



Annual Report 2012

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1. OVERVIEW

Quality Leadership ↔ Quality Learning

"There are no examples of school-wide success without effective school leadership; all examples of school failure include weak or ineffective leadership." (Fullan, 2006)

Vision

Every Principal empowered to be an exemplary leader of learning – every teacher inspired to lead every child's learning

Mission

Tacaíocht, Misneach & Spreagadh – Supporting and Representing School Leaders

Aims

- Professionalise school leadership to ensure quality learning
- Reflect the experience of school leaders on professional issues
- Resource the professional needs of school leaders
- Improve the quality of education policy and practice.

You are the leader of a school community, a professionally challenging and personally demanding role.

We exist to support and represent School Leaders. Through our Network, we facilitate professional development, offer leadership guidance and advice, conduct and publish research as well as providing a range of practical services.

Professional Body

The Irish Primary Principals' Network (IPPN) is the officially-recognised professional body for the leaders of Irish Primary schools. IPPN is an independent, not-for-profit voluntary body with a local, regional and national presence. Recognised by the Minister for Education & Science as an official *Education Partner*, IPPN works with the Department of Education & Science, the National Parents' Council, management bodies, unions, education agencies, academic institutions and children's charities towards the advancement of primary education. The Republic of Ireland has approximately 500,000 children attending 3,400 Primary Schools. IPPN articulates the collective knowledge and professional experience of 6,600 Principals and Deputy Principals.

Structure

IPPN supports Principals at local and county level and represents their interests nationally.

Principals and Deputy Principals participate in local support groups. IPPN facilitates twenty-six County Networks and each Network meets at least three times each year. Each County Network elects two members to form IPPN's *National Committee*. The *National Committee* is responsible for IPPN governance and policy. It elects a President and officers who form the *Executive Committee*. IPPN works closely with the National Association of Head Teachers - NAHT (NI), and is a member of the International Confederation of Principals (ICP). These links play an important role in our research and pursuit of best international practice.

2. STRUCTURE

IPPN's core activities are developed and delivered from our National Support Office, based in Cork, staffed by 12 full-time and part-time professionals.

Our network of Principals is structured as follows:

- **Local Principals' Support Groups** Support groups form the main 'cell structure' of IPPN. Principals' support groups are sustained with the support of local Education Centres.
- **26 County Networks** - Each County Network will typically organise one Professional Development event per term, i.e. 3 per annum. These events are funded by IPPN and are open to all Principals and Deputy Principals of member schools.
- **A 52-member National Committee** - 2 Principals elected from each of the 26 counties to communicate the key professional issues and concerns of the County Network to the National Committee as well as reporting the decisions, policies and activities of the National Committee to the county networks.
- **15-member National Executive** - elected by the National Committee. This group manages the affairs of the organisation in conjunction with the Executive Director and staff at the Support Office.

IPPN Executive Committee 2012

Gerry	Murphy	President	Louth
Brendan	McCabe	Deputy President	Meath
Pat	Goff	Past President/treasurer	Wexford
Larry	Fleming	Public Relations Officer	Offaly
Damian	White	Editor, Leadership+	Offaly
Maria	Doyle	Supports & Services	Waterford
Tom	McGann	Supports & Services	Wicklow
Anna Mai	Rooney	Supports & Services	Monaghan
Pat	Gately	Supports & Services	Wexford
Páirc	Clerkin	Supports & Services	Dublin
Gerard	Ruane	Supports & Services	Clare
David	Ruddy	Legal Advisor (Ex Officio)	Dublin
Seán	Cottrell	Director (Ex Officio)	Cork
Virginia	O'Mahony	Assistant Director (Ex Officio)	Galway

