

To members of APPA Executive

Thank you for the opportunity to attend the Trans-Tasman Principals' Conference in Auckland.

I very much appreciated the grant from APPA which paid for my registration fee. This enabled us as a school to send our two Associate Principals as well, a valuable opportunity for them, and one not often possible. It is productive to have the whole senior leadership team together, out of school, to have an opportunity to discuss strategic and 'big picture' matters.

Although a rather uninspiring first key note speaker the conference picked up after that and was a motivational and inspiring experience for me. The theme 'Knowledge is in Our Hands' was threaded throughout the keynotes and workshops.

I particularly liked the format of the 'taster' sessions. Each one of these tasters had an inspiring message:

Some key thoughts garnered throughout the three days...

Taster Session 1: Wednesday 1st June

What Works for Maori Works for All Te Ringakaha Tia Ward	Very provocative message Identify and celebrate all things Maori and do the same for any minority cultures in the school
Don't Worry Be Happy: Teaching Resilience in Primary (and Secondary) Schools Celia McCarthy	Don't let the three P's dominate your thoughts [personal, permanent, persuasive] instead practice mindfulness, gratitude, what went well today, character strengths. As you drive home reflect on 'What 3 things went really well today?'
Shake, Rattle and Roll Rob Callaghan and Bernadette May	Inspiring to hear how these schools, teachers and children coped during and after the earthquake – Amazing. Reminded me to look at if an emergency happened at my school what do we need to do for our people i.e. Who will we release, who will we expect to say etc.
Use and Abuse of Evidence in Education Jennifer Buckingham	Evidence is being pushed everywhere in education teacher have the largest impact on student achievement. What matters most is what teachers do and direct instruction has the biggest impact.

Mini-Keynote Learning for Prosperous Futures: Student Agency with Teachers and Parents Joined at the Hip: Brian Annan and Mary Wootton

We really liked the Affinity Maps and could see them working really well with our students

Thursday 2 June

Keynote Address: Inquiry and Innovation, Curiosity and Teamwork – Strong Outcomes for ALL

Linda Kaser and Judy Halbert

- Learning requires patience and time
- Learning requires exploration of one's identity
- Learning is recognising the consequences of one's actions
- Learning involves generational roles and responsibilities

Taster Talks

Kids Inspiring Kids to Engage Hearts and Minds Riley and Steve Hathaway	An amazing father and daughter presentation about the tv series and books they have produced and written
Kaua e Mate Wheke Mate Ururoa Die Like a Hammerhead Shark, Andrea Nicholson & Liz Woods	Language, culture and identity are key. How are we going to do this? What about other cultures?
Beyond Tolerance: Celebrating and Respecting Diversity Through the Development of Deep Mutual Understanding Mary Wilson	6 core values to live our lives by How do we perform as a positive, caring, community citizen Look at practicalities, make sure staff is on board. It is vital to be non-judgemental
Building Resilient Children: Walking the Talk Sarah Tillott	¼ (25%) of chn are bullied in the playground

Keynote 2: Rigour, Ritual, Repetition and Rhetoric: How to understand and Lead Your Culture to Inspire Your People to Meet any Challenge Michael Henderson

Believe, Behave, Belong

Inspired me to read Aesop's Fable in assembly! 4 Oxen and a Lion. Together we are strong alone we are weak

Mini-Keynote: Schools That Deliver: John Edwards & Bill Martin

Inspirational talk reminding us that what happens inside your school with the people who are there that makes a difference. Reminder about Forming Storming Norming Performing metaphor.

Friday 3 June

Didn't write notes but was greatly inspired by all motivational speakers:

Dr Chris Sarra, Jamie Fitzgerald and Cam Calkoen

Once again thank you for the grant which paid for my registration to attend, it was a great conference.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "S Fletcher." The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'S' and a period at the end.

Sheryl Fletcher

Principal

Bayfield School