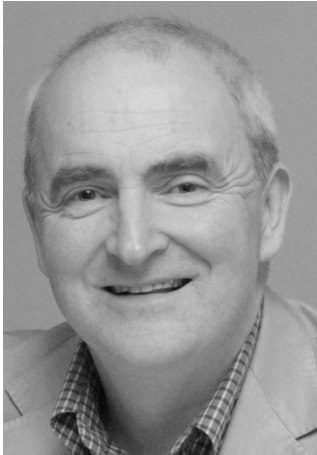


2011 – 2012 – *at a Glance*



President – Gerry Murphy

The genie is out of the bottle

IPPN continues to lead change in Irish Education. The 'change theme' for 2011-12 was a continuing one of 'doing more with less', while striving to safeguard our most vulnerable children. County Committee Meetings around the country reflect the concerns of school leaders - erosion of ISM teams while workload issues continue to grow; the growing frustration of workload increase for the Teaching Principal.

The backdrop to this period begins with Budget 2011 presented by the previous Fianna Fáil and Green Party Government in Dec 2010, which resulted in the total withdrawal of resource teachers for traveller children. Although introduced in Dec 2010, it didn't impact on schools until Sept 2011. DEIS schools serving the larger traveller communities, while attempting to come to terms with the reduction of resources, were further targeted as 'low hanging fruit' by the new Fine Gael and Labour Government in the 2012 Budget presented in Dec 2011. The other 'low hanging fruit' in education identified by Budget

2012 was small schools with less than 4 teachers. Principals serving communities of disadvantage were not willing to sit back and take a second assault aimed at their children. All the supports that had been put in place to create a culture of social inclusion along with the integration of children with Special Needs into local schools were eroding before their eyes.

A strong localised lobbying campaign resulted in the withdrawal of proposed DEIS measures.

Although the measures against small schools were not reversed, another genie had been released from the bottle in that small schools that up to now had been operating in isolation had formed a network based on a collective need – Save Our Schools. The main issues which solidified both these grassroots movements had to do with the reversal of proposals which further threaten educational outcomes for children. 'It will be difficult to put genie(s) back into a bottle'.

Key milestones, challenges, projects:

- IPPN Report 'Primary School Governance – Challenges & Opportunities' was published
- Ministry for Children set-up by new government – welcomed by IPPN
- Teaching Council of Ireland - CEPP – a bridge too far
- School Self Evaluation initiated
- Development of Teaching Principals' Clinics
- IPPN join Children's Services Committees
- Collaboration with Department of Children and Youth Affairs on 'hearing the voice of the child'

2011 – 2012 – *at a Glance*

- The voice of Industry and third level – Education Symposium
- IPPN work with DES to improve Redeployment Panels
- Virginia O’Mahony ends very successful 2-year term as President of ICP in Dec 2012.

Continuous Professional Development

Principals’ Conference 2012

Theme: Forging a Future

Facilitator: Olivia O’Leary

Venue: Citywest, Dublin

Speakers: Lord David Puttnam, Former President Mary Robinson, President of the Mary Robinson Foundation – Climate Justice, Professor Michael Fullan, Ben Walden of Contender Charlie

Seminars: Dónal Ó Ciaráin, Dr Martin Gleeson, Peter Creedon, Maria Doyle, Gene Mehigan, Dr Joe O’Connell, Pat Goff, Seán Delaney, Deirdre Mathews & Pádraig Mac Fhlannchadha, Joan Keating, Páirc Clerkin, Micheál Rea and Kieran Healy, Aiden O’Brien, Karen Belshaw

Deputy Principals’ Conference 2012

Theme: Two Heads are Better than One

Venue: Citywest, Dublin

Speakers: Phyllida Hancock of Contender Charlie

Seminars: Gene Mehigan, Dr Martin Gleeson, Dr Joe O’Connell, Deirdre Mathews, Karen Belshaw of Stress Management Ireland, Patsy Stafford.

Press Releases

- 9th May 2012 - Time we relied on our own expertise
- 8th May 2012 - We must invest at primary level to foster the skills needed in business
- 28 May 2012 - Seven in 10 parents say primary school standards have risen or stayed the same - IPPN-RedC poll
- 30 Apr 2012 - New research reveals that while the majority of parents want change in school patronage, they still want religion taught within the school day
- 6 Mar 2012 - Government must extend high-speed broadband plan to primary schools - IPPN
- 21 Feb 2012 - Government’s review of Budget cuts a ‘zero-sum game for primary schools’
- 8 Feb 2012 - Primary schools need high-speed broadband as new jobs emerge in tech sector - IPPN
- 1 Feb 2012 - Retiring principals volunteer to help new school leaders adapt to roles - IPPN
- 28 Jan 2012 - Top employers give views on how primary education prepares children for jobs
- 27 Jan 2012 - Survey shows two-thirds of schools believe special needs supports are inadequate
- 26 Jan 2012 - Survey shows three-quarters of schools want more time spent on literacy and numeracy
- 25 Jan 2012 - Survey shows three-fifths of schools take financial hit as voluntary contributions plummet

2011 – 2012 – *at a Glance*

- 12 Jan 2012 - Review must be ‘first step’ in reversing planned cuts in DEIS schools - IPPN
- 22 Dec 2011 - Give a child a book for Christmas, urges IPPN
- 15 Dec 2011- IPPN Statement: Small & DEIS Schools
- 6 Dec 2011 - Budget is a ‘missed opportunity’ for reform in primary education - IPPN
- 1 Dec 2011 - Pre-Budget Submission 2011
- 29 Nov 2011 - IPPN calls on Government to exempt schools from VAT
- 1 Sep 2011 - 'TextaSub' helps Primary School Principals fill Substitute Vacancies
- 13 July 2011 - Principals' Applaud Decisive Action by Ministers Fitzgerald & Shatter
- 2 June 2011 - The Disadvantaged Have Suffered Enough

Publications

- Learning in the 21st Century ‘Education Advocates’ report
- Leadership+ issues 64 to 69
- Principal’s Information Management System (PIMS).

