



Tauhei Combined School

860 Tauhei Road

07 887 6844



7 March 2019

School Half Day Closure - Tuesday 19 March

Dear Parents/Caregivers

This letter is formal notification from the Principal and the Board of Trustees of the NZEI Te Riu Roa paid union meeting for all NZEI Te Riu Roa members, which will impact on our school times for the 19th of March.

The school will be open at the normal morning time of 8.30 am. The day will end at the beginning of lunch - 12.30 pm. Our Tauhei school bus, which normally runs at 2.30 pm, will make its usual run on this day at 12.30 pm. All other students not travelling on this bus will be required to be picked up at this time, there will be no teachers on site for supervision on this day.

Further information regarding these meetings has been inserted below. If you have any questions or queries, please direct them to the Principal or the BOT Representative.

The teaching team of Tauhei Combined School wish to thank the community for their continued support, Naku te rourou nau te rourou ka ora ai te iwi.

Chris May

Principal

Tauhei Combined School

Further information:

You may be aware that members of NZEI Te Riu Roa are involved in a major campaign called It's Time - Kua Tae Te Wā to address issues created by at least a decade of under-resourcing of the education sector. These issues include the current teacher shortage, the under-valuing of teachers and principals, and the lack of resourcing for children with special needs. The campaign has a strong focus on seeking significant investment into the education sector to provide teachers with the time to teach, and principals with the time to lead. This campaign includes the process to renew the collective agreements for teachers and principals.



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NZEI meetings are critical for all teachers and principals as they provide the opportunity for our profession to come together to discuss the current status of the campaign and the respective collective agreement negotiations and to determine next steps.

The decision to hold meetings during student contact time is not one that the NZEI takes lightly. However, it is urgent that we come together to discuss ways to address the long-term, systemic issues that are threatening to blow out class sizes and make it even harder to recruit and retain teaching staff. The challenge so many schools have faced this year in recruiting sufficient suitably qualified teachers to staff every classroom in their respective schools is further evidence of the urgency of securing more resourcing for primary education.

Why we're having these meetings - These meetings will provide members with an update on how the campaign is progressing and what is happening in negotiations. They will be the time we all make decisions about our next steps in the campaign. They are also an opportunity to show the government that we are serious about this campaign.

About paid union meetings - NZEI members discuss issues and conduct votes at paid union meetings. NZEI staff and local delegates run a paid union meeting for each area. They will usually discuss what has been happening, pass out any necessary information, and ask members if they have any questions.

For more information on the NZEI and its current campaigns, please visit <https://campaigns.nzei.org.nz/>