Employers committed to finalising EB negotiations

The time has now come for union representatives and school-based employees to acknowledge the significant concessions made by employers and to recognise the fair and responsible nature of the employer wage offer.

The wage offer made by Catholic school employers provides for a 2.7% (or a flat dollar increase of $23 per week whichever is the greater) per annum increase over a three year Agreement. This wage offer follows significant concessions made by employers on a number of key non-wage claims during recent SBU meetings.

It also guarantees back pay to 1 May 2012 (school officers, services staff and nurses) and 1 July 2012 (teachers).

The overwhelming majority of non-wage matters have now been settled, with minor details of only one or two matters left to finalise. Some examples of key matters settled are:

- new Middle Leadership structure;
- change from non-contact time to preparation, planning and correction time in primary schools with minimum blocks of 30 mins;
- increase of casual loading to 25%;
- improvements to school officer first aid and specialised care arrangements;
- enhanced special leave provisions;
- paid parental leave at half pay;
- cash-out of long service leave.

Catholic school employers will continue to negotiate in good faith in an attempt to resolve the outstanding issues regarding wages.

Education Queensland teachers agree to 2.7%

The Queensland Government and the Queensland Teacher’s Union (QTU) have now reached in-principle agreement in their enterprise bargaining negotiations that will deliver a wage increase for Education Queensland teachers of 2.7% per annum over a three year Agreement.

It is important to note that this wage increase will only be back dated to 1 September 2012.

Catholic school employers await union commitment

The settlement of the negotiations in the State sector is a clear indicator that the wage offer made by Catholic school employers is fair and responsible.

Catholic school employers are committed to deliver back pay before Christmas. The payment of the salary/wage increase shall only be made from the first full pay period after the receipt of results from a ballot of employees where the majority of those who voted approve the proposed Agreement. To achieve this result it is necessary for the union leadership to provide in-principle support for a proposed agreement to go to ballot as soon as possible.

The next Single Bargaining Unit meeting is scheduled for Monday 15 October 2012.