



Government deadline today

Your AEU Executive has given the Liberal Government until close of business today (Monday 25th March) to respond adequately to our counter-claim, or AEU members will be forced to escalate industrial action significantly.

The Government's offer has been rejected by AEU members who want an agreement that delivers quality education for all, with more sustainable workloads, respect for educators and time to teach, lead and support our students.

100% of 150 workplace meetings rejected the Government's offer and 83% of members in a survey to over 4,000 said the offer failed to meet their expectations. Now we have a counter-claim to fight for and we may need to back it up with strong collective action.

We have given the Government a week to respond and held off on industrial action for that time. Public sector unions have called Mass Stop Work Meetings on Tuesday 2nd April and Wednesday 3rd April and we will join those meetings as our first stop work action for 2019 if the Government fails to deliver an adequate response to our claim by today's deadline.

IF the Government fails to meet today's deadline, ALL AEU MEMBERS, including TAFE, DoE Support Staff, Principals, Teachers -primary, secondary and colleges, will be called on to join these Stop Work Meetings.

**SAVE THE DATE:
STOP WORK FOR RESPECT
Public Sector Unions Mass Stop
Work Meetings**

NORTH WEST - 2:30pm Tue 2 April 2019 @ Burnie Arts Centre

NORTH - 9:30am Wed 3 April 2019 @ Civic Square Launceston

SOUTH - 2:30pm Wed 3 April 2019 @ City Hall Hobart

Actual stop work times will vary by workplace to ensure plenty of time is allowed for travel and parking, including for return to work where required.

Print out and put up posters at your workplace – but remember these actions will only take place if the Government fails to adequately respond to our counter-claim today.

**To download a poster got to the campaign website:
aeutas.org.au > Campaigns > EB19
(aeutas.org.au/eb19)**



Our journey so far

Helen Richardson, Tasmanian Branch President

18 months ago, we launched our Quality Education for All campaign, a campaign to have a public education system where educators are respected and valued and where our schools, colleges and TAFE are resourced and supported to give every student the opportunity to get a quality education.

There hasn't been such a sustained and organised campaign for quality education in Tasmania for a very long time.

When we started our campaign, we knew we'd have to play the long game and we knew it wouldn't be easy!

Last year, one of our first organised member actions was Walk off for Workload. Some members took the opportunity to take our message out to the community with wobble-boarding and others organised 'pub catch ups' in their clusters.

In August we held our first joint public sector union action against the government's 2% wage cap. Public sector unions asked their members to stand together and wear red in their workplaces.

At the end of October, under the banner of *Tasmanians Need a Pay-rise*, thousands of our members joined other public sector unions, standing side by side with other public sector workers for our first Stop Work Action at events around the state. Over 60 schools closed.

Workplace bans were put in place in schools and TAFE, which aimed to put pressure on the Government to come to the table and negotiate in good faith.

At the end of November, members, turned out in their masses to Stop Work meetings across the state.

Around 4,500 Tasmanian teachers, principals and support staff from schools and TAFE filled stadiums and meeting venues in 20 locations across the state as part of unprecedented industrial action.

Over 150 workplaces were closed for 2 hours in the morning. This action by members showed the depth and the breadth of concern about unmanageable workloads and their frustration at the Hodgman Government's lack of action on a fair and competitive salary for educators.





We called on the Premier to step up and show leadership and address educator concerns as a matter of urgency.

Because the State Government failed to progress negotiations over the summer break, members held Stop Work meetings at their workplaces on the first day of term this year. Members voted to escalate industrial action and introduce new work bans if the Liberal Government fails to progress negotiations.

In late February the Premier intervened and the Government finally succumbed to pressure and agreed to meet with all public sector unions to progress negotiations. Finally, after 8 months of negotiations the Government presented their new salary position of a miserable 2%, 2.25% and 2.5% over the life of the Agreement.

Three weeks ago, we received a revised bargaining offer for the DoE Teachers Agreement.

This offer came with a 'grab bag' of new demands that strip some existing conditions, including the loss of public holidays, performance pay for teachers and a review into the Public Sector.

100% of 150 workplace meetings rejected the Government's offer and 83% of members in a survey to over 4,000 said the offer failed to meet their expectations.

Branch Council passed the following motions: *"That Branch Council rejects the government's 1 March 2019 DoE Teachers offer"*

"In the event that there is unsatisfactory progress in negotiations, Branch Council directs members to participate in the following joint public sector union Stop Work actions; 2 April Burnie, 3 April Launceston and Hobart 3 April."



Support Staff News

Public Holiday TOIL slashed for Support Staff

Beginning in 2014, your AEU campaigned for and won a 3 year agreement with DoE for Support Staff to receive an additional day of Time Off In Lieu (TOIL) where Easter holidays fell in the first term holiday period.

Unfortunately, because the agreement only covered the three years and has now expired before the Government has managed to deliver a new public sector agreement – Support Staff are losing up to 5 days pay with no TOIL compensation.

Read the full update from Deputy Branch President Mandy Jackson on our website:

aeutas.org.au > **Your Sector > Support Staff**

Support Staff Newsletter

A full Newsletter was sent out to Support Staff members on 27th February. Check your inbox to get a big update, including EBA Campaign news and key industrial issues for Support Staff.

Here's a link to read the newsletter online: <http://bit.ly/aeuss280219>

TAFE lunch breaks

TAFE members are reminded that your 30 minute UNPAID lunch break is your time and you can't be required to attend any meetings during this time.

See the fact sheet on unpaid breaks/lunch: aeutas.org.au > **Your Sector > TAFE**



TAFE member win!

A Tas TAFE member has had a fantastic salary win working with their union.

The member had contacted the AEU in the last few months of 2018 with concerns about the salary scale allocated to their position. They believed their salary was not commensurate with their qualifications, skills and experience.

AEU Member Service and Support Centre staff contacted TAFE CEO Jenny Dodd on behalf of the member, with all the relevant information and documentation, and successfully advocated for a review of the salary scale.

The good news came through recently and the member was notified their salary would move from Level 1 to Level 7 and that they would be back paid from mid-2018. This is a fantastic result and the member is both pleased and relieved.

If you are a TAFE member and believe there are inconsistencies between your salary and your qualifications and skills, please contact the AEU Member Service and Support Centre on 6234 9500.

Good mental health for TAFE teachers

Did you see the article in the latest AEU magazine? Get some good tips on mental health, you can find it online: aeufederal.org.au/news-media/news

Clarence TAFE Member BBQ

12pm-2pm Tuesday 26th March
Outside carpentry F-block
Everyone invited, all welcome.

