



Australian Education Union - Federal Office

Ground Floor, 120 Clarendon Street, Southbank, Victoria, 3006
Phone : +61 (0)3 9693 1800 Fax : +61 (0)3 9693 1805
Email : aeu@aeufederal.org.au Website : www.aeufederal.org.au

Media Alert

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Teachers unite to fight Federal Election Campaign

The Australian Education Union is holding its Federal Conference this week in Hobart and will set out its goals for national public education policy.

Pat Byrne, AEU Federal President, said the Conference will develop key national education objectives and will be calling on all political parties to meet these policy objectives.

“The Federal Government’s education funding policies are entrenching inequities and creating a two-tiered system of education. The Federal Government pours two-thirds of federal school funding into private schools including many elite schools, and only one-third into funding public schools; it has frozen funding to the TAFE sector and there is no federal funding at all for preschool education.

It is fair to say federal education policies are in disarray and the Government has walked away from its responsibilities. The Government’s own report acknowledges that Australia is likely to be 30,000 teachers short by the end of the decade,” said Ms Byrne.

“We are putting all politicians on notice that the AEU will be running a federal election campaign on public education. All political parties must ensure they have policies that are fair and equitable for all Australians or be held accountable,” said Ms Byrne.

The Union said some of the key issues it will seek to have on the national education platform include:

- Federal funding for preschool education
- Increased funding to TAFE
- An equitable distribution of Federal funding to schools
- Provision of quality programs for Indigenous students and employment of more Indigenous educators

AEU FEDERAL CONFERENCE is being held from Friday 16 January - Sunday 18 January at the Hobart Function and Convention Centre (The Pier)

For further information, please contact:

Pat Byrne
AEU Federal President
0411 693 244 – Mobile

Kasturi Shanahan
Media
0414 694 476– Mobile