

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



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Wednesday, 17 February 2010

Prpcpas46tb:nm

Professional Rates of Pay Campaign

your rights at work
worth fighting for

**CATHOLIC SECTOR BALLOT
CHAPTER BRIEFING No. 17**

**Campaign for Professional Rates of Pay Steps Up
Ballot Results Direct Complementary Actions
Employer Offer Worse than the Public Sector**

Dear Colleagues

The campaign to secure professional rates of pay in the Catholic sector moves into its next phase following the declaration of the protected action ballots yesterday.

Members in a number of employing authorities took the opportunity to add to their existing list of authorised protected actions by endorsing bans on co-curricular activities.

Members who voted in the Brisbane, Townsville and Rockhampton Dioceses, Iona College and St Patrick's College (Townsville) again voted overwhelmingly to endorse action but failed to meet the requirement for at least 50% of ballots to be returned; four in five members who voted endorsed the proposed protected action.

Member representatives in those employing authorities with authorised protected action in place will now meet to consider the next phase in their campaign.

Employers can take little comfort from the ballot outcome with members still clearly dissatisfied with a teacher wage offer which is worse than the public sector settlement.

Ballot Outcomes

The current employer offer is worse than the public sector settlement and further action will be needed to get the employers to change their teacher wage offer.

Members in those employing authorities who have endorsed protected action understand that very clearly, having taken protected action last year.

Members in the other five employing authorities have a complementary role in this campaign to secure a just wage outcome.

Next Steps

Ours is a member led union and meetings have been scheduled this week of representatives from the 19 employing authorities with authorised protected action in place.

These meetings will plan the next phase of their part in this campaign for interstate Catholic sector professional rates of pay.

Chapters in the other employing authorities will meet next week to plan out a set of actions to complement that of their colleagues in schools with authorised action in place.

All Chapters should schedule Chapter meetings in the new week. Please return the attached faxback to indicate the date and time of the Chapter meeting you have scheduled for the week beginning 22 February 2010.

Separate communications will be forwarded.

Kind regards



TERRY BURKE
SECRETARY

Further News

Breach of *Fair Work Act* Referred to Federal Magistrates Court

Ahead of the ballots close yesterday an application was made to the Federal Magistrates Court of Australia alleging a breach of the *Fair Work Act* by the Rockhampton and Townsville Catholic Education Offices.

Both employing authorities in a briefing encouraged employees to refrain from voting in the ballot.

The *Fair Work Act* specifically prohibits anyone to 'counsel or advise a person entitled to vote to refrain from voting'. (Section 462(1)(e).)

If found guilty of the offence the employing authorities face monetary penalty.



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CATHOLIC SECTOR CHAPTER FAXBACK

Chapter Meeting

The Chapter at _____ has scheduled a
[INSERT NAME OF SCHOOL]

Chapter meeting on _____ at _____ .
[INSERT DATE] [INSERT TIME]

[N.B. Chapter meetings are to be scheduled in the week beginning 22 February 2010.]

PLEASE FAX BACK TO
TERRY BURKE, SECRETARY, IEUA-QNT
ON FAX NUMBER (07) 3839 7021
by Friday, 19 February 2010