



FIJI TEACHERS UNION

NEWSLETTER

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GREETINGS

Warm greetings to all our valued members and a very happy new year to you all. We would also like to take this opportunity to wish all our members a very rewarding school year.

SCHOOL TERMS 2014

- ❖ Term 1 – 20/01/14 – 25/04/14
- ❖ Term 2 – 12/05/14 – 15/08/14
- ❖ Term 3 – 01/09/14 – 28/11/14

84th ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2014

Labasa Branch is fully geared to host the 2014 AGM and Conference. The details of the conference are as follows:

- ❖ **Host Branch:** Labasa
- ❖ **Dates:** 28th April – 1st May 2014
- ❖ **Venue:** Labasa Sangam College
- ❖ **Theme:** "Quality Public Education for Equity, Social Justice and Sustainable Development"
- ❖ **Chief Guest:** Bro. Angelo Gavrielatos – Federal President, Australian Education Union.

BRANCH AGMs

Branch Executives have been reminded that all Branch AGMs

must be conducted within the month of March as per the Union's constitution.

Please note that members who are fully subscribed till the 31st of December 2013 are eligible to participate in the Branch AGM. Branch Secretaries are to ensure that the status of all the members in the Branch is current and up to date.

AGM RESOLUTIONS

All resolutions for the AGM's consideration should come through your respective branches. The due date for the resolutions is 17th April 2014.

BILLETING

Labasa Branch will soon be advising all Branch Secretaries of the billeting arrangements.



Chief Guest 2005, Federal Secretary Australian Education Union Sis. Susan Hopgood

CULTURAL NIGHT

Members who wish to perform during the Cultural Night on Tuesday 29th April 2014 are to give their names to their Branch Secretaries before 24th April 2014.

CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE

Branches are requested to bring large delegations to the 84th AGM in order to make a strong statement to the authorities on the numerous matters of grave concern pertaining to the status of teachers and workers at large in the country.

SPORTS

As usual sports will once again be a major feature of the conference. Branches are expected to prepare the teams to participate in soccer, netball and volleyball. If any other sport is organized, Labasa branch will inform the branches in advance.

JOURNAL ARTICLES

Members are invited to write a 2 page article for this year's journal. National Executive members are reminded of the requirement to submit an article for the Journal as well. Members are reminded not to submit university assignments. The due date for the article is 31st of March 2014. Articles can be e-mailed on: ftu@connect.com.fj or to the Publicity Officer on: kumar.manhar@yahoo.com

The theme for the 84th AGM is "Quality Public Education for Equity, Social Justice and Sustainable Development." The Editorial committee reserves the right to select and edit articles.

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

HQ will once again embark on the membership drive.

Schools will be visited in Term One.

Branches are requested to assist the Secretariat by getting in touch with the School Reps and obtaining the school member / non member list.

INSURANCE - CORRIGENDA

The November 2013 issue of the Newsletter under Medical Insurance read

" If members decide to have the treatment at a Private Clinic, whilst the treatment is available at the Government Hospital, 75% of the of the private clinic cost or \$4,500, whichever is less, will be reimbursed. Previously, it was 50% or \$3,500.

The rule, under additional benefit is;

" In the case where a member needs a medical treatment covered under the FTU self-funded medical programme, and has been put on waiting list at a Public Hospital, then a medical treatment at Private clinic as an option will be available subject to the following provision.

The maximum payable will be 75% of the private clinic cost or \$4,500 whichever is lesser. In the case where the equivalent treatment cost at Public Hospital is higher than amount payable under this provision, then the maximum payable will be equivalent cost at the Public Hospital.

CHANGE OF BRANCH

Members who have changed districts are to notify the Secretariat immediately so that the membership records could be updated.

Also note that if you change schools or are posted out of the current district and which means a change in the branch, please have your records updated. Branch transfer cutoff date is 19/2/2014. Final list will be taken out on 24/2/2014 for Branch AGMs.

Members who want to participate in the Conference Sports must ensure that their names appear in the appropriate Branch Register.

Note that your choice of a Branch can be either through residential qualification or the school in which you teach. Eligibility to participate in AGM – cutoff date is 13/4/2014.

SCHOOL REP & SCHOOL MEMBERSHIP LIST

The School Rep should be elected by the Staff. The school rep then becomes the link between the members at the school and the Branch / HQ.



The school rep is the live wire at the school level, ensuring all union literature is distributed in time, assist members with all Forms and attend to all Branch meetings etc.

2014 BUDGET

The Union drew the attention of the Ministry to the need to restore provisions that had been removed as a cost cutting measure in 2010. These included the Executive Teacher positions and non teaching Heads of Schools at levels 3C and above. The Union also submitted that the long pending issue of teacher/pupil ratio so the delivery of the quality education is truly achieved. The Union has also been seeking better terms