

Who is on the Central Schools Committee?

The Federation Central Schools Committee has five teachers from the Central Schools region elected by Federation Council. A Federation Officer is also attached to the Committee.

The Committee recognises the workload Federation activists have, and will provide support for Central Schools issues and campaigns, assist with updating workplace lists, advise members on workplace committee election processes and encourage general activism within schools and association.

You can contact the Committee via Brett Bertalli at brokenhill@nswtf.org.au.

The Central Schools Committee members for 2013/2014 are:

- Bronwyn Lochrin, Boorowa Central School
- Darren Noonan, Merriwa Central School
- Vince O'Brien, Dunedoo Central School
- Derek Page, Woodenbong Central School
- Kerrie Wall, Woodenbong Central School
- Brett Bertalli, Officer attached to the Committee.

TARS, EARS and PARS

As agreed in the schools salaries and conditions settlement a new performance and development framework for teachers, executives and principals is to be jointly developed by Federation and the Department during 2014 for implementation in Semester 1, 2015.

It is important that schools do not change or deviate from the current processes for the Teacher Assessment Review Schedule (TARS), Executive Assessment Review Schedule (EARS) and Principal Assessment Review Schedule (PARS) until the new efficiency procedures are ready for implementation.

If difficulties arise in this regard, members should contact their school's Organiser in the first instance for advice and support.

Gonski

Despite the agreements reached between the State and Federal governments and the unequivocal commitments made by the Coalition during the federal election campaign, the future of the Gonski reforms remain under threat.

The Federation and other Gonski supporters will continue the fight to protect the agreements already reached and to ensure the Abbott Government honours the promises it made to Australians during the election campaign.

It is important for all schools, especially Central Schools, to achieve full Gonski funding.

Action

1. All Central Schools members are encouraged to contact their Local State and Federal MPs, seeking a meeting to discuss the importance of the full six-year agreements.
2. Workplace Committee members are encouraged to attend P&C meetings to ask parents to do the same.

CPL courses

Centre for Professional Learning Courses (run by the Federation) are open to all members. Courses cover a wide variety of curriculum areas and teaching practices. Feedback from these courses has been excellent and all attendees recommend them highly. Consider attending one or more courses if you can. Information has been sent to all schools and is regularly available in the Federation journal Education. A link to the CPL website can be found under the Services tab (Professional Development) on Federation's website or you can go directly to the CPL website at <http://www.cpl.asn.au>

Workplace registers

Have you updated your Workplace Committee Register and your Workplace Membership List for 2014? If not, please do so as soon as possible. If you require a Workplace List and/or Register please contact the Committee by emailing brokenhill@nswtf.org.au

Make the switch

The Federation is asking members to change the way they pay union subscriptions in order to protect themselves and keep the union strong.

We are asking members to “make the switch” to direct debit or direct credit card payments rather than the traditional payroll deductions or cash/invoice payments. A link can be found on the Federation website under the Join tab to do this quickly and easily.

Teachers Federation Library

The Library is available to all Federation members and has resources related to campaigns, industrial work, equity and professional development issues that are supported by the Federation. Contact the library by phone, fax or email with requests for information or to have specific resources posted to you.

This is an invaluable resource for teachers in Central Schools. Information and request forms can be found under the Services tab on the Federation website.