



TO: QTU REPRESENTATIVES

(Please ensure that the Principal and each QTU Rep receives a copy of this Newsflash)

Please e-mail or provide a copy to each member (do not simply place on the noticeboard)

Vote for EB and against league tables

Welcome to 2010. Early this year members will be involved in two ballots, one conducted by DET to endorse EB6 and another by the QTU in relation to our opposition to league tables. Please read below for details.

Update on EB6

At the end of the 2009 school year, QTU members were balloted on the acceptability of the EB settlement package. The result of this ballot, with 82.5 per cent of votes returned in favour, enabled the QTU to reach in-principle agreement.

Over the Christmas holidays, the wording of the agreement was finalised and thanks to a special Public Service Directive, members received the back pay of the additional 0.5 per cent increase on 30 December 2009. Negotiations around the new senior teacher classification have also continued. The Union is endeavouring to ensure that members will have access to information in relation to the criteria and application process for the new classification prior to the Department ballot.

A copy of the proposed Teachers' Certified Agreement 2009 can be found on the QTU website.

DET ballot

The Department is required by law to conduct its own ballot on the proposed agreement. The results of this ballot will be used when the agreement is certified. Members are strongly encouraged to vote in favour of the agreement in this ballot. The Department's ballot will open on Monday, 8 February and close on 26 February of this term. Teachers with active email addresses will receive an email with a link to a web-based ballot on 8 February 2010. Teachers on leave or without an active email address will receive a ballot paper and reply-paid envelope via post by 8 February 2010. Before conducting the ballot, the Department will be providing a number of information sessions (where possible in conjunction with the QTU) across the state. A timetable for these sessions can be found on the QTU website (www.qtu.asn.au).

All members are strongly encouraged to vote in the DET ballot.

Stop league tables

On 19 January 2010, delegates at the AEU Federal Conference unanimously adopted a resolution that unless federal and state governments take steps to prevent the creation and publication of league tables, the teaching profession should not cooperate in the collection of data on which they are based.

The AEU is our national union and voice of more than 180,000 government school and TAFE teachers (including 44,000 members of the QTU). More than 20 elected delegates and observers from the QTU participated in the Federal Conference, and voted in favour of the decision which has been discussed at a national and state level for six months.

The AEU resolution includes a deadline of 12 April 2010, when a special meeting of the AEU Federal Executive will consider the response of governments at that time, and will determine what further action should be taken. The federal government can avert action if it, for example, legislates to prevent the creation of league tables based on the data.

The QTU will be conducting a ballot of members on support for action as part of a broad campaign against league tables. The exact timing of the ballot will be determined at a later date by QTU Executive and Senior Officers in light of future developments.

For further information about the AEU's Stop League Tables campaign, visit the AEU website (www.aeufederal.org.au).

Authorised by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Battams".

John Battams
General Secretary