



### Editorial

PAT LYNCH

#### FUTURE PROOFING OUR STUDENTS AND THE NATION

Close observers of the international market place know that keeping abreast of the changing patterns of developments is a sine qua non, if one is to stay on the ball as a leader of an educational community, however small or large. Simply keeping in touch with New Zealand issues is insufficient when international events are the real drivers of what occurs in this country.

New Zealanders are great travellers and have a largely positive view of the benefits of globalisation.

The last few years have stripped out high wage, middle level jobs – technology has seen to this. Instead of the mindset being, “find a job”, the new reality is, what job can I invent? Or what skill set can I bring to an employer which will add value to the enterprise, whatever this happens to be?

To be in this new league an individual has to be able to demonstrate a wide general knowledge base, plus a specific set of hard skills, as well as a strong suit of soft skills, particularly motivation, collaboration and enthusiasm

For over a generation some leaders in education and business have cajoled their groups to learn from one another and not engage in tribal warfare, since each group needs the others. School graduates need to prepare themselves to become positive participants in the world of enterprise, while businesses and NGO's need to support the education sector for obvious reasons.

In order to engage and motivate our young people projects in maths, science, language and the social sciences need to have a real world look about them. Solving real problems and developing entrepreneurial approaches to social issues are all part of teaching students how to think, both individually, and in teams. If this becomes the context in which teaching occurs, students will indeed be able to create their own jobs or ably demonstrate to a prospective employer they are able to manipulate information and create new knowledge from the data which is swimming in the internet.

The great market place of the world never stands still – educators and societal leaders ignore change to the detriment of their students' chances in life.

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#### Greetings

Nau mai, haere mai ki te whānau ākongā o Aotearoa.

We wish you well as you commence the autumn term. It is good to see the green grass again after the drought.

#### Powers of Boards of Trustees Further Defined in Education Amendment Bill

Following the submission process on the proposed 2013 Education Amendment Bill, Section 75 of the Bill now states:

“**Functions and powers of boards** (1) A school's board must perform its functions and exercise its powers in such a way as to ensure that every student at the school is able to attain his or her highest possible standard in educational achievement. (2) Except to the extent that any enactment or the general law of New Zealand provides otherwise, a school's board has complete discretion to control the management of the school as it thinks fit.”

#### Your School Newsletters Enable Us to Showcase Your Students' Achievements

We source the items in the Congratulations sections from your school newsletters. We welcome you sending us specific information about national level achievements of your students.

#### Circulating Lighting New Fires

Lighting New Fires is directed to school staff, Proprietors, Boards of Trustees, interested parishioners, and a range of those in the education sector and in politics. If you wish for more copies please contact us. A digital copy of the publication is placed on our website, [www.nzceo.org.nz](http://www.nzceo.org.nz) at the same time as the paper copy is sent out. We are happy for you to pass on this publication, or to quote from it when reporting to your wider community.

#### Launch of New Website for NZ Teachers Council

The new Teachers Council website went live on 26 March. Its focus is to guide teachers throughout their career journey, from becoming a teacher and registering as a teacher onwards. Interactive items, case studies and flowcharts are a feature of the site. See [www.teacherscouncil.govt.nz](http://www.teacherscouncil.govt.nz).

#### Can Boards of Trustees Vary the Number of Proprietor's Appointees on the Board?

Boards of Trustees may not vary the number of Proprietor's Appointees on their Board. Only the Proprietor has the right to do this. The Board should contact the Proprietor if it considers that there are reasons to reduce the number of its Proprietor Appointees.

#### Congratulations

Sandy Pasley, principal of Baradene College, Auckland, is congratulated on being elected as the new Vice President of SPANZ, the Secondary Principals Association of New Zealand.



**Congratulations to:**

**Congratulations to Schools and Individuals**

**Otago, Southland Regions:**

**Columba College, Dunedin:** Nicole Samuel has won a New Zealand Blue Light Youth Scholarship of Excellence to attend the Australian Blue Light Leadership Camp in Canberra.

**John McGlashan College, Dunedin:** At 12 years old, Alex Lechie-Zaharic is the youngest competitor ever to qualify for the New Zealand Scrabble Championship in its 30 year history.

**Verdon College, Invercargill:** Benjamin Simpson and Alasdair O'Reilly competed in the RNZPBA National Pipe Band Championships in the juvenile grade, their band placing 1st in their grade.

**St Hilda's Collegiate, Dunedin:** Emma Cunningham won the Best Photo category in the New Zealand Walking Access Commission's Top Outdoor Spot competition.

**St Kevin's College, Oamaru:** Sean Hand, William Plunkett, Jahn Rodger and Sian Waters were awarded the Duke of Edinburgh's Hillary Gold Award. Jibi Kunnettedam gained 2nd place in the National Final of the ANZ RSA Cyril Bassett VC Speech Competition.

