

6 September 2007

Chris Collins
Senior Manager Industrial Relations
Ministry of Education
PO Box 1666
WELLINGTON

Dear Chris

On behalf of NASDAP Executive, I would like to take this opportunity to express our concern in the breakdown in negotiations of the secondary teachers current pay claim.

It is important that we as an Executive representing over 90% of secondary schools within New Zealand, we encourage you to reach a mutual agreement on the pay claim as quickly as possible, so that the supply of teachers and the retention of some teachers becomes less of an issue for New Zealand as a whole.

NASDAP Executive believe that the offer made by the Ministry of Education when the PPTA claim was realistic, was not set to allow for change as per the "good faith bargaining" aspect that your organisation has pushed in negotiations before.

I would also like to take this opportunity to express our disappointment that the aspects of the current claim that related specifically to Deputy and Assistant Principals have been quickly put aside by the negotiating team.

We appreciate that we make up a smaller percentage of the total secondary teaching profession. Yet our colleagues across the country supported the inclusion of the "Acting-up allowance." As an organisation we are very aware of the high turnover of Secondary Principals in many regions of New Zealand and that there are a decreasing number of quality applicants aspiring to become senior managers.

We believe that aspects that related to us in the PPTA claim are essential if you want the retention of current senior managers to remain high and encourage more middle managers to take the plunge into senior management roles. I believe we all know that the conditions of teachers are enhanced when quality leadership exists to guide and support them all.

Kind regards

Annette M Taylor [Ms]
President NASDAP