

18 August 2008

Robyn Smits  
Manager Data Management Unit  
Ministry of Education  
PO Box 1666  
WELLINGTON

Dear Robyn

At the recent NASDAP Executive meeting, Geoff O'Halloran [Representative from Wellington, Hutt Valley and Wairarapa] presented a paper on the enrolment process that school use when students come from another school.

Many students arrive at our schools, having been at a number of schools, having had a difficult background, and in particular those that are in CYPFS care, Te Whare Marie etc. These students often continue to be difficult, as they are set up to fail if the enrolling school does not have all the relevant information about them and their history both in education and other areas.

NASDAP Executive discussed at length the issues Geoff raised and it was felt that I should contact you on our behalf, to ask if the Ministry of Education would consider making it mandatory for all schools to ensure the relevant information is recorded via ENROL.

We felt that the relevant information should include:

1. Schooling - all previous schools and associated history at these schools
2. Family - relationship with parents and caregivers and whanau
3. Legal - any CYPFS and Youth Aid involvement. This included any orders relating to custody.
4. Health - any health issues, to include physical and mental

Executive felt that without a complete set of information, every school may try, in ignorance, strategies that have failed previously and so set the student[s] up to continue to fail.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards

Annette M Taylor (Ms)  
NASDAP President  
Deputy Principal Nelson College for Girls