**Canterbury, South Canterbury and West Coast Regions:**

**St Patrick's School, Waimate:** Students from the senior class took top place overall in the Sumdog New Zealand Nationals.

**Craighead Diocesan School, Timaru:** Libby Barker and Emma Buchanan were awarded the Duke of Edinburgh's Hillary Gold Award.

**Kapiti Coast, Horowhenua, Wairarapa, Wellington, Nelson, Buller and Marlborough Regions:**

**Sacred Heart College, Lower Hutt:** Sarah Pereira received the ZONTA International Young Women in Public Affairs Club Award.

**Garin College, Nelson:** Bonnie MacGregor acted in an advertisement for Genesis which is now playing on TV. Lily Warner has been selected in the New Zealand Secondary Schools' Symphony Orchestra.

**St Mary's College, Wellington:** Sudha Kandarpa was runner-up at the Race Unity Speech Competition - this competition focusses on celebrating diversity in New Zealand.

**Taranaki, Wanganui, Manawatu, Rangitikei and Hawkes Bay Regions:**

**Lindisfarne College, Hastings:** After being selected as a clarinettist and bass clarinettist in the New Zealand Secondary Schools' Symphony Orchestra, Joshua White successfully passed his examination to become an Associate of Trinity College, London. He was also selected to attend a summer course with the Auckland Philharmonic Orchestra.

**Nga Tawa Diocesan School, Marton:** Emily Joe has been accepted into the New Zealand Secondary Schools' Symphony Orchestra.

**St Mary's Diocesan School, Stratford:** Katherine Wisnewski has been accepted to attend a workshop at Toi Whakaari: NZ Drama School in acting and auditioning for film and theatre.

**St Anne's School, Wanganui:** Jaime Keelty was the ball carrier for the Pulse v Firebirds game on Easter Monday.

**Sacred Heart Girls' College, New Plymouth:** Former student Bryony Williams has won two significant singing competitions in London: the Joyce and Michael Kennedy Award for the singing of Strauss, and the Frederic Cox Singing Competition at the Royal National College of Music.

**St Peter's College, Palmerston North:** At the National Championships of VEX Robotics the school robot, Lucius, finished top of the ranking at the end of qualifying games.

**Northland and Auckland Regions:**

**John Paul College, Rotorua:** Jessie Colbert gained a place on the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra National Mentoring Programme for 2013, playing double bass. Sam Mickleson has been awarded the New Zealand Speech Melda Townsley Award for Excellence in the Use of Language and Expression in Speech and Drama for New Zealand.

**De La Salle College, Mangere:** In February the Literacy Centre hosted a visit by Dr Ischinger, the Director of Education for the OECD. She met with some of the boys and the Senior Leadership Team, as well as visiting the Careers room and some of the classes. Just before Easter, in front of the whole school, 36 staff and students took an active part in a 'washing of the feet' ceremony from the Holy Thursday evening liturgy, which also stressed one of the key De La Salle values of service to others.

**St Pius X School, Glen Innes, Auckland:** The song 'Good Friends' by Angelica Siale and Uprising Vibrations was placed 2nd in the 2013 national Hook Line and Singalong competition. The song can be heard at [www.hooklineandsingalong.com](http://www.hooklineandsingalong.com).



*"Nap time's over, Ms. Doan. You have to wake them up."*

## E-Learning Information

The Ministry of Education's specialist website, [www.elearning.tki.org.nz](http://www.elearning.tki.org.nz) has up to date information on the school network upgrade, when individual schools will be connected to ultra fast broadband, and the network for learning. It is worth checking.

## ERO Evaluates Schools' Commitment to Māori Students

Over the last year ERO has asked schools very specific questions about how they are engaging with and supporting Māori communities, and what plans they are actioning to accelerate educational outcomes for Māori. They have also asked how schools gathered specific evidence on the success of their strategies to promote educational success of Māori, as Māori.

## 2012 NCEA Results Show Improvements

Final NCEA results from 2012 show significant levels of improvement. Sixty schools last year created improvements of 15% in their results, and these schools were distributed across the deciles. National figures show a 3.5% increase in Pasifika achievement and a 2% increase in Māori achievement. Students, teachers, principals, parents and the wider community have all played a part in this success, and are congratulated.

## Recent Publications from the Education Review Office

- 'School Trustees – Helping you ask the right questions' has been written for boards of trustees. The booklet, launched in mid April, focuses on questions and information about student achievement and student welfare.
- 'Board Employment Responsibilities: Linking Charter Targets to Appraisal in Primary Schools' was published in late February 2013. This covers appraisal for both teachers and principals. Its statistics show that many Boards of Trustees still need to strengthen their processes.

See the ERO website, or request copies from [info@ero.govt.nz](mailto:info@ero.govt.nz).

