

ADVERTISEMENT
Advertise with
Stuff

Bruce Dale - loved by staff and students alike

Sarah Roberts · 08:44, Jul 27 2016



SUPPLIED

The late Bruce Dale was well-respected education across primary, intermediate and secondary levels.

The day Bruce Dale died was a sad one for the New Zealand education sector.

He was a man who was respected by his fellow peers and loved by his students. The former Henderson Intermediate School principal died from a brain aneurysm unexpectedly at Waikato Hospital, aged 64 years old on July 19.

Dale's funeral, held at All Saints Anglican Church in Matamata, was attended by around 1000 people.

Dale's former school board chairman Ron Crawford says he made Henderson a successful and sought-after school in west Auckland.

"He knew all of his students, the good and the bad. He had time for them all," Crawford says.

ADVERTISEMENT
Advertise with
Stuff

"If there was a problem he would work out how to fix it with the student."

During Dale's time at Henderson made the building of the school's auditorium and a new administration block possible.

He was the principal for 11 years, previously was at Te Kuiti High School as principal and before this Waitakere College as deputy principal.

During this time he was also an archdeacon in the Anglican Church.

Dale filled in for principals across the country after resigning from Henderson Intermediate.

His most recent role was at Matamata Primary School, where he attended school as a child.

Dale spoke fluent Maori and helped introduced the national Te Kauhua programme to improve Maori students learning outcomes. He was a life member of the Waitakere Area Principals' Association.

He was an identical twin to Colin, who is principal at Murray's Bay Intermediate School and had a sister, Clare Hitchcock. They were bought up in Matamata. Hitchcock says her brother was caring and very loved by his family.

"He used to drive down to Matamata, while living in Auckland to see his mother, before she died. He was very family orientated and always had time," he says.

Dale was involved in Rotary clubs in Henderson, Te Kuiti and Matamata. He had an interest in classic cars.

Stuff