

## **Successful school leadership in the Asia-Pacific Region**

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### **Project objective**

This is a call for further Asia-Pacific involvement in the International Successful School Principalship Project (ISSPP). This project, begun in 2002, is focussed exploring the knowledge, skills and dispositions that successful school principals use for implementing leadership practices across a range of successful schools in different countries. The ISSPP is a large and important body of research that currently contains more than 80 case studies and several thousand survey responses across eight countries, and has produced two books, an additional seven book chapters, two special journal issues (*Journal of Educational Administration*, 43(6), 2005; *International Studies in Educational Administration*, 35(3), 2007), and more than 60 refereed journal papers.

### **Scope**

Involvement can be at several levels, but primarily through the conduct of multiple-perspective case studies of successful principals. The ISSPP has formal representation in Australia, China and Hong Kong, and we have doctoral students who have conducted case studies in Indonesia (completed) and Singapore (to be finalised). In Australia we are also interested in exploring a model of successful school leadership we have developed and linking this exploration to the development of a survey that the ISSPP has used previously. Professor Chris Day is the leader of the ISSPP and it is through him that we would develop any involvement.

### **Approach**

In the multiple perspective case studies we have collected data including:

- documents illustrating school achievements and student attainments;
- individual interviews with the principal (3 interviews), assistant principal, curriculum coordinator, six other teachers, school board chairperson, and a school board parent member;
- group interviews with parents (2 groups of 8-10) and students (2 groups of 8-10).

In addition, recent case studies have involved observation over several days of the work of the principals, and questions that are more explicitly focussed on the contributions of other leaders in the school.

The survey mentioned above, needs more space than is available in this proposal brief.  
This can be discussed at the meeting.