



New South Wales Teachers Federation

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



3 March 2021

In reply please quote: 120/2021/AG:jep

To: P&C President

Dear President

The report of the first independent inquiry into the work of public school teachers in NSW since 2004 was released on February 20.

The enclosed brief contains some important information on the findings and recommendations of that inquiry, chaired by former WA Premier Dr Geoff Gallop.

I hope you will consider sharing this with other parents at your school.

A copy of the inquiry's report and an electronic copy of this brief is available at <https://www.nswtf.org.au/inquiry>

The Gallop inquiry found the dedication of the teaching service remains high, along with its commitment to improving its practice and capacity to meet the individual needs of students. But the work of teachers and principals has become far more complex and demanding and they do not have enough dedicated time to concentrate on teaching and learning.

The inquiry also found the salaries of teachers and principals have fallen well behind the average of other professions. This combination of rising workloads and falling salaries relative to other professions is reducing the attractiveness of teaching to high achievers and contributing to recruitment and retention issues, and teacher shortages.

Dr Gallop described the workforce situation as a crisis that needs to be urgently addressed - particularly considering enrolments in NSW public schools are predicted to increase by 200,000 students, an unprecedented 25 per cent, within the next 20 years.

Resetting the salaries, support and time teachers have is a crucial step towards ensuring every child receives a high quality education - now and in the future.

If you would be involved in our efforts to have the politicians act on these recommendations or be kept informed, please register at <https://www.nswtf.org.au/forms/parents-citizens-contact>.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Angelo Gavrielatos'.

Angelo Gavrielatos
President