



June 2009

Independent Schools Education Association NZ

www.isea.org.nz

REPRESENTING TEACHING AND NON-TEACHING STAFF IN INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS

Welcome

Hi and welcome to our second e-newsletter for 2009.

This e-news is programmed to reach you in the week prior to the mid-year break and we all wish you a well earned rest.

Recently, the new government issued its first Budget and independent schools gained an extra \$5 million next year and \$10 million per year for three years after that. This confirmed the government's commitment to increasing the contribution to independent schools. [Click here to read](#) the section of the Budget dealing with Education.

This increase in independent school needs to flow through to reduce pressure on staff and provide teacher and support staff job security. It is disappointing that there is only \$5 million in the first year instead of the promised \$10 million. Although this money is a help, it is needed now as some independent schools are struggling to maintain financial viability and already some have either being forced to close or merge.

The promised increase in funding would have been a lifeline to some schools and there is a real danger that has now been snatched away.

PS. This e-news includes pictures. If you cannot view the pics but wish to do so then you may wish to adjust your email account settings. A pdf file is also attached. To access past copies of our newsletters on the website, [Click here](#). Or to contact us email newsletter@ISEA.org.nz

Reminder: National Standards Deadline



ISEA has decided to not submit on the National Standards.

However we wish to advise members that the submission deadline is the 3rd July.

Timeline of the National Standards process

Consultation: from 25 May to 3 July

The Ministry intends to provide a report to Government in August, and provide final proposals in September. The final National Standards will be published in October. Schools will use the National Standards from 2010.

[Click here for the Ministry of Education's pages on the National Standards](#)

'Rest Break' Survey

As from April 1, [[Employment Relations \(Breaks, Infant Feeding and Other Matters\) Amendment \(08/58\)](#)] the employer must provide particular breaks. ISEA will survey members over the application of the new 'Rest Break' legislation in their school. Please watch out for this important survey emailed to members in the beginning weeks of Term 3.

AGM 2009



The venue is at Dilworth School, Epsom.
Time 3 pm on Saturday the 1st August 2009
Please contact ISEA Admin Officer, Jill Brookes, for further information.
admin@isea.org.nz
Further information will be posted as it comes to hand.
[Click here](#) for proposed Rule Change to be voted upon at the AGM"
[Keep watching our website www.ISEA.co.nz](http://www.ISEA.co.nz) for updates.

Upcoming Conferences

[Click here](#) for the 'Events & Conferences' Page for upcoming conferences of interest including [SLANZA](#) and [Constanz 09](#).

Legislative NEWS

Education Amendment Bill 2009

The Bill has three main areas that affect independent schools.

The Bill proposes that the New Zealand Teachers Council ceases to provide a Police vetting service to early childhood education services and schools, so that services and schools apply directly to the New Zealand Police to obtain Police vets.

The Bill also removes the requirement for 3-year reviews of private schools by allowing the Education Review Office to review private schools on the same basis as State schools. The Bill also includes private schools in the definition of schools that are eligible to be accredited by the New Zealand Qualifications Authority. ISEA supports all these changes.

[Click here](#) to access the full [Education Amendment Bill](#).

Curriculum Support Days 2009



The PPTA and Ministry of Education sponsored Curriculum Support Days 2009 will be held at venues throughout NZ. Put it in your diaries now. The intent of the Curriculum Support Days is to assist

principals and teachers in bringing together the different parts of the New Zealand curriculum within each specialist subject area.

The days will cover the curriculum from years 7 to 13, junior (Years 7-10) in the mornings and senior (Years 11-13) in the afternoons, but those participants who don't teach senior classes will be able to continue working on the junior curriculum in the afternoon.

[Click here to link to the PPTA page on Curriculum Support Days 2009.](#) Keep watching this page for updates.

Click on the link below for the latest copy of the PPTA Newsletter that further explains the Curriculum Support Days 2009.

More information on format, dates and venues should have already arrived at your school.

[Click here for PPTA Newsletter #6 on Jumbo Days](#)

Important Benefit Change



Members might have seen the recent news releases about Regency.

ISEA has been advised that 'it is business as usual until August 09'. A recent company acquisition has affected our Regency Benefit offering to ISEA members. It includes the duty free business at Wellington Airport under the Regency brand, Regency Internet Sales, Discover NZ specialty stores at Wellington and Christchurch Airports, and Regency's Wholesale business. It also includes Regency's duty free business at Auckland Airport until the 3rd August when JR Duty Free becomes the second operator.

The acquisition is as a consequence of the appointment of James Richardson as the second duty free operator at Auckland Airport in April this year. ISEA has been informed that JR Duty Free will probably have their own scheme and we will make enquiries about that opportunity. Check out the 'Benefits' section on our website!

Swine Flu Policy

Absences

ISEA has confirmed its policy for members required to be absent from work through cases of or suspected cases of H1N1 flu.



ISEA policy is similar to that agreed between The Ministry of Education, NZSTA, PPTA and NZEI who met last week to clarify issues. These concerns were raised by the circulars of the 2nd and 5th June with respect to the pay status of teachers who are absent from school because of H1N1 flu (commonly called Swine flu) concerns.

If you are able and willing to work, but are told to stay at home, then your wages must be paid. Obviously if you are in fact showing symptoms then that must be taken as sick leave.

If you have no symptoms but your school or centre directs you to stay home, then you must be paid as normal, and any associated costs are borne by the employer. The Ministry of Health now expects those that are sick to stay in home

isolation in order not to spread the virus, **but contacts who are well will not be expected to put themselves into quarantine.**

[Click here](#) to access the ISEA position on H1N1 (Swine) Flu.

Going Overseas?



The Department of Labour advice is as below:-

"Your employer can require you to stay home during a pandemic if your workplace becomes unsafe, or if you are sick and would pose a health risk at work.

Wages must normally be paid if you are ready and willing to work. However, you must be told on what basis you are being asked to stay home, particularly if you are expected to take any sick or unpaid leave. Your employer can make you use

accumulated annual leave if you are given 14 days notice. You can't be forced to take annual leave when given less than 14 days notice. But remember teachers' annual leave is their holidays.

[Click here](#) for the Department of Labour's advice on Swine Flu

Please contact ISEA immediately if you face any difficulties with your employer over this situation. Keep watching our website www.isea.co.nz for updates.

Membership

The more members that join ISEA the more services that we can provide to you. You are receiving this newsletter because you are a member. Please feel free to pass a copy to any other staff that you feel might be interested in joining ISEA. Or, you can pass them a membership subscription form. [Click here to access a membership form.](#)

The subscription period is for one year and can be deducted with each pay or if you prefer we can arrange payment by cheque or direct debit.

Correction to email address

If this e-newsletter has been incorrectly addressed simply reply to this email advising of the correction. Also, be aware that some spam filters remove email newsletters. newsletter@ISEA.org.nz

To unsubscribe

The Unsolicited Electronic Messages Act has taken effect.

If you do not wish to receive our email newsletter about our website and other events, please [send an email](#) and type "unsubscribe" in the subject line.

NB. If you still wish to receive our emails you do not have to do anything

**Many thanks,
The Team at
Independent Schools Education Association NZ
newsletter@ISEA.org.nz**

Representing teaching and non-teaching staff in independent schools