

TEACHER REGISTRATION BOARD OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY



GPO Box 1675 Darwin NT 0801
Telephone: (08) 8999 4197
Facsimile: (08) 8999 4195
Email: trb@nt.gov.au
Website: www.trb.nt.gov.au

Northern Territory Standards of Professional Practice for Teachers Progress Report

2005

During 2005, the Teacher Registration Board worked with teachers across the Northern Territory to prepare the Professional Standards for Teaching. This first set of standards was prepared at the Competent level, which in the National Framework covers the 'competent' career dimension. The Board chose this as its starting place as it is expected all teachers will demonstrate achievement at this level and that most graduate teachers will reach it within the first year of professional employment.

Early in 2005 a steering group representative of all educational sectors had been formed to guide the writing, consultation and trialling processes. The writing task itself was given to a group of classroom teachers, again a widely representative group, who drafted the standards with reference to a variety of documents already in use in the Territory and in States where professional standards were already in place. Through the writing and consultative process, the Teacher Registration Board canvassed a wide cross-section of teachers including Indigenous and non-Indigenous teachers in urban and remote locations, government and non-government schools, teachers working across all levels of schooling and specialist areas of education and teacher educators in Northern Territory tertiary institutions.

2006

The Teacher Registration Board approved the Competent level Northern Territory Standards for Professional Practice in February 2006. A copy of the standards was posted to every teacher registered in the Northern Territory. The Board is now monitoring the uptake of the standards by teachers and employers in schools.

Having successfully written and launched professional standards for teaching at the competent level, the Board is now working on professional standards for graduate

teachers and professional standards that acknowledge the work of highly accomplished teachers. The cross-representational working party from 2005 has been reconfigured into a standing committee of the Board and will again oversee the writing, consultation and trialling processes.

The committee has prepared a draft of the graduate standards that is ready for public consultation. A series of focus groups will be conducted during August and September, which will seek responses from preservice teachers, teacher mentors, teacher leaders and teacher educators. Preservice teachers and teacher educators from Batchelor Institute and Charles Darwin University will be using the draft graduate standards in Semester 2 as the basis for assessing and recording practicum outcomes for final year preservice teachers. Responses from any other members of the educational community will be very welcome and can be submitted following the guidelines for public consultation on this website.

The committee has also commenced work on professional standards that will acknowledge the work of highly accomplished teachers. A workshop has been planned for 8 September and further public consultation will follow.

Teachers interested in any aspect of professional standards are invited to contact the committee by emailing trb@nt.gov.au