



NSW/ACT Independent Education Union

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FAXSTREAM

1 December 2008

DS:08/185

STOP WORK TO GO AHEAD

Dear Reps and Members

Notwithstanding a last-minute recommendation to the Union by the Industrial Relations Commission at 4.00 pm on Friday 28 November that Tuesday's stop work not proceed, the stop work is continuing.

Teachers, Principals and CEO Directors are all aware that tomorrow's stop work action is for only ONE HOUR!

There will be no detriment to students learning and no inconvenience to parents as supervision will be provided.

The Union has agreed to some schools stopping work at differing times due to a clash with longstanding activities difficult to reschedule.

Tomorrow's stop work allows teachers to demonstrate opposition to the employers' refusal to consider our claim and the possibility of losing existing working conditions under a new award to apply from 2009.

Referral to Industrial Relations Commission

Catholic employers have known for nearly two weeks of planned protest action, yet they waited until Friday 28 November to refer this matter.

The last-minute referral will only cause confusion and division among teachers.

Employers have acknowledged the right of teachers to take industrial action. We should exercise this right tomorrow.

The Industrial Relations Commission Recommendation:

'To the Union, its officers, employers and members, that they take all steps reasonably available to them, to ensure that the threatened industrial action does not proceed and that there is no industrial action taken while this matter is dealt with by the Commission in the usual orderly way and that the Commission's recommendation is conveyed to its members.'

IEU Recommendation

The Union considers that the actions of the Catholic employers at every stage in this dispute give no indication of a preparedness to seriously consider the Union's claim.

To the contrary, all of their energies are directed to maintaining business as usual - a paltry salary offer with no rejection of 'trade off' of conditions.

Union members should meet tomorrow for one hour as planned. We ask that the resolutions for the meeting be discussed and supported.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dick Shearman'.

DICK SHEARMAN
General Secretary



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