



## HOANA PEARSON – QSM

### Ngati Raukawa / Ngati Rangiwewehi

Hoana Pearson is currently Te Pītau Mātauranga (National Co-Ordinator) for the Te Arahou: Māori Achievement Collaboratives (MACS), an initiative of collaboration between Te Akatea Māori Principals' Association, NZPF and The Ministry of Education.

She has been the principal of Newton Central – an innovative inner city school - for the past 18 years where she initiated and developed both bilingual and immersion education programmes as well as supporting and championing the development of a Bicultural Histories Curriculum.

She was awarded a Queen's Service Medal in January 2015 for her work for Māori and for Education. In 2015, she was seconded to the Ministry of Education to develop a Māori Medium Education Strategy and at the end of the year she was offered her current position and reluctantly said farewell to her school. Hoana describes leaving the school as 'heart wrenching' but felt she wanted to make a difference in a wider context. An opportunity that the MACS provides her with.

In 2015 she finally completed her Master of Educational Leadership and Management where she focused on the role of the Primary School Principal in Whānau Engagement. She has presented at conferences both nationally and internationally and is known to provide both thought provoking and challenging presentations. She is the co-author of a number of publications and her achievements have been recognised by the OECD Special Advisor on Education Policy.

She is a staunch advocate for social justice and works tirelessly to achieve her vision of equity and quality education for all. She is currently the President of Te Akatea National Māori Principals' Associations, a member of the Principal Leadership Advisers – Advisory Group and participates in major working groups for both the Education Council and the Ministry of Education.