

To:	Executive Te Huarahi	HC23/050 15 September 2023
From:	Dr Kirsty Farrant, General Secretary	



PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

Election for Executive member – Waikato Region – 2024-2025

Instructions for the Conduct of the Election

Candidate Information

Names and personal details of the candidates in this election are **enclosed** with this circular.

Enclosures

Also please find **enclosed**:

- a) *a branch electoral roll for your branch which states the numbers of voting papers being issued to your branch and which lists eligible members;*
- b) *form for notification of result – two copies;*
one copy should be emailed to returningofficer@ppta.org.nz by **5 pm on Friday 20 October 2023**. The other is to be retained by the Branch Returning Officer – see paragraph 10;
- c) *guidelines for conducting the election.*

Who May Vote

Every full member who at 6 September 2023 was recorded as financial as shown on the enclosed electoral roll and those who were not full members or financial as at 6 September 2023 but have contracted to pay full subscriptions between then and 20 September 2023 may vote. This includes pro-rata (part-time) and relieving teachers who are entitled to full membership and who have contracted to pay the appropriate subscription rate for such persons.

Who May Not Vote

Student members and honorary members are not entitled to vote.

Appointing of Returning Officer/Scrutineers

If it hasn't already done so, the Branch is to appoint a Branch Returning Officer and such number of scrutineers (at least one) as the Branch considers necessary to assist the Branch Returning Officer in the proper conduct of the ballot.

Neither the Branch Returning Officer nor any scrutineer is to be a candidate in this election, although candidates can appoint scrutineers if they wish.

Checking the Electoral Roll

Before distributing any ballot papers to members, the Branch Returning Officer and scrutineer(s) are to check the **enclosed** electoral roll for completeness and accuracy. If there is any doubt regarding the eligibility of any member to vote, or where insufficient voting papers have been supplied (because of new members joining) please communicate *immediately* with the National Poll Clerk, Christine McNicol – cmcnicol@ppta.org.nz or phone (04) 913 4235.

Conduct of Election

Within each Branch, the election is to be conducted under the direction of the Branch Returning Officer. The Branch Returning Officer is to ensure:

- a) When individual ballot papers are distributed to eligible members that each member acknowledges receipt of her/his voting paper by signing the **enclosed** electoral roll.
- b) That arrangements are made and advertised to allow eligible members who are absent because of illness, work or other commitments, disability, etc. to cast a special vote.
- c) That eligible members are aware of the day on which voting within the Branch is to close. For this purpose it is suggested that a special meeting be convened on or about Tuesday 17 October 2023 to enable members to cast and deliver their votes. This would then allow for the Branch voting to be counted and for the return of results to be emailed to the National Returning Officer by **5 pm Friday 20 October 2023**.
- d) That voting is secret and that a ballot box is provided for members to return their votes.

Counting of Votes

Instructions on how to vote appear on the voting paper. However, in deciding whether a particular vote is valid or not Branch Returning Officers and scrutineers should accept any voting paper which indicates clearly the intention of the person voting. Where the number of votes cast *exceeds* the number of ballot papers issued, the election is to be declared void and the National Returning Officer advised *immediately* by telephone.

Return of Result

One copy of the form of notification of results, properly countersigned, is to be emailed to returningofficer@ppta.org.nz by Friday 20 October 2023. **Returns not received by 5 pm Friday 20 October 2023 risk being disallowed in the final count.**

Custody of Ballot Papers, etc.

The Branch copy of the form of notification of results, all ballot papers counted, the electoral roll and any other document associated with this election is to be retained by the Branch in safe custody for at least one year (i.e. until 20 October 2024). This requirement is in case of a disputed ballot.

Individual Voting

Any financial member who does not wish to participate in the voting being arranged within the Branch may exercise his/her vote by email and may email his/her voting paper direct to the PPTA Returning Officer, returningofficer@ppta.org.nz, so that it is received no later than 5 pm on Friday 20 October 2023.

Small Branches

In small Branches where there may be difficulty in appointing a suitable person as either Returning Officer or scrutineer and, at the same time, preserving the need for the ballot to be a secret one, members should vote as individuals and email their voting papers directly to the PPTA Returning Officer, returningofficer@ppta.org.nz, to be received no later than 5 pm on Friday 20 October 2023.

