

ASDAPA
Auckland Secondary Deputy and Assistant Principals' Association

President's Report

June 2008 to May 2009

The Committee's Work

Karen Brinsden (Botany Downs Secondary College),
James Clarke (Rosehill College) President,
Ants Cotton (Waitakere College) Secretary,
Denise Edwards (Selwyn College),
Judy Farrar (Epsom Girls' Grammar School),
Linda Fraser (Pukekohe High School),
Terry Harrison (Kelston Boys' High School),
Steve Lindsey (St Kentigern College) Treasurer,
Colleen Maguiness (Albany Senior High School),
Peter Mathias (Pukekohe High School),
Karen Mitchell (Carmel College),
Gerri Shorter (St Cuthbert's College),
Sarah Stenson (Epsom Girls' Grammar School),
Kay Thomas (Mt Roskill Grammar School).

The Committee met twice per term to discuss suitable seminar topics. We relied upon comments from other senior managers and a sense of what issues were of most concern to us to determine what were good topics for seminar days. We then found speakers, organised the dates, venue, finance, publicity and catering for those seminar days.

We are grateful to Gerri Shorter for always hosting the Executive meetings at St Cuthbert's College.

My thanks to the Executive Committee members who have diligently and expertly worked to ensure that their associates are kept at the forefront of educational leadership.

Seminar Days

We have worked to organise professional development days for APs and DPs in Terms I, II and III and then a breakfast meeting in Term IV. The venue has been the Remuera Golf Club for each of the seminar days. Particular thanks to Karen Mitchell who has produced the seminar days fliers and emailed them out to APs and DPs, and to Steve Lindsey for receiving registrations and monies, and to Kay Thomas for spending time trying to sort out the Association's email contacts list. Thanks to Executive members who have been proactive in finding speakers, making contacts and arrangements.

'Crisis and Stress Management' was the topic of the seminar day 22 August with Sheryl Ofner Principal Selwyn College, Margaret Hoogendorn Guidance Counsellor Mt Roskill Grammar School and Annie Overton School Focus Service Manager Ministry of Education providing useful advice on dealing with the media, parents and students when a school suffers a traumatic incident. Dr John McEwen ('Dr Stress') provided explanation of how to deal with the stress in a school manager's role.

The Breakfast Meeting was held on 28 November 2008 with Te Radar entertaining us with recollections of his childhood and school experiences.

In March of 2009 we decided to invite school managers to speak about how their schools were integrating the New Zealand Curriculum into their curriculum structure. Barbara Cavanagh Principal Albany Senior High School, Catherine Bentley Deputy Principal Hauraki Plains College and Susan Impey Principal Alfriston College revealed innovative ways in which their schools provided for 21st century learners.

The seminar today is a continuation of the above-mentioned theme with Shona Smith Deputy Principal Waitakere College reporting on her NASDAP Scholarship research and Prue Kelly Principal Wellington High School and Noreen Melville Deputy Principal Southland Girls' High School reporting on how their schools addressed N.Z.C. implementation.

Constitution

A constitution to replace the missing constitution was presented to members attending the last Annual General Meeting. The document was circulated to members able to be contacted and was ratified and signed by those present at the Term III Seminar Day. The Constitution is available on the ASDAPA link on the NASDAP web-site.

Web-site

Our seminar dates, contacts, constitution, forms and seminar day reports are now posted on a web-page on the NASDAP web-site <http://www.nasdap.org.nz/links/ASDAPA.html>

NASDAP and Auckland University Representation

Gerri Bremner and Sarah Stenson serve as Auckland Region Representatives on the NASDAP Executive and report to the Executive about the meetings. They will hold these positions until the time of re-election for that Executive. Steve Lindsey is our representative to the University of Auckland Leadership Centre.

This is a great association to belong to and provides for all of us a high standard of relevant professional development; this may be for some their only professional development as a senior manager. The opportunity to meet associates and discuss our passion for and concerns about education in our schools is greatly valued. Senior management in schools is complex; still it is incumbent upon us as school leaders to advocate for standards of excellence, promote wise decision-making, be responsive to student experience and achievement, and optimistically inquire into research evidence. I know that this association will continue to be a unique and vibrant support for DPs and APs in this region and I thank you for your continued support.

James Clarke,
President.

29 May 2009