

OECD, PISA, New York, New Zealand and PPTA – a bit of a snapshot of Who is driving What, and Why in education policy development? What is the impact and what are the possibilities of where to from here?

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PISA has quickly come to serve as an international league table. Such tables serve to focus efforts at a macro level but there are disadvantages too and both the positives and negatives are played out politically at national levels, and have an impact on practice at school level -that's the bit we do.

This workshop will take a quick look at the impact of some trends in OECD led research around student learning and teacher effectiveness and how that influences member countries' policy development in education and in turn how that impacts on the work of school leaders. Participants will have a chance to reflect on that sequential impact and the risks of unintended effects and perverse consequences in a school and in a system. The current international league table approach will require strong, professional pedagogical advocacy to balance the extremes of a fairly blunt tool sometimes put to use to achieve political, not educational goals – that again is the bit we do.

There will be an opportunity for people to hear about some emerging trends in high performing education systems, of which we are officially one, and how internationally, the inclusion of the professional voice of teachers' unions is being seen increasingly as critical in achieving both effective change management and a sustainable, high performing education system.

This opens up possibilities for DPs and APs as education professionals and leaders in their own right, for professional activism.