



Reminder for teacher's paid union meeting on Monday 18 March 2019 It's Time/Kua Tae Te Wā

If you are able please pick up your children at 12.30pm. Teaching assistants will be on site to supervise children that are not able to be picked up but the school needs to be informed of this by Friday 15 March.

In the week of 18 March, primary teachers and principals around the country who are NZEI Te Riu Roa members are heading to meetings to vote on whether to accept or reject the latest collective agreement offers from the government. They will also be voting on whether to take strike action should the offers be rejected. We understand that this is disruptive for our community and we are doing all we can to keep this to a minimum but it is very important that teachers across NZ stand together for better working conditions and better support for learners.

These meetings are a crucial part of the 'Kua Tae Te Wā - It's Time' campaign. They're an opportunity for teachers and principals to come together to discuss the offer and decide next steps.

We want to ensure teaching is an attractive profession for people to join and stay in, and we have asked that the government provide for better staffing to reduce class sizes and give us more time to teach and time to lead.

The offers received are only minimally different from what was offered (and rejected) last year. This is because the government has refused to increase the amount of money available.

Already, many schools are having to make sacrifices because of the difficulty in recruiting teachers and relievers, and we must take bold steps to turn this around.

We really appreciate your continued support. If these offers are rejected, it is the voices of parents and the wider public that will be key to forcing the government to listen as we continue our campaign to ensure every child gets the best possible education.

For more information, please go to <http://campaigns.nzei.org.nz/time/> or talk with your child's teacher.

Thank you from the Birchville teachers.