

## Catholic Primary Principals' Southwest Region

Report on Professional Development Day Wednesday November 10, 2010.

Presenter: Mario Bugna

Subject:

Our region has as a priority the professional development of our school staff communities, networking and collegiality. In 2010 we conducted a professional development day with staff from our nine schools coming together, focusing on grading the written work of students, using the NAPLAN marking guide. This exercise was so successful that we felt that more professional conversations, but focusing on some NPP activities, would have much merit. To that end we have secured a regional professional development day on April 18 for 2011.

At our regional Principals' meeting following the regional staff professional development day of 2010, however, a wish was expressed for a principal-focused, faith-based day of reflection on the spirituality of leadership, for all of the principals in our region. All of the principals attending were in full agreement, and were prepared to put the demands of curriculum to one side. There was an appetite to focus on being rather than on administration. We were fortunate to secure the services of Mr Mario Bugna, Consultant from the Faith Integration and Formation team from the Catholic Education Office, to lead the day.

OUTCOME:

A renewed appreciation for and of the role of the Principal as a spiritual leader of their community

PROCESS:

This day of reflection provided Mario with the opportunity to meet with a number of principals for the first time. The benefits are mutual – his impact on the group was significant, and the relationships made on that day will bear fruit in terms of Mario broadening and deepening his affiliations with schools.

Mario challenged us and encouraged us to sustain ourselves and one another. His mandate was that to be effective leaders we had to see our personal well-being as a priority.

The feedback from our region was universally affirming. We would recommend him to any region wanting to have a life-giving conversation with an intelligent, insightful, down to earth, spiritual person who has only support to offer.