Dear Colleagues

The Australian Primary Principal Association (APPA) is writing a paper on graduate teachers being classroom ready and needs your ‘on the ground’ views on how well our teachers are being prepared by universities for the primary classroom.

You would know that the Commonwealth Government released a report on initial teacher education covering such areas as entrance levels, course content, practicum experience, classroom readiness and teacher induction. In all this, a clear definition and understanding of what is meant by being classroom ready is needed. We all recognise that there are gaps in teacher graduate aptitude, knowledge and skills and your input will contribute to feedback APPA gives to the Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership (AISTL) and to universities.

I invite you to participate in this short survey – Are New Teachers Ready for the Demands of Your School? In completing the survey you are welcome to collaborate with your beginning teacher coordinator or other school leader responsible for graduate teachers. Please base your responses on one randomly selected graduate who began teaching in your school this or last year. As best you can, when completing the survey, reflect upon the graduate teacher during his or her first term at your school.

We envisage the survey will take about 15 – 20 minutes to complete. It can be found at https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/APPASurveyITE and will close in two weeks on Friday 12 June.

Thank you for your ongoing support of APPA and know that your contribution will help us make a difference to primary education long into the future.

Dennis Yarrington

President