

STUDENT AND SCHOOLS REPORTING POLICY

1. Council calls upon all members in primary and high schools to continue to inform the parents of children in their schools of:
 - (a) The desire of the teaching profession to provide clear and concise reports to parents on their child's progress that take into account each child's achievements and educational needs.
 - (b) The fact that unions which represent the vast majority of teachers across Australia strongly oppose the A – E grading system as demanded by the previous Federal Coalition Government because it brands students as failures and could be detrimental to their educational and social development; takes no account of the fact that children learn at different rates; and adds nothing positive to the reporting methods ACT public schools have previously used.
 - (c) The option to request an exemption from their child receiving an A-E grade.
2. Council calls upon the Federal Labor Government to negotiate with the AEU and all States and Territory Governments a professionally acceptable student and school reporting mechanism, which includes the use of descriptive terms.
3. Council calls upon both the Federal and ACT Governments to negotiate with the AEU professional public reporting mechanisms on school performance. These mechanisms must protect teachers' and students' privacy and prevent the creation of a "league table" mentality.
4. Council states its in principle opposition to standardised mass testing on the basis that:
 - (a) such tests are educationally unsound as testing should arise from what is taught.
 - (b) it reduces the quality of education to what a particular standardised test can measure, how it is administered and what the test score means.
 - (c) the concept is established of education being a single and universal phenomenon.
 - (d) it attempts to impose bureaucratic control over the professional judgement of teachers.
 - (e) it results in the marginalisation of some essential curriculum offerings.
5. Council requests that all AEU Sub-Branches closely monitor and advise the AEU office of the way in which student results are used in schools for individual marketing purposes.