

QUEENSLAND INDEPENDENT EDUCATION UNION
INDEPENDENT EDUCATION UNION OF AUSTRALIA –
QUEENSLAND & NORTHERN TERRITORY BRANCH



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Wednesday, 16 September 2009

prpc115bhc

Professional Rates of Pay Campaign



CATHOLIC SECTOR - CHAPTER BRIEFING No. 18

**Onus on Catholic Employers to Negotiate
Procedure of Protected Action Ballots confirmed**

Dear Colleagues

The onus on Catholic employing authorities is to negotiate benchmark professional rates of pay instead of continuing to hide behind state sector arbitration outcomes.

Employers have essentially said they will not meet to negotiate our member endorsed wage claiming that "negotiations may not resume until the EQ outcome is known".

This in itself may offend the good faith bargaining provisions that are set out in the Fair Work Act (2009).

However, of greater significance is that at no time have employers tabled a costed and detailed response to the employee endorsed wage claim to support their assertion that they can't afford it. All we have is a funding motivated political position in support of the state government forced public sector arbitration.

The onus is on employers to negotiate a wages outcome which is in the interests of quality education in their schools and one which recognises the contribution staff make to those outcomes.

Employee representatives for their part are on the record saying they will meet anywhere at anytime to find a solution to the professional wages issue.

Protected Action Ballots

Members have until 25 September 2009 to advise the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) of any address changes or if a member is on extended leave in Term 4 they may wish to advise an alternate address where the ballot material can reach them.

Postal ballots will be forwarded on 28 September 2009 to the recorded address and completed ballots must be received by first mail on 13 October 2009. The AEC then proceeds to count the ballot and declares the result.

For the proposed action to be authorised 50% of members must vote and 50% plus one must endorse the action. If endorsed, member actions would commence mid-October.

Member Action

Ahead of the protected action ballot and possible action members are asked to consider and sign the petition sent to Chapters last week, calling on Catholic employing authorities to negotiate teacher wage outcomes consistent with the benchmark professional rates of pay.

Petitions should be returned to QIEU (Fax: 3839 7021) by 4:00pm on Thursday, 17 September 2009 for forwarding to employing authorities.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. Burke'.

**TERRY BURKE
SECRETARY**