IMPORTANT

- i) Ensure that every eligible member has the opportunity to cast a secret ballot in this election.
- ii) Ensure that the forms of notification of the result are countersigned by the Branch Returning Officer and scrutineer(s) and that one copy is emailed to returningofficer@ppta.org.nz to be received *before 5 pm on Friday 20 October 2023*.
- iii) Retain the Branch copy of the notification of result, the electoral roll, the voting papers counted and any other document associated with this election *until 20 October 2024 or longer if required by the National Returning Officer*.

Dr Kirsty Farrant
National Returning Officer

National Election – Guidelines for Branches

1. The Branch Secretary shall inform the Branch that voting is to take place. Information provided about the candidates for the positions should be displayed to members.
2. The Branch Secretary shall check the printout of Branch members and note any discrepancies. These should be forwarded to National Office immediately.
3. Upon receipt of election material and ballot papers, the Branch shall appoint a Returning Officer (normally the Secretary) and a scrutineer, *neither of whom are to be candidates in that election*.
4. The Branch Chairperson and Returning Officer shall nominate the day on which/by which voting will take place and will inform the members of the date in advance.

NB It is recommended that ballots be issued and returned on the same day with provision made for special votes for persons who cannot be present that day or over the voting period.
5. The Branch Returning Officer shall ensure the fair conduct of the election in all respects:
 - a) The procedures set down must be followed;
 - b) Members must be fully briefed using authorised information sent by National Office or the region. Information about candidates should be clearly displayed and available to all members;
 - c) All reasonable steps must be taken to prevent prejudicial remarks from being made about a candidate. Opinions expressed publicly must be in objective terms and should relate to the candidate's ability to fulfil the requirements of the office. Derogatory statements of a personal nature are unethical and contravene the Code of Ethics.

Conducting the Election

Elections shall be conducted by secret ballot.

The Branch Returning Officer shall:

1. Issue a ballot paper to each member, who then signs for it on the Branch roll provided. Accommodation must be made for absent members to cast a special vote.
2. Destroy any unsigned ballot paper after confirmation by the scrutineer that all members eligible to vote have been issued with a voting paper.
3. Provide a ballot box which is clearly labelled and easily accessible to members. Reasonable steps should be taken to ensure security.
4. Tally the votes with the scrutineer as soon as possible. The results are to be recorded on two tally sheets, one to be forwarded to National Office, the other to be retained by the Branch with the voting papers.

NB Any member has the right to return his/her voting paper to the National Returning Officer by email or in an envelope marked: The PPTA Returning Officer, Freepost 103122, PO Box 2119, Wellington, and post it to that address to arrive by the closing date for the election.
5. Ensure that the Branch copy of the tally sheet is publicly displayed to members for a week.

NB *The ballot papers, the Branch tally sheet and the signed Branch roll are to be kept by the Branch Secretary for at least one year before being destroyed or longer (if directed by the National Returning Officer).*



**Notification of the result of the election for
EXECUTIVE MEMBER – WAIKATO REGION
for the 2024-2025 Association year**

Branch _____

PPTA National Returning Officer
returningofficer@ppta.org.nz

We the undersigned, hereby declare that at the election conducted by this branch, the candidates received the number of votes set opposite their names:

VINNIE MONGA	
ROB TORR	

_____ Branch Returning Officer

_____ Branch Scrutineer

_____ Branch
(Please Print)

NB One copy of this form must be emailed to returningofficer@ppta.org.nz to be received by the PPTA Returning Officer by **5 pm Friday 20 October 2023**.



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(Please Print)

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NOMINATIONS FOR EXECUTIVE MEMBER – WAIKATO REGION

VINNIE MONGA

Fairfield College

Personal Information

I affiliate to Ngati Rangitahi, Te Arawa, Ngati Rua, Whakatohea, Ngati Manawa, Te Rarawa and the Buchanan Clan. My three adult children and six mokopuna affiliate also to Tainui Waikato and Rarotonga.

