

Auckland Social Studies Association



Sep/Oct 2017

A.G.M

Wednesday September 6th, 4pm
Mt Eden Bowling Club
17 Stokes Road, Mt Eden
All members welcome

Social Studies for non-trained Social Studies teachers PLD

This was a well-attended and successful professional development day that was *free* to member schools. While the focus of the workshop was on Year 9 and 10 Social Studies, it was good to see some intermediate teachers as well. Participants examined the nature of Social Studies, explored the concepts in the Level 4 and 5 achievement objectives, and investigated ways to deliver best practice in a Social Studies classroom. Amidst much enthusiastic discussion, participants found themselves engaged in activities such as debating whether Donald Trump was a threat to world peace and modelling the concept of 'remembrance' using playdough.

Our thanks to Avondale College for making their sports pavilion available for the course.

With continued pressures on teacher numbers, the likelihood of non-trained teachers being in front of Social Studies classes is increasing so ASSA will look to repeat this course next year.

Election 2017

With the national election happening in September, there are a number of resources available to teach aspects of the government and how it affects people.

Teaching units on having your say, connecting voting to student lives and suffrage.

<http://www.elections.org.nz/resources-learning/school-resources>

The NZ Parliament website has a large number of resources available, as well as a virtual tour of parliament.

<https://www.parliament.nz/en/visit-and-learn/teachers-and-students/resources/>

Use the political compass to see what party's policies are most closely aligned with your beliefs.

<https://votecompass.tvnz.co.nz/>



Access resources to teach the UN's sustainable development goals in the *World's Largest Lesson*
Sept 18

<http://worldslargestlesson.globalgoals.org/>

Upcoming events

September 6

Auckland Social Studies Association AGM

October 4 – 6

SOCCON 2017, Napier

ASSA had put aside money to help those schools with significant Maori/priority learner groups. This money is still available. We have now opened this offer to all of our members. Have you considered sending some of your teachers to SOCCON and would you like financial support to help you. As you are members of ASSA you can make an application for this support from ASSA.

November/December

e-learning PLD – free to member schools

E-Learning PLD

Integrating digital technology into the Social Studies classroom to engage students and improve teaching and learning.

When: Term 4, date TBC

Where : Mission Heights Junior College

Cost : **Free to member schools**, \$10 per person for non-member schools
Join now! \$40 per school, per year.

Visit assa.org.nz for more information.

PPTA Subject Association Forum – April 2017

Representatives from a large number of subject associations from all around New Zealand met in Wellington in April to discuss a range of educational topics from the purpose and expectations on associations to the review of NCEA. Changes to the way central PLD is funded and allocated makes it more and more important to develop strong networks within teaching communities and subject associations are well positioned to provide a hub for this.

While ASSA already provides different opportunities for members to access support, we would like to continue to develop and become stronger. Teachers and leaders can contribute to this by becoming a committee member, encouraging other schools to join the association, attending the AGM, participating in the upcoming cluster meetings and completing the survey.

Further information on what was discussed at the forum is available on our [website](#).

Tell us what you think!
Click here to take the survey

Declining support at the national level

With the ending of the Secondary Student Achievement contract, and with it the position of a national co-ordinator for Social Sciences and other curriculum areas, the role played by subject associations becomes vital. ASSA is one of the few remaining Social Studies associations and to flourish and provide this support we need schools to become members and contribute to networks, website resources and the committee. The AGM in September is a great place to start if you have not been involved yet. Come along and find out what ASSA does and network with other Social Studies teachers.

Visit us at www.assa.org.nz for resources and support.



Sustainability at Auckland Zoo

Auckland Zoo run excellent education programmes based around sustainability and endangered species. A specific programme targeted at Year 9 and 10 Social Studies classes to meet the L5 achievement objective *"Understand how people's management of resources impacts on environmental and social sustainability"* is under development and more information should be available soon.

Secondary schools that take their students to the zoo can expect a professional and interesting session on the focus of their choice plus entry to the zoo. This is a highly enjoyable fieldtrip for junior students ... and teachers!

