



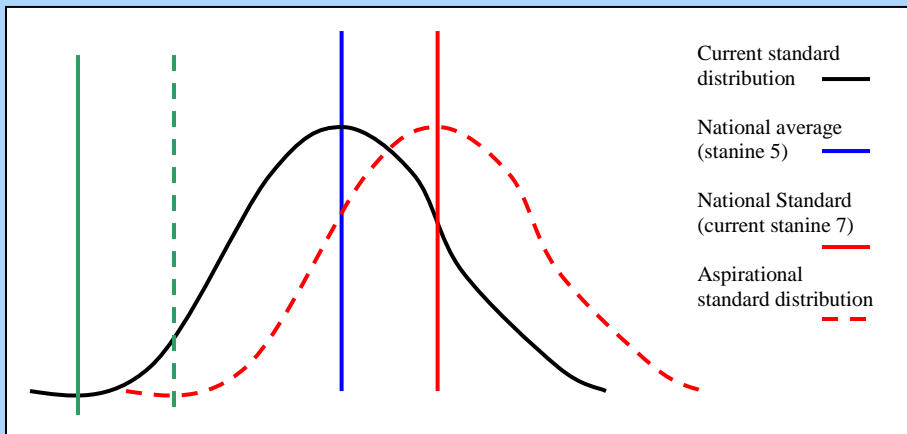
# The Wilkie Way

Newsletter April 2011

Congratulations – you have made it to the end of term one. Make sure you have a good break as next term is also a long one and going into winter the bugs are around and children do like to share.

## Just a word on National Standards as they are not going away and many people are asking questions.

The current national average and the national standard are not the same. Currently the national standard is set considerably higher than the national average. This does not mean we should not aspire to improve the national average but it does mean we cannot set targets of 100% of students achieving the national standards. While we might like the idea it is not a reasonable target and schools will set themselves up trying to explain the variance between their results and the targets they send to MOE. Targets must be set using current school data and be achievable with effort from school, teachers and students.



When we have raised the standard and our school population fits under the red dashed line curve, the red line becomes stanine 5 and there will always be students who do not meet the standard. For 100% of students to meet the standard, the standard would need to be set where the green line is for now or where the dashed green line is set when standards are higher which is effectively to lower the current standard. Is this what we actually want?

**Fact: There will always be students who do not meet a set standard – be it a national standard in year 1 – 8 or NCEA level 1, 2 or 3. Are these students still not valuable members of our society?**

The danger is in labeling students as failures year on year. While for those who are capable of meeting the standard and are not putting in the effort it may spur them to work harder. For students who put in a lot of effort but still fail to meet the standard it is demoralizing.

Article continues .....



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Where have the standards been set?

School Curriculum	National Standard
Level 8	← Year 13 NCEA 3
Level 7	← Year 12 NCEA 2
Level 6	← Year 11 NCEA 1
Level 5	
Level 4	← Year 8 NS
	← Year 7 NS
Level 3	← Year 6 NS
	← Year 5 NS
Level 2	← Year 4 NS
	← End 36 mths NS
Level 1	← End 24 mths NS
	← End 12 mths NS

## Did you know?

To achieve NCEA level 1 students must have 10 numeracy credits but they can achieve them through numeracy unit standards. It will say whether numeracy is achieved through unit standards or achievement standards – two tier NCEA level 1

**So level 4+ is ok for a standard at year 11**  
But you would not be able to continue to Level 2 Mathematics.

What level of mathematics will be required for teacher training? (Currently NCEA level 1)

## Numeracy Unit Standards

### Did you know?

Step 6 of the adult learning progressions (the level deemed necessary for the general worker to fully participate in society) is assessed using the same unit standards.

**So level 4+ is the standard for full participation in society**

This learning trajectory assumes all students learn at the same rate and will continue on to Level 3 Mathematics (Calculus or Statistics) and head off to university.

What percentage of the workforce does this apply to?

Is this the only pathway that is valued by our current leaders?

Do people who have not gone to university play a valuable part in our society?

I would venture to suggest society would fall over without the "general worker"

**We need to praise students (and teachers) on genuine effort and reward students on effort and recognise achievement. We should "punish" students (and teachers) for lack of effort not lack of achievement.**

**We need to ensure we have the highest quality teachers entering the profession and provide on going professional development to build their expert content knowledge for the teaching of mathematics as laid out in the 2010 Curriculum Document. ALL students deserve the best teachers.**

**Feeding the pig makes it fatter not continuously weighing it  
Teaching not more assessing**



# *The Wilkie Way*

*Newsletter April 2011*

## **Professional Development Opportunities in Term Two**

I shall be providing courses in the following destinations:

### **Implementing Inquiry Learning and a Problem Solving Approach to Teaching Mathematics (Implementing the new curriculum properly)**

Christchurch – Friday 13 May  
New Plymouth – Tuesday 17 May  
Hamilton – Thursday 2 June  
Greymouth – Wednesday 15 June  
Timaru – Wednesday 22 June  
Whangarai – Wednesday 6 July

Apply [inservice@otago.ac.nz](mailto:inservice@otago.ac.nz)

### **Teacher Aides – Supporting the Teaching & Learning of Numeracy**

Auckland – 11 May  
Christchurch – 12 May  
New Plymouth 18 May  
Nelson – Thursday 19 May  
Wellington – Friday 20 May  
Hamilton – Wednesday 1 June  
Greymouth – Tuesday 14 June  
Timaru – Tuesday 21 June  
Gisborne – Wednesday 29 June  
Whangarai – Tuesday 5 July

Apply [inservice@otago.ac.nz](mailto:inservice@otago.ac.nz)

### **Developing Mathematical Thinking in Junior Classes**

Gisborne – Tuesday 28 June

Apply [jennie@gisborne.net.nz](mailto:jennie@gisborne.net.nz)  
Phone 06 8633741

### **In school professional development:**

**I provide custom built professional development to support schools in building teacher capability to ensure quality mathematics programme.**

**Contact [charlotte@ncwilkinsons.com](mailto:charlotte@ncwilkinsons.com)**



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## Some problems to cause thinking

There were 4 muffins left in the tin.

How much muffin would you get if they were shared equally between:

2 children

3 children

4 children

6 children

8 children



Stacey had \$103.50 in her bank account.



She went shopping with her eftpos card. She bought a book for \$29.99, some jeans for \$34.99, a tee shirt for \$15.00, some chewing gum for \$2.99, a burger and fries for \$7.50, and then she saw the CD she has always wanted for \$19.99. Her eftpos card accepted the payment. Explain what her bank statement would say?

A running track is 400m.

How many laps would you have to complete to run 6km?



If you ran the 6km in 30 minutes what is the average time taken for each lap?

There are 86 students wanting to play netball or basketball.

The school needs to make up teams of 7 for netball and teams of 6 for basketball.

What combinations could they have making sure no one is left out?



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