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POLICY BOOKLET B

## **Queensland Teachers' Union Policy**

QTU policy is adopted by the Union's Biennial Conference. Amendments to Union policy may be made at the intervening meetings of State Council.

### Guidelines for changes to existing policy

Motions designed to change or create policy should be sent to Council. Under Rule 7.5 (Decisions of Conference), policy adopted by Conference remains in effect unless amended by Council, where a two-thirds majority decision is necessary. Thus, a proposal to contradict the sense of, or change the wording of existing policy, needs a two-thirds majority, ie 66.6 per cent, for such a proposal to be successful. A proposal to change existing policy should:

- be presented as an amendment to existing policy, and
- state its location in the existing policy.

If no policy exists on a matter, a simple majority decision, ie >50 per cent, is needed for such a proposal to be added to policy.

### Implementation of existing policy

Motions to implement existing policy are usually directed to Executive for consideration. However, where the implementation would involve a significant allocation of QTU resources (eg a major campaign), or where a branch wishes a major emphasis to be put on an aspect of policy, it would then be appropriate to direct such a motion to Council. These guidelines are designed to facilitate debate on policy issues. If branch officials require explanation of these guidelines or assistance with the formulation of policy motions, they should contact the QTU office in Brisbane.

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## 1. Buildings and facilities

School and college buildings should be designed and constructed to provide safe, secure, flexible and comfortable work environments that meet the current needs of students, teachers, ancillary staff and administrators.

The environmental impact of the school or college should be taken into account in the design and construction.

Design should include provision for future expansion and provide for anticipated future growth.

Design and construction should provide for adequate classroom spaces, specialist teaching areas, administrative areas, library facilities, staff and common rooms, assembly areas, grounds and sporting areas, canteen facilities, meeting spaces, staff and visitor parking and drop off provisions, storage, first aid room, parent's room, drinking fountains, covered areas and staff and student toilet/shower/change facilities.

Appropriate and adequate temperature control should be built into the construction of all schools and colleges.

Appropriate and adequate security provisions should be designed and built into all schools and colleges.

Appropriate and adequate utilities infrastructure incorporating renewable energy options (power, water, waste disposal, ICT etc) should be designed and built into all schools and colleges. There should be an ongoing program to upgrade older schools and colleges to meet newer standard provisions as they develop.

## 2. Equipment and supplies

All schools and colleges should be provided with the appropriate level of equipment they need to function properly.

This includes the supply of adequate furniture, audio visual, computer, telecommunications, grounds care, playground and sporting, and canteen equipment to meet the needs of staff and students.

All equipment should be replaced on a periodic basis, according to relevant depreciation schedules.

All schools and colleges should be provided with a budget sufficient to purchase the consumable supplies they need to provide their programme of education and training.

## 3. Cleaning and maintenance

Provision should be made for the adequate cleaning of all schools and colleges by cleaners employed by the state government.

Provision should be made for sufficient funds to adequately maintain all schools and colleges.

Executive, on the advice of the relevant committee or Officer, will have the overall responsibility for determining the details of the Union's position on matters relating to the provision of buildings, facilities and supplies.