

Wednesday 15 May 2013

Media release: NCEA one decade on

A new survey shows support for NCEA has remained high among principals and consolidated among teachers, school trustees and parents. Schools have generally welcomed the recent changes to NCEA such as endorsement of whole courses with merit or excellence and the increased support provided by best practice workshops for teachers.

It also shows the continuing high workload associated with NCEA remains unresolved. Support for the qualification was highest among teachers who could see a clear alignment between the New Zealand curriculum and the achievement standards for their subjects.

The views are contained in the report *NCEA one decade on*, which draws data from the New Zealand Council for Educational Research's 2012 National Survey of Secondary Schools. The survey questioned principals, teachers, board of trustee members and parents. The survey is conducted every three years and tracks responses to NCEA across the decade.

A decade after its introduction, ninety five percent of principals, 74 percent of trustees, 69 percent of teachers and 54 percent of parents surveyed say they support NCEA. It's the first time parental support has risen above 50 percent in the survey series and it was higher among parents with a child in the senior school.

The survey also covers views about whether NCEA is driving the curriculum and responses to the Government's recently announced policy target that by 2017, 85 percent of students should gain an NCEA Level 2 qualification or its equivalent.

For more information on the report or to interview the author, contact NZCER communications manager Sarah Boyd on sarah.boyd@nzcer.org.nz or 027 231 4300