Professional information

- School Guidance Counsellor, Fairfield College 1995- Currently
- Bachelor of Education, Diploma of Teaching
- Postgraduate Diploma of Education and Counselling
- Te Ataarangi
- MNZAC (member of New Zealand Association of Counselling)
- PHE Teacher then School Guidance Counsellor at Huntly College 1986-1999.

Association information

- Member since 1986
- Completed Mahi Tika 1- 3
- Branch – I have been the Chair and Women’s Officer
- Regional – committee member since 1996, Women’s Officer, Waikato Executive member 2010 – 2017; 2018-2019; 2020-2023
- National (as Waikato Executive member) – Ethics Committee, Rainbow Taskforce, Te Roopu Maatua, School Guidance Counsellor Taskforce, Te Tiriti Taskforce, Establishing Teachers’ Committee.

Personal statement

Teena koutou katoa. I have been privileged to represent Te Wehengarua PPTA as our Waikato Executive member and hope to do so again for this coming term, 2024. I am a strong advocate for better working conditions for teachers and passionate about activism at union level.

Achieving our goals as teachers is a collective effort and our success is evident at our PUMS.

“He waka eke noa”; we are all in this together.

No reira teena koutou, teena koutou, teena taatou katoa.

ROB TORR

Matamata College

Personal Information

I live in Cambridge and am married to Louise with two beautiful University daughters aged almost 21 and 23. I immigrated from Africa, spent time in the Manawatu/Whanganui region, and then relocated to Waikato for a promotional position. Interests include farming, building, restoration work and social justice issues.

Professional information

Qualified at Johannesburg College of Education (University of the Witwatersrand RSA 1988), taught technical subjects in Manawatu/Whanganui. I have been a technology teacher (18 years), a PRS teacher, assistant chaplain, and Counsellor in Whanganui (8 years) and now Counsellor Matamata College. All my qualifications have been acquired extramurally. Massey - 2007 BA Psychology; 2010 - PGDip Occupational Health and Safety; 2012 PGDip Counselling; 2014 Master’s Counselling; 2021 PGDip Education Leadership and Administration. G3 PLUS technology upgrade CCE. Otago - Diploma Anglican studies, Grad Dip Theology - Pastoral Care. PGDip Chaplaincy - 2021. Presently - Masters of Ed leadership.

Association information

Membership: PPTA member since 1998. **Branch Chair** Rangitikei Intermediate and College 1998-2011. **Regional involvement:** Regional Technology representative and Regional Chair Manawatu/Whanganui. Elected onto the Waikato Regional team 2022. **Executive:** Executive member Manawatu/Whanganui for seven plus years (2014 - 2022). **Committees and portfolios:** - Membership, Association and Schools, Health and safety, Manual Teachers representative, Central Trade Unions National Affiliates Council, and men’s network. Elected to represent all members on the bargaining team, negotiating the Collective agreement for over 17,000 members (2018-2019), and well-being taskforce in 2020. **Waikato:** Branch Chair Matamata College 2022. Elected to the Waikato regional team 2022 and 2023.

Personal statement

I have experience at all levels of Union activities within PPTA. I have and will continue to reiterate that "We are the Union". PPTA is made up of teachers, and it is the PPTA teachers in the Waikato region that make this region successful. Wellington and National office are not the Union – YOU are. I am known for representing controversial regional views and decisions to the Annual Conference. I will continue to bring and represent the controversial issues of the Waikato region to the Executive meetings as your Executive Member. I will do my best to make sure the Voices of our Members here in Waikato are heard. I feel that this Region has the right to have someone represent them that will not be pushed around and someone who has proven he will stand up and be counted. I will represent you at Regional and National events, and through executive portfolios. I fought for and represented all PPTA secondary teachers around a previous bargaining table and will continue to fight in Waikato regional PPTA campaigns. Members issues in the Waikato need to be heard. I will continue to fight for the rights of members in terms of their mental and physical wellbeing, the enforcement of our collective agreement and all other membership issues in this region which need to be heard and acted upon. These are unique times in which we live in, and despite our settlement future governments need to know all teachers require an Excellent Secondary Education System in New Zealand, and we as a Union Stand STRONG. This Region Stands Strong. My knowledge, strength and ability are invested in you the PPTA membership of Waikato and I look forward to your and this region’s support.