## News from the Human Rights in Education Trust

A recent newsletter quotes Fernando Reimers (Harvard Graduate School of Education): "Global competency is first, fundamentally, about values and ethical dispositions.... I find the Universal Declaration of Human Rights a good attempt at developing a global ethical compact that can help us.... We can't take for granted that all people share these global values or that they will be able to adopt them unassisted, and for this reason they must be taught." Visit [www.rightsined.org.nz](http://www.rightsined.org.nz) or go to twitter to follow Human Rights in Ed @HRIET.

## "I Drive Better When I'm High – Would you Like Facts with That?"

A new brochure and other information countering the false beliefs of young people about driving when they have taken drugs is available at Facebook site [www.drivinghigh.org.nz](http://www.drivinghigh.org.nz)

*"Tell me and I will forget, show me and I may not remember, involve me and I will understand."*

Native American Proverb

## Religious Studies Achievement Standards to be Reviewed

The Ministry of Education has signalled that it will undertake a review of the Religious Studies Achievement Standards, focusing on whether they are fit for purpose, and whether there is a suitable progression between levels one, two and three. The review was originally timetabled to take place after three years of use of the Standards. Submissions on the review will be called for in due course.



*"Now I just have to change Wikipedia to match my home-work answers."*

## Welcome News

In late November the Education and Pacific Island Affairs Ministries jointly launched the Pasifika Education Plan. The two Ministries will work together to increase Pasifika students' participation and achievement in education, putting families and communities at the centre of decision making.

## 'Languages in Aotearoa New Zealand' Royal Society of New Zealand Paper

Over the last two decades New Zealand has become one of a small number of culturally and linguistically superdiverse countries. Superdiversity indicates a level of cultural complexity surpassing anything previously experienced. New Zealand is now home to 160 languages. Auckland is now one of the most diverse cities in the world. 2013 marks the 21st anniversary of the release of the 'Aotearoa: Speaking for Ourselves' report commissioned by the Ministry of Education. This document was to be a precursor to a NZ national languages policy, which has not yet been developed. However, the New Zealand Human Rights Commission developed a draft policy in 2010, which includes among its priorities for action: "Include te reo and tikanga Māori in teacher education and professional development to ensure their effective use in teaching. Ensure the continued survival and use of the Cook Islands Māori, Niuean and Tokelauan languages in New Zealand and foster the retention and use of other Pacific languages. Ensure that all new migrants and refugees have access to appropriate English language tuition."

## Education New Zealand Appoints Three New Directors

Alexandra Grace has been appointed Regional Director Greater China (based in Beijing), Guergana Guermanoff has been appointed Regional Director for Europe, the Americas, Japan and Korea (Wellington-based) and Izak Human has been appointed Regional Director South East Asia (Kuala Lumpur-based). ENZ can provide contact details.

## Equity and Quality in Education: Supporting Disadvantaged Students and Schools

The executive summary of this OECD document is available at [www.oecd.org/edu/equity](http://www.oecd.org/edu/equity). It provides an important set of recommendations to combat school failure and dropout, improve school equity and reduce school failure. It provides a very useful background to the educational discussion occurring in every school on this topic.

## Minister Praises School Charter Completion

The Minister of Education has praised schools for their efficiency in getting school charters in by the 1 March deadline. By 7 March 75% of schools had submitted their charters, and some others had been granted extensions to the deadline. By late April 97% of charters were in.

## Did You Know?

- An average of 435,000 police vets are processed each year in New Zealand, with a cost to Police of around \$2.2million per annum.
- As part of that total the New Zealand Teachers Council generates approximately 28,699 requests for vets for those new to teaching or renewing practising certificates.

*"The vocation of every person is to serve other people."*

Leo Tolstoy



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## Handbook for Boards of Trustees of Catholic Schools – 2013 edition – of Interest to All Integrated Schools

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The 2013 edition of the Handbook for Boards of Trustees of Catholic Schools will be published and distributed at the end of May or very early June, ready for the first meetings of the new Boards. The document will also be available on the NZCEO website under Resources, For Teachers and BOT. While designed for Catholic schools much of the material has proved to be of value to all integrated schools and their Proprietors, providing useful guidelines on property, a summary of legal responsibilities, and ideas on defining and sustaining Special Character. Anyone can access the online document, or contact NZCEO to buy a printed copy.

## Early Childhood Education Participation Rises

Enrolments in early childhood education services increased by 2,400 between 2011 and 2012, which is good news. However, participation by Māori and Pasifika children is still significantly below the national rate, and places available are unevenly distributed with some areas oversupplied and others undersupplied with places. Those considering opening an early childhood service would do well to consider the needs of communities with high Māori and Pasifika populations, where there is a real need. South Auckland is one such area.



*"My teacher said I don't pay attention in class.  
At least that's what I think she said"*

## Kia kaha, Kia Māia, Kia ū!

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