

20 May 2006

Jenny Thomas
Manager, Teacher Registration
New Zealand Teachers Council
PO Box 5326
WELLINGTON

Dear Jenny

Warm regards from NASDAP Executive. We trust that this letter finds you in good health.

Jenny, the purpose of this letter, is to ask the Teachers Council to provide answers about some issues that schools in New Zealand are currently facing.

They are:

1. Why are the registration forms being returned to schools if the Acting Principal (who has been delegated full powers by the Board if they take up that role) signs them? We do know of one case whereby it was returned because of the word "Acting;" the school returned it, resigning the form and leaving off the word "Acting" and it was processed.
2. Some Itinerant Music Teachers are employed to work in more than one school. Although an individual teacher is employed by one school (using donated staffing), they work in several schools, and currently the teacher registration form has to be signed by all of the Principals where the teacher works. Why can't the form be endorsed by the "Employing Schools" Principal only? Currently this is an annual event and very time consuming for the schools involved.
3. There is no list on the website of Itinerant Music Teachers or other teachers who hold Limited Authority to Teach. Does the Teachers Council plan to produce such a list?

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4. Why is Limited Authority to Teach being turned down for some applicants who have held them for periods of longer than three years? In particular, with respect to individuals who are highly specialised (ie; Dance Teachers) and people who are the only qualified people within the community to teach the subject (ie; Te Reo Maori)?
5. Will the time it takes to process applications ever get shorter?

These five issues have been brought to the attention of NASDAP Executive from their regions. We understand the role that the Teachers Council plays in ensuring that the professional standards are maintained. However, these issues are of concern to us.

We look forward to hearing from you soon.

Kind regards

Annette M Taylor [Ms]
President