and September 2009. This represents 15% of total support staff members.

Although support staff feel they have a strong impact on supporting student learning, the opportunity for professional conversations, participation in professional development and/or IEPs is not provided by schools and this lack of access to professional learning – in its fullest sense - for support staff would reduce their ability to effectively support student learning.