



# Trentham School

Empowered Learners for the Future

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20 February 2019

## **TEACHER PAID UNION MEETING Monday 18 March, 1.30pm**

Dear Parents & Caregivers

You may remember that teachers and principals took strike action twice last year to send a message to the Government that more needed to be done to fix the teacher shortage and make teaching a more sustainable and attractive profession.

After conversations with government in January, our union, NZEI Te Riu Roa, has agreed to return to formal negotiations with the Ministry. The Government has continued to state that there is no more money to settle the agreements but we are continuing to campaign for a quality public education for every child. We believe that winning more time to teach, a significant pay jolt to attract and keep people in teaching, and better resourcing for children with additional learning needs is as important as ever.

Any progress in negotiations will be reported to teachers and principals at paid union meetings around the country in the week of March 18-22. These meetings will be held during school time. The meeting for our teachers will be held on Monday 18 March at 1.30pm. Normal classroom instruction will not be continuing during this afternoon.

**As the majority of our teaching staff will be unavailable on this afternoon, we ask you to please pick up your children at 12.30pm or make other arrangements for your children.** Some limited supervision will be available to parents who find this impossible.

Public polling has showed continued strong support for what we are trying to achieve for our students and the future of the teaching profession. Parents in particular see the struggles we already face in hiring teachers and finding relievers when teachers are sick.

We apologise for any potential disruption to you and your child's routine on the day of the meeting and thank you for your cooperation and assistance.

Suzanne Su'a  
Principal