



e-bulletin

The Australian Education Union • www.aeuact.asn.au

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NATIONAL CAMPAIGN AGAINST SCHOOL LEAGUE TABLES

School League Table Survey Results Are In:

The overwhelming majority [94%] of members across all classifications who responded to the recent survey oppose the use of NAPLAN data for the creation of School League tables. Given that we had 492 people respond, this gives a clear indication of the view held by teachers in the ACT.

On the question of whether AEU members should take any collective action to not cooperate with the administration of NAPLAN tests in 2010, a total of 71% agreed that some form of action should take place. The specific actions of communicating with parents and politicians were very strongly supported.

Where to now: the AEU's National Campaign

Across the nation your teaching colleagues are all considering how best to engage the Federal Government in the professional and ethical concerns we have about the current NAPLAN data and its use for the creation of league tables.

At the AEU Federal Annual Conference in January 2010 a motion was passed unanimously by delegates from every State and Territory that [in part] resolved that:

- the profession cannot and will not cooperate in the implementation of NAPLAN unless satisfactory measures are introduced to stop the further creation and publication of league tables.

On 12 April 2010 a meeting of the AEU Federal Executive (with the ACT Branch Secretary representing our views) will determine whether or not the Federal Education Minister, Ms Gillard, has listened sufficiently to our concerns to meet the Federal Conference position.

Between then and now it is critical that ACT members let their school communities and both the ACT and Federal Government know just how deeply we feel about this issue.

This is why there is a DVD and two letters linked to this ebulletin. The DVD can be accessed by clicking on this link: <http://www.aeufederal.org.au/LT/ltmultimedia.html>

The first letter is addressed to all parents and can be accessed here: <http://www.aeuact.asn.au/documents/Parents.pdf>. It is suggested that each School seek the permission of its Board to distribute the letter to all parents/custodians within their school community. Alternatively members may prefer to personally hand out the letter to parents at the school "gate".

The second is a draft letter that each member is requested to adopt or adapt and send to our ACT local and Federal Government representatives and the Federal and ACT Ministers for Education. It can be accessed by clicking on this link: <http://www.aeuact.asn.au/documents/MembersLetter.pdf>

Your urgent action on these two letters, together with 180,000 other Union colleagues across Australia, could help make the Government change its position.

However, we cannot rely on that to occur. The ACT Branch Council has authorised ACT Branch Executive to determine any further professional action that will be undertaken if it is necessary. The Branch Executive will meet on Tuesday 27 April to consider the outcome of a Special Federal Executive Meeting which will take place on Monday 12 April.

Following that members are urged to attend one of the following meetings to discuss the national campaign against league tables and to be informed of the decisions made by both AEU Federal Executive and the ACT Branch Executive:

4:00-6:00pm **Wednesday 28 April** at Dickson College, Main Hall
4:00-6:00pm **Thursday 29 April** at the Weston Creek Community Centre [Parkinson St, Weston - part of Cooleman Court complex].

PENNY GILMOUR, BRANCH SECRETARY - AEU ACT BRANCH