National Committee Representatives 2011/2012

Mandy	McDonnell Ryan	Rozz	Lewis	Carlow
Niall	Clerkin	Barry	Tierney	Cavan
Gerard	Ruane	Caroline	Lodge	Clare
Micheál	Rea	Íde	Ní Dhubháin	Cork
Rosemary	Dunne	Pat	Connaghan	Donegal
Carol	Burke-Heneghan	Aedín	Ní Thuathail	Dublin
Concepta	Ní Stiofáin	Breda	Dolan	Galway
Ursula	Uí Chofaigh	Ed	O'Brien	Kerry
Seán	de Paor	Clare	Doyle	Kildare
Margaret	Walsh	Gerard	Farrelly	Kilkenny
Maura	Horan	Gerry	Breslin	Laois
Caroline	Healy	Bríd	Cahill	Leitrim
Síle	Killeen	Saundra	Ní Chíosóig	Limerick
Bríd	Glynn	Linda	Leavy	Longford
Mary	Hession	Ann	Middleton	Louth
Des	Morris	Stiofán	Ó Móráin	Mayo
Doreen	Duignan	Elizabeth	Sheridan	Meath
Elizabeth	Moorehead	Margaret	McCluskey	Monaghan
Carol	White	Cathy	Lyons	Offaly
Madeline	O'Connell	Cecily	Geoghegan	Roscommon
Deirdre	Kelly	Bernadette	Dwyer	Sligo
Mary	O'Donnell	Mary	Andrews	Tipperary
Catriona	O'Reilly	Marc	de Grás	Waterford
Sé	McCarthy	Eileen	Burns	Westmeath
Louisa	O'Brien	Gerry	Moran	Wexford
Tom	McGann	Emer	Breen	Wicklow

3. SUPPORT OFFICE STAFF

Currently there are twelve employees of IPPN, ten staff permanently based in the National Support Office, Glounthaune, Cork. The job description of each staff member is provided in the table below.



Employee	Role
Seán Cottrell	Executive Director
Virginia O'Mahony	Assistant Director
Caroline O'Dea	Operations Manager
Geraldine D'Arcy	Project Manager
Sinead Coakley	PA to the Director
Rachel Brannigan	Principal Information Officer
Louise O'Brien	Advertising & Exhibitions
Jackie O'Reilly	Newly Appointed Principals
Sarah McNamara	Member Services & Support
Jennifer McCarthy	Office Administrator

4. MEMBERSHIP

Membership Fees have remained at 2008 prices again for this year. IPPN intends to hold static our Membership Fee for the coming 2012/2013 academic year while we increasing our commercial activity to fund our member Support & Services programmes

County	# of School	# of Member Schools	%
Carlow	44	38	86.4
Cavan	78	73	93.6
Clare	120	106	88.3
Cork	365	333	91.2
Donegal	178	148	83.1
Dublin	509	455	89.4
Galway	244	212	86.9
Kerry	143	125	87.4
Kildare	110	106	96.4
Kilkenny	81	74	91.4
Laois	61	52	85.2
Leitrim	44	37	84.1
Limerick	149	121	81.2
Longford	40	38	95.0
Louth	77	72	93.5
Mayo	171	143	83.6
Meath	115	108	93.9
Monaghan	62	50	80.6
Offaly	70	62	88.6
Roscommon	93	83	89.2
Sligo	67	52	77.6
Tipperary	164	147	89.6
Waterford	76	69	90.8
Westmeath	80	71	88.8
Wexford	109	97	89.0
Wicklow	89	84	94.4
TOTAL	3339	2956	88.5

5. WEB SERVICES



Work to **Educationposts.ie** was finalised with the launch of a site that is now the number one place for Advertising teaching vacancies in Ireland. The enhanced site allows us to promote the high traffic volume to potential commercial interests in the form of Tile & Banner Adverts in 2013. It also now incorporates the TextaSub service; With registered available substitute teachers being identifiable as being Teaching Council Registered and fully qualified primary teachers; Educationpost.ie incorporating TextaSub are now market leaders in the area of teacher recruitment. **Both services are provided free of charge to School Boards of Management and teachers in Ireland.**



Textaparent.ie remains a highly valuable service to both the Organisation and to our member schools. In January 2012 the user accounts increased by 45%, bringing the overall number of User Accounts to almost 60% of schools. Due to increase number of accounts and higher expectations in user experiences; a product redevelopment project went underway in 2010. An enhanced user experience, support desk interaction and in-depth reporting capabilities are all new services of the redeveloped product.