

Minutes of NASDAP Executive Meeting

2 August 2002, Rongotai College, Wellington

Meeting opened at 9.55am

Present: all day – Lesley Jamieson, Allan Webb, Bruce Smith, Jenny Thomas, Annette Taylor, Lynlee Smith, Joyce Whyman, Gina Garrett; for the afternoon (due to flight delays) – Julia Scott and Carol Craymer

Apologies: Phil Keenan (at conference) and Roy Fletcher (flight unable to leave)

Welcome

Joyce, Annette and Gina welcomed by President Jenny Thomas. Allan moved that Joyce and Annette be accepted as representatives for Otago and Southland, and West Coast, Nelson and Marlborough regions respectively, seconded by Lynlee. Gina acting as administration support for Jenny as agreed at last meeting.

Matters arising from minutes

Office holders and elections for 2003

Bruce happy to remain as treasurer until the end of year. Jenny and Bruce wanting to stand down from their positions at end of 2002.

Procedure for upcoming elections discussed. Term 4 newsletter to call for regional nominations; nomination form enclosed. Two weeks to fax nominations back. If only one nomination for region, person appointed. If more than one, election to be held. Send out numbered voting forms to all appropriate members with deadline for return. Gina to act as returning officer. All votes to be counted and candidates notified of outcome. Results published to members early in Term 1, 2003. Elected group to decide on chairperson, secretary and treasurer at first meeting in 2003.

Noted that at present 86% of schools have NASDAP membership. Bruce to provide list of schools not presently members for regional representatives to follow up.

National Conference Manual

National conferences to date: Wellington 1998, Dunedin 1999, Auckland 2001.

Upcoming national conferences: Christchurch 2003, Rotorua 2005.

As yet no manual has been developed to assist regions organise national conferences. Expertise needs to be recorded and passed on to save time.

To contact Auckland organising committee for a suggested checklist for future conference organisers. Pass this info onto Christchurch organisers.

Conference Seeding Money

Each national conference is provided with \$5,000 from NASDAP. This money is to be returned if more than \$10,000 profit made. Executive needs, in future, to require a report on the conference and the final accounts. There is a Ministry requirement for a report of the conference – this could be used to fulfil the Executive’s requirements also. Pro forma letter needs to go out to regional conferences outlining expectations as is done for national conferences.

Regular Contact Between Executive

In order to encourage more regular contact among Executive members, Allan to send out an email to everyone at start of the month requesting an outline of what issues people are currently facing in their schools. This will be collated and redistributed by Allan.

Articles/Info for Newsletters

- Wellington College of Education annually publishes periodical called “News You Can Use”. Not all of the Executive have seen this in their schools. Gina to suggest to Janet Hay at College of Education that in future, the copy is addressed to “Curriculum Co-ordinator” rather than “Principal” to ensure articles of interest get to relevant people in school.
- Gina has been contacting a number of education providers and related organisations for articles suitable for newsletter. A number interested in doing so – requires further follow up.
- Jenny requested that each region provide an article of professional interest for each term’s newsletter. Also, could provide review of useful books for professional reading.

John McLellan from InterLEAD Consultants

Jenny introduced John to group.

John provided some background about the work of InterLEAD Consultants who work with various schools, individuals and groups providing senior leadership programmes.

John discussed the organisation’s current approach to leadership. Some points included:

- good leaders come from the heart
- leadership is a relationship of influence, e.g. dealing with people under pressure
- senior management in schools is a complex job – major issue is the handling of change, for example, NCEA.

- useful texts on leadership

* “New Leaders” by Daniel Goleman

Goleman discusses how life is a journey and there is a need for four companions. They are:

Seer – sense of direction/vision

Healer – service/relationship/empathy/connection

Warrior – sustained risk taking (call people to account)

Merchant – organisational.

As leaders in schools we need to develop all four areas – some will already be strengths. Aim to have all aspects in senior management team. John got Executive to consider their current strengths and an area they would like to strengthen.

* “The Courage to Teach” by Parker J. Palmer

Available through amazon.com. Explores the inner landscape of a teacher’s life. E.g. “It is not about delivery, it is about engaging”

- John explained how his organisation provides: skill development, theory, feedback and personal development for school leaders. Invited Executive and others to explore options of using InterLEAD Consultants to provide professional development for deputy and assistant principals, in region by region or school by school.

Broke for Lunch at 12:20pm - Reconvened at 1:30pm

National Conference Manual – Revisited

Julia and Carol arrived (due to airport delays) and reopened this issue. Made following points:

- person to contact from Auckland Conference is Shona Smith of Waitakari College – she was chairperson of organisation committee.
- Auckland found use of conference organiser invaluable (as have other conferences).
- Jenny Buist has information from Wellington Conference
- request Shona to provide a copy of conference costing; programme and evaluations for future conference reference. Information should already be documented.

NCEA

Jenny invited the Executive to discuss NCEA concerns/issues facing their schools/regions. The following points were raised:

- concern that significant number of students are not achieving in some schools
- concern over NZQA flyer No. 11 suggesting that teachers are gathering evidence continually so can assess at anytime. Schools had already set up policies/procedures for assessments and reassessments before this came out. Constantly shifting ground
- lack of rigour. Seems to be huge variability of how many students gain credit or more in each achievement standard, e.g. some 90%, some 40%
- some students are thinking they have failed already – self esteem being affected
- North Shore Principals sent letter to Trevor Mallard asking for level 2 to be delayed – “no level 2 until you fix level 1”. Yet Wellington Principals concerned about level 2 not going ahead next year. PPTA to recommend that level 2 happens in 2004 and level 3 in 2006. Highlights lack of consistency in profession’s stance – diverse views – what is the view of deputy/assistant/principals throughout the country?

Executive brainstormed issues and concerns about NCEA. Carol to write letter on behalf of group as press release and to Trevor Mallard to publicise these. Copy to be published in NASDAP’s next newsletter.

General Business

Professional Development for DP’s and AP’s.

Need to use some NASDAP money to benefit members professionally. Executive to organise a presenter to provide a professional development workshop region by region in term 1 2003. NASDAP to play travel costs while regional group to pay workshop/day costs and accommodation. Suggested presenters:

- Celia Lashlie (author of “The Journey to Prison – who goes and why”)
- Bill Rogers (student management)
- Judy Aitken (University of Melbourne – Better Learning in Classroom-thinking skills)

Decided to ask Kevin Knight, of a private graduate school in Christchurch that trains teachers, and request that he focuses on latest developments in teaching and learning. Five hour workshop? Region could tack on meeting as well.

Serious Staffing Issues

Executive shared concern over quantity and quality of available teachers. Problems also in getting relievers – many end up in full-time jobs. Crisis in Auckland. Each Executive member wrote down 3 staffing difficulties they had faced. Jenny to type up these examples and express concern in letter to Minister. Copy to be in next NASDAP newsletter. Also concern over quality of trainees coming through from large number of providers.

SPAC Meeting

Allan to write to PPTA on behalf of Executive re issues raised by deputy/assistant principals that have not been addressed by SPAC. Noted that DP's and AP's can become associate members of SPANZ for \$253.00.

Next Meeting

Needed by middle of term 4 – suggested date Friday 18 October 2002 at Rongotai College again. Date to be confirmed. Executive to book flights once this has been done.

Meeting closed at 3:38pm