



WESTERN PORIRUA PRINCIPALS CLUSTER GROUP

Press Release
Kapimana News

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WESTERN PORIRUA PRINCIPALS SPRINGBOARD INTO ACTION

The principals in our Western Porirua schools are off to Auckland to research, visit, and talk with, people involved in the work of the Springboard Trust.

“Our group has been talking about enhancing ways in which our schools, communities, students, staff and whanau engage, and work together, on the myriad of learning pathways travelled along. We enjoy the ways in which we’re already working closely together. Engaging with agencies and external partners is part and parcel of the ‘connected’ approach we see developing here in the ‘West’” says Colin Tarr, the cluster group chair, who is also principal of Titahi Bay North School.

The partnership initiative the principals are going to research is the Springboard Trust.

Springboard Trust was born after the Knowledge Wave summit in 2002, where it was recognised there was a need to connect the business community with the education community to enhance school leadership and, therefore, educational outcomes for young New Zealanders. Beginning with just one school, the Springboard Trust has now worked with hundreds of Auckland schools and their principals.

The Trust’s ability to connect business leaders with educational leaders is what makes it stand out. Unlike others working in the education sector, the Springboard Trust is supported by people from the business world who have a demonstrated track record in leadership, strategy development, stakeholder management and practical implementation.

These capacity partners work closely with principals throughout the programmes, sharing skills and offering support and advice. They do this work because they recognise helping school principals will help enhance schools. That’s why they offer training and support in the areas of strategic leadership, planning and collaboration.

The Trust’s Board

The Western Porirua principals will be meeting meet up with some of the following people who make up the Springboard Trust Board:



Ian Narev (Chairman), Chief Executive Officer of the Commonwealth Bank of Australia and director of ASB Bank. Ian has consulted to non-profits for ten years. Founder of relationship between McKinsey and Robin Hood Foundation in New York.



Malcolm Crotty, lawyer for 14 years and partner at Russell McVeagh. Trustee of Knox Trust Board, Malcolm has particular expertise in employment law and people management.



Liz O'Neil is GM Commercial, Group Functions, Fonterra. Prior to this Liz spent 10 years with Spark in roles including acting Chief Financial Officer Retail and Head of Finance.



David Pralong, Partner of McKinsey & Company. Board member of The New Zealand Institute. David is a leader of McKinsey's global strategy practice with 12 years' experience advising institutions in Europe, Asia and Australasia.



Mark Russell, partner in a management consultancy focused on business strategy, leadership development and executive coaching. Qualified lawyer Mark has held in-house General Council, Senior and Chief Executive roles for a variety of public and private companies.



Rod Snodgrass, CEO Digital Ventures at Spark. New Zealand Chartered Accountant. Rod has held various strategy and business development roles including 7 years in the oil and gas exploration industry.



Sara Tetro, owner of 62 Models & Talent and 62 Management - leaders in modelling and celebrity management. Sara sits on the advisory board of 'Grabaseat', is a past board member of North Shore Hospital Foundation and NZ Rugby Players Association.



Dr Laurie Thew, principal of Manurewa Central School. 43 years in education. Served on a number of local, regional and national educational advisory groups. Laurie was made a member of the New Zealand Order of Merit for Services to Education in 2004.



Frances Nelson, Principal of Fairburn School in Otahuhu. She is an experienced principal having led six different primary schools in Auckland and Northland. She participated in the SLPP in 2011. Currently, she is the President of the Auckland Primary Principals Association, a member of the NZ Council for Educational Research board and a Justice of the Peace.



Lorraine Mentz is the executive director, with 28 years of experience across business, educational and not-for-profit organisations in New Zealand, the UK and Africa. Lorraine has expertise in leadership, project management, strategic planning, capacity building, funding and marketing. Her work with the Springboard Trust offers innovative, high-potential not-for-profits the practical support they need to help realise their aspirations.

Colin says, "We're delighted that the Springboard Trust has responded very positively to our approach to visit them to engage in a valuable research and professional learning and development opportunity".

The visit is made possible by a special professional learning and development funding award the cluster group applied for, and won, from the Wellington Regional Principals Association and ASB Bank.

"Mayor Nick Leggett, the Porirua Chamber of Commerce, Partners Porirua and the local Ministry of Education office are all very interested in our findings and how this may inform the work we're doing here", Mr Tarr said.

The cluster team members are

Jane Reddish

St Pius X School

Kerry Delaney

Colin Tarr

Titahi Bay North School

Kaye Brunton

Marion Tuite

Mana College

Vanessa Hendry

Dairne Kaimoana

Titahi Bay Intermediate

Sue McLean

Titahi Bay School

Elmer Breedt

Seventh Day Adventist School

Ngati Toa School

Porirua School

Rose Sawaya

Bishop Viard College

Mahinawa Specialist School