

National Executive Candidates 2025 – 2026

Curriculum Vitae



Name: Seletute Mila
Nominated for: General Membership

Relevant skills, attributes and qualifications:

e.g. M.Ed Leadership; B.Ed.; Trained Teachers Certificate; ANZEI.

Ko Seletute Mila tōku ingoa
No te *Pule 'anga Fakatu'i 'o Tonga* ahau
I whānau au i Nuku'alofa engari i tupu ake au i te Uru o Tāmaki Makaurau
Ko Ngai Tupou me Mila ngā iwi
Ko Lesina-Leigh ratau, ko Taylor ko Daniel ko Hinetai aku tamariki
Kei Wainuiomata ki Te Awa Kairangi ahau e noho me mahi ana
Ko te tumuaki o te kura o Arakura ahau
Nō reira, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, tēnā tatou katoa

My qualifications, skills and experience include:

- BA/BEd (Tchg); MSpecTchg (Distinction)
- 24 years teaching experience including three years as RTL, five years as Deputy Principal/SENCo and currently in my fourth year as principal of Arakura School
- Currently doing Te Ahu o Te Reo Māori course with Takatū together with teachers and support staff at my school; our goal is to normalise te reo Māori, reaching the capability to delivery the minimum of Rumaki Level 3 across the school

NZEI experience:

Have been an active member for the last 17 years and held several roles:

- Worksite Rep
- Wainuiomata Branch President
- Wellington Area Council Chair
- National Pasifika Leaders Caucus
- National Executive Representative for Primary Teachers (2019-2020) – I did not stand for a further term because I took up principal position from 2021

I have served on the Principals' Council since 2022 as a representative of the National Pasifika Leaders Caucus.

Some of the campaigns I had significant roles in include

- Joint Initiative between NZEI Te Riu Roa and MOE following the introduction of Communities of Learning
- Better Funding Campaign
- Kua Tae te Wā Campaign – including being a representative on the Primary Teachers' Negotiation Team

Other background and personal information:

I have always been a strong advocate for Māori and Pasifika educational success and achievement. My mother brought our family to Aotearoa from Tonga for a better life and even though she left this world too young when I was 13, her dream has always been a light for my path. My children whakapapa to Tainui, Te Arawa and Ngā Puhi. Being connected as whāngai to Ngāti Haua through Nanny Orapai Stewart and to Tapu te Ranga Marae through Koro Bruce Stewart, who have both passed away, is a blessing I never take for granted.

My other passion in education is in learning support, creating a truly inclusive education system. The underfunding in learning support is a shameful blight on our education landscape. The Ngā Aukaha – All in for Tamariki is a critical campaign which when we win, will make a powerful difference across all sectors.

The role that is most important to me and the one that gives me the greatest joy, is being a mum. Being a mum is a privilege and it is what gives meaning to everything I do. If we can make our world a better place by being the best parent we can be and by doing our bit in education - for our children, our mokopuna, and the future that is theirs – then I consider we're living our best lives.

Nominated by: Wainuiomata Branch