



New South Wales Teachers Federation
a branch of the Australian Education Union
AEU NSW Teachers Federation Branch ABN 86 600 150 697



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NSW PRESIDENT: Maurie Mulheron • NSW GENERAL SECRETARY: John Dixon

NSW Teachers Federation Media Release

BAIRD GOVERNMENT TAFE PRIVATISATION AGENDA TO FURTHER DISADVANTAGE STUDENTS.

20 April 2016

Teachers are concerned that a series of moves by the Baird Government signals a further attack on the TAFE system.

The release of a flawed report into TAFE by Minister John Barilaro has been followed up by the cancellation of Enterprise Agreement negotiations between the NSW Teachers Federation and the Baird Government.

“Mr Barilaro’s attempts to talk down the TAFE system in the media using a report by Boston Consulting has been revealed as a strategy to begin what we fear is yet another attack on the TAFE system as well as TAFE teachers’ salaries and working conditions,” said Teachers Federation President Maurie Mulheron.

“The Government has moved to take an offer made last August, and not agreed to by Teachers Federation representatives, to a vote,” Mr Mulheron said.

“We are calling on teachers to vote ‘NO’ and reject this attack on their salaries, their conditions and ultimately the TAFE system.”

“Teachers will lose out and so will students as Mike Baird and John Barilaro push to open up more of the TAFE system to discredited private providers.”

“The Government is engaged in a race to the bottom when it comes to vocational training. They are trying to reduce standards in TAFE by moving to employ under-qualified people on low salaries with poor working conditions.”



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“The Teachers Federation is opposed to allowing TAFE teachers’ pay and conditions to be benchmarked against the low salary environment of dodgy private providers.”

Under the proposed agreement the Government intends putting to a vote:

- Teachers will be required to teach 100 hours more per year by losing the 5 non-teaching weeks
- Teachers will have to attend an additional 205 hours per year by moving the 5 hours off-site to an on-site requirement
- Teachers will be required to attend work for five days, regardless of the number of hours worked on any day in their weekly timetable
- Part-time casual teachers will have no entitlement to related duties payment, a hard fought entitlement previously won by Federation members
- TAFE will replace teachers by introducing a new position called Trainer. These positions will be less qualified and paid much less than teachers. The introduction of these positions will undermine the quality of TAFE educational delivery.

Mr Mulheron said an overwhelming No vote would force the Government to resume negotiations.

“We will not stand by and see our TAFE students courses further reduced and more TAFE teachers pushed onto the unemployment queues,’ Mr Mulheron said.

“The scandalous behaviour of some private training providers should send a message to Mike Baird that his privatisation agenda is not the way to give our young people the training they need to get a good job,” he said.

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