

STRONGER TOGETHER for a Fair Deal



NZEI Campaign News 2009/03

To: All Primary, Area and Secondary Schools worksites with Support Staff Members

NEGOTIATIONS UPDATE

The last Negotiation News for support staff was no. 2009/02

June 2009

KEY POINTS:

- Support Staff day on 10 June was a great success.
- Congratulations to the winners of the Fair Deal competition. Gwenda Haylock (Long Bay College), Keri Walton-Sexton (St Josephs School Hastings), Lionel Jacobs (Jean Batton School) and Roanna Dowman (Cashmere High School) will receive their tee shirts shortly.
- Your union team is getting great support from members and is working hard to get a fair deal for members.
- The presentation of the Pay and Employment petitions to Sue Moroney (Labour MP) is set for Thursday 23rd July.

ACTION:

Worksite representatives:

- Please ensure all support staff get a copy of this newsletter.
- Discuss with members how all union members in your worksite can get behind their support staff colleagues and help fight for a fair deal.
- Join the Fair Deal campaign – www.fairdeal.org.nz
- Fill in and return petitions as quickly as possible.
- In Wellington on 30 June? – join the Pay Equity rally at Parliament.

ENQUIRIES:

For further enquiries contact 0800 NZEI HELP (0800 693 443)

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25 June 2009

Kia ora koutou
Nga mihi nui ki a koutou katoa

More than ever before members from around the country joined the celebration of support staff work on 10 June. As well as celebrating support staff jobs members also took the opportunity to voice their concerns with the government's 0% pay offer. Many followed up with postcards to their MPs; some have also taken time to visit their local MP's office to talk about low pay rates for support staff.

At a time when NZEI teacher and principal members are getting pay increases as a result of previous negotiations, support staff are justifiably angry with the Government's response to their pay claim. Many worksites report that principals, teaching colleagues and boards are right behind the Fair Deal fight for support staff.

While dates have not yet been set for the next stage of negotiations the union team is working hard behind the scenes and is determined to find a way through the current roadblock. The union negotiation team is encouraged by the support they're getting from members.

Some support staff members have expressed concern at NZEI's 'Celebrate July 1' poster sent to schools. In response, as a union we should celebrate each membership group's successes. The increase for teachers and principals was won in 2007 in a very different economic climate. Celebrating that success does not detract in any way from the struggle to secure a fair deal for support staff in what is a very difficult economic environment.

In the meantime members are encouraged to:

- Join the Fair Deal website – www.fairdeal.org.nz
- Join the Pay Equity challenge – a public rally will be held in Wellington on 30 June. This will be the first of many activities in the coming months.
- Fill in and return the Pay and Employment Equity Petition. A link to this petition can be found at www.nzei.org.nz

All information about the Fair Deal campaign, petition and Pay Equity challenge are on NZEI's website www.nzei.org.nz.

Members will continue to get information about negotiations through NZEI Campaign News updates.

The image shows two handwritten signatures in black ink. The signature on the left is 'Karen Whibley' and the signature on the right is 'Sharyn Gibbons'. Both signatures are written in a cursive, flowing style.

Karen Whibley and Sharyn Gibbons
NZEI Advocates – for the union's negotiation team