

- **Justine Mahon** is a leading New Zealand educator, with considerable experience as a teacher and Principal in the tertiary, secondary, and primary education sectors, both in New Zealand and overseas. She was formerly a Senior Lecturer at the Auckland College of Education and, on her return to the secondary sector, became Deputy Principal then, most recently, Principal of St Cuthbert's College 2018-2024, where she played a leading role in the Knowledge Rich School research project. Justine also, along with three other Auckland Principals, established a robust, alternative, In-School Initial Teacher Education model, in conjunction with the University of Waikato and was previously on the Executive of the New Zealand Association of Language Teachers (NZALT) and on the Board of Trustees of Bayfield School.
- **Glen Denham**, Headmaster of Wellington College and former Principal at Massey High School. Glen brings successful experience in the United Kingdom's Academy Model of schooling, where he was the Executive Principal at Oasis Community Learning Multi Academy Trust, London for six years. Glen took three schools from "special measures" to "outstanding" in three years. One of his academies was named in the top 5 per cent of all schools in England for three years running. He opened a sixth form which was in the top 5 per cent for all sixth forms for four years running. Glen also opened a football academy with Crystal Palace at Shirley Park. His leadership has been endorsed in the House of Lords in England by Rt Hon David Laws MP, Minister of State for Schools (Department for Education).
- **John Fiso** ONZM has extensive governance and management experience in education, health and economic development sectors. He has served as chairman of the Independent Tertiary Education Providers of NZ (ITENZ) and on the boards of Pacific Co-operation Foundation, Ako Aotearoa, Volleyball NZ, and the Pacific Business Trust. John is Chair of Whitby Collegiate and on the Board of Independent Schools. He was made an Officer of the NZ Order of Merit for services to sport, education and the Pasifika community and was named Wellingtonian of the Year for services to education in 2016. John founded the NZ Institute of Sport, a three-tier education institute with foundation, vocational and graduate programmes.
- **Dr Nina Hood** is the Founder of The Education Hub, a not-for-profit with a mission to bridge the gap between research and practice in education. She is also a Senior Research Fellow at Koi Tū, the Centre for Informed Futures at the University of Auckland, where she leads their work on the future of education. Nina has taught at Epsom Girls Grammar and Mt Roskill Grammar in Auckland and was also an academic at the Faculty of Education, University of Auckland for seven years where she specialised in education evaluation and knowledge translation. From 2015 to 2021 she was on the Board of Trustees of St Cuthbert's College.
- **Neil Paviour-Smith** has extensive experience in various roles in New Zealand capital markets. He has been Managing Director of Forsyth Barr since 2001. He was on the Board of Trustees of Wadestown School for 14 years, including 10 years as the Board Chair. He was a Council member of Victoria University of Wellington for 9 years, and held the posts of Pro-Chancellor for 2 years and Chancellor for 4 years. He is a Director of Wellington Free Ambulance and the NZ Initiative. He is a former Director of NZX and Chartered Accountants Australia New Zealand (CAANZ) and former Chair of the NZ Regulatory Board of CAANZ. Neil was an inaugural recipient of a Sir Peter Blake Trust Leadership Award in 2005.

- **Elizabeth Rata** is a professor in the School of Critical Studies, Faculty of Education and Social Work, University of Auckland. Professor Rata was a founding member of the group which established kura kaupapa Maori and as secretary of Te Komiti o Ngā Kura Kaupapa Māori o Tamaki Makaurau played a significant role in the Runanga's successful campaign for legislative recognition, and policy and operational development. A leading international curriculum expert, Professor Rata led the Knowledge Rich School Research Project and developed the Curriculum Design Coherence Model (CDC model). Elizabeth is a member of the Ministerial Advisory Group appointed by Hon Erica Stanford Minister of Education to review the primary school English, maths and statistics curricula.
- **Rōpata Taylor** has governance and executive management skills with over 20 years of private and public sector commercial and business development experience. He has held an Executive Leadership role at Wakatū since 2002. He is currently Chair of Ngāti Rārua Ātiawa Iwi Trust. He provides expert evidence on customary matters in judicial proceedings. He is a specialist adviser to community groups, local and central government, and NGOs. Ropata was the Maori advisor on new applications for the Partnership Schools I Kura Hourua pilot. He sat on the Maori advisory panel alongside Sir Toby Curtis and Dame Iritana Tawhiwhirangi.
- **Doran Wyatt** is a partner at Russell McVeagh and leads their Real Estate and Construction practice in Wellington. He specialises in commercial and Crown property matters, including acquisitions and disposals, developments, construction and leasing, seismic building issues, corporate real estate and social infrastructure. He has previously advised the Ministry of Education on private investment projects for education infrastructure on Crown (MoE) land and school site acquisition.