

CATE Report - Wellington region

This year the Wellington region has worked closely with *Careers Services* having our meetings with *Careers Services* update days. This has increased participation.

Our first meeting was held at *Whitireia Community Polytechnic*. We started with our *AGM* followed by an update of courses offered by *Whitireia* especially in *Creative Arts* and *Early Childhood* education. Members were especially impressed by the view offered by the new library.

Our next *CATE* meeting was held on *Wednesday June 21* at *Careers Services* in *Wellington*. We had our meeting in the first hour followed by an informative update about careers in the building industry.

One key message that came through was that it is difficult to get an apprenticeship directly from school. Both the *Quins Workforce* and *Fletcher Construction* speakers spoke of students proving their commitment with either experience in the industry through jobs like labouring or involvement in a pre-trade course. Both speakers also emphasised attitude shown through involvement in sport, work experience etc.

Our last meeting on *13 September* gave us an opportunity to review programmes operating in school (*Transition, Star and Gateway*) and our relationships with *Careers Services* and *School Support Services*. We used a postbox format that gave each person an opportunity to identify positives and highlight issues. It was pleasing to see the many positives outcomes for students identified. Alongside this the issues of time and money were once again mentioned also the timing of meetings. Hopefully we have begun to address meeting timing issues by working with *Careers Services* to combine *CATE* meetings with *Career Services* up-date days. We will also endeavour to include *STAR* and *Gateway* representatives in planning for the *2007* calendar.

By now most of you will have heard of the CPaBL (Creating Pathways and Building Lives) initiative from the ministry. The 100 schools nationwide involved have been chosen and the first Wellington meeting happened on November 2. Sheryl and I have been involved with Organisational Advisory Group and will be producing a report for this meeting. Also see September's PPTA magazine summarises many of the issues in my report.

I have enjoyed this year and look forward to next year when I will be adding Gateway and CPabl to my responsibilities.

Anne Grimmer
(Chair - Wellington Region)