2012 – 2013 – at a Glance

President – Gerry Murphy

Workload increases for school leaders while more resources are withdrawn

Key milestones, challenges, projects

- Ongoing turnover of principals in schools – due to economic policy – resulting in further erosion of posts of responsibility (Assistant Principals and Special Duties teachers) and consequent increase in workload for principals and deputy principals
- Withdrawal of substitute cover for Principals and Deputy Principals for CPD events, including IPPN Annual Conferences – disproportionate knock-on effect for schools with teaching principals
- Leadership Symposium attended by 24 business leaders – two themes explored
 - Technology in Education
 - Leadership vs Management role
- National College for Leadership Innovation (NCLI) launch
- Development of Recruitment, Communication and Deputy Principal Resource Bundles
- Increase in the number of children coming to school hungry – conference attendees hear the results of IPPN questionnaire to membership in Jan 2013
- Croke Park 2 tripped up, but stumbles on via Haddington Road compromise – “beware of the consequences of releasing genies from the bottle”
- IPPN’s call for national children’s database and electronic system to replace outmoded Roll Books and Registers meets with approval of Secretary General at Conference 2013
- Development of video clips for online and other CPD
- Survey of Teaching Principals highlights
 - Children in crisis
 - Workload increase
- CPD needs
- Conference preferences
- Minister for Education & Skills Ruairi Quinn attends meeting of the IPPN Executive Committee in June 2013
- Executive Committee agrees some changes to the IPPN Constitution – to be put up for ratification by the National Committee in Oct 2013, including:
 - Executive Committee to be referred to as the Board of Directors or ‘Board’
 - National Committee to be referred to as the National Council
 - National Director to be referred to as Executive Director
- Leadership Recovery Programme initiated with 6 principals taking part, led by a trained group of retired principals
- Priorities for Principal Teachers - research and report development
- Teaching Principals Summer Course hits the spot.

Continuous Professional Development

Principals’ Conference 2013

Theme: The Future is Now

Facilitator: Olivia O’Leary

Venue: Citywest, Dublin

Speakers: Ben Walden of Contender Charlie; Seán Ó Foghlú – Secretary General of the DES (for Minister for Education & Skills Ruairi Quinn who was unable to attend due to a family bereavement); President of Ireland Michael D Higgins; Fr Peter McVerry; James Whelton, co-founder of CoderDojo; Mark Patrick Hederman, Abbot of Glenstal Abbey; Gerry Murphy, Seán Cottrell, Brendan McCabe

2012 – 2013 – *at a Glance*

Seminars: Maria Doyle (IPPN), the DES Inspectorate, eSafety.ie, PDST, Seán Delaney, SESS, Dr Joe O’Connell, Ena Morley and staff re. the Incredible Years Programme, Gene Mehigan of Marino Institute of Education, NCCA, Dr Martin Gleeson of Mary Immaculate College, Clare Ryan

Deputy Principals’ Conference 2013

Theme: Reimagining Education

Venue: Killarney Convention centre, INEC

Speakers: Joanne O’Riordan, Gary McDarby of Fifth Province Ventures and Camara, Brendan McCabe

Seminars: Anna Mai Rooney (IPPN), Dr Joe O’Connell, NCCA, PDST, eSafety.ie, Karen Belshaw and Crannóg Financial Solutions

- 26 November 2012 - Chance for children to connect
- November 2012 - IPPN-industry report urges greater focus on pupils’ mental health
- November 2012 - IPPN calls for Yes vote in Children Referendum
- 12th October 2012 - New rules on children’s ads will help fight obesity

Publications

- IPPN’s Leadership Development Plan 2013-2017: A Case for Support
- Leadership+ issues 70 to 75
- Principal’s Information Management System (PIMS)

Press Releases

- 25th June 2013 - Reversal of special needs cut comes as ‘huge relief’,
- 19th June 2013 - Special needs cut ‘regressive and damaging to society’
- 24th April 2013 - IPPN calls for CAO-style application process for school places
- 31st January 2013 - Survey shows rise in emotional trauma among primary school children
- 29th January 2013 - School leaders welcome Government’s Action Plan on Bullying
- 25th January 2013 - IPPN convenes industry group to link primary education and enterprise
- 25th January 2013 - Reduce red tape burden and back school leadership, IPPN tells Government
- 24th January 2013 - Rising food poverty hinders primary school pupils’ ability to learn - IPPN
- 22nd January 2013 - Use technology to improve primary school teaching, IPPN tells ITLG summit
- 5th December 2012 - Budget fails to tackle funding crisis in primary schools - IPPN
- 28 November 2012 - Schools face bankruptcy unless capitation grant is restored - IPPN