

TO: QTU MEMBERS

2019 off to a flying start!

Term one has been busy, with the commencement of bargaining for a replacement certified agreement and ongoing Fair Funding Now! activities. This term also saw the release of the NAPLAN review and the election of a new QTU Vice-President.

Wins for QTU members in the first term:

Last week, the Queensland Government released the NAPLAN review, validating members' long-held concerns. Earlier this month, the QTU Executive voted to lift the ban on NAPLAN Online, on the basis that all of the Union's conditions have now been met (<https://www.qtu.asn.au/nflash-0319>).

Schools that have been participating in readiness testing for NAPLAN Online in 2019 should now be able to move forward.

The QTU will be working with the department to oversee the implementation of actions arising from the report, including:

- a review of the Joint Statement on NAPLAN and the Joint Statement on the Use and Purpose of Data in Queensland Schools
- a targeted communication strategy for parents, students and the school community
- a review of the School Planning, Reporting and Reviewing Framework
- clear guidance for schools on how to use NAPLAN results and various types of data at a school and student level
- clear guidance for parents on the types of assessment their students might expect during their school journey
- a commitment to supporting student and teacher wellbeing during assessment periods.

Changes to the QCT legislation were also passed through Parliament, enlivening the statewide roll out of highly accomplished and lead teachers. At the close of the expression of interest process, more than 800 applications had been received. The department has also been working toward increasing the number of HAT and LT assessors to support the process for 2019.

In March, the QTU launched QuEST (Queensland Education Support and Training) to provide professional development to members in a number of key areas. More information about the programs QuEST currently offers can be found at www.qtu.asn.au/QuEST

Wins coming up next term

Term two this year presents members with the opportunity to finally achieve Fair Funding Now! for state schools, and will also see the culmination of the Change the Rules campaign at the federal election. Follow the links for information on how you can take part in the [FFN](#) and [Change the Rules](#) campaigns.

Enterprise bargaining negotiations will continue in both the school and TAFE sectors. Campaigning to achieve the key priorities - a revised classification system for school leaders and heads of program (including salaries that reflect the value of these important roles in Queensland state schools), gender employment equity, conditions to mitigate workload, and fair salary increases - will continue in the school sector. It is important that the government makes an offer that delivers on these key priorities before the nominal expiry date of 30 June.

In TAFE, negotiations continue with a focus on the key priorities of workload management, health and safety, improvements to educator classifications and job security. With the TAFE agreement also due to expire on 30 June, the TAFE EB10 campaign will also intensify in term two this year.

QTU welcomes new Vice-President

Former QTU Executive member and activist Cresta Richardson has been elected as the new QTU Vice-President (full-time). Cresta, currently a junior secondary teacher in Emerald, has significant experience as both a primary classroom teacher, acting deputy principal and head of curriculum and QTU activist.

Prior to being elected to the role, Cresta held a number of QTU honorary positions, including QTU trustee, State Council delegate, Area Council delegate, Area Council president, Lead Union Representative and Workplace Representative. Cresta is the current chairperson of the QTU's Working Conditions committee and has been a member of the Professional Issues and Women Teachers and Girls Education Committees.

Cresta has also represented the QTU on the board of the Queensland College of Teachers, the K-10 Curriculum working group of the QCAA (formerly the K-6 Curriculum working group), the AEU Federal Conference and was an assessor for the Highly Accomplished and Lead Teacher pilot.

We look forward to working with Cresta as she commences her new role in term two.

Reminder: Don't forget to complete your QTU member needs survey.

Surveys were distributed to members via email last week and are due to be completed by **Thursday 18 April**. Don't miss this important opportunity to have your say and to shape the future direction of your Union.

Authorised by:

Graham Moloney
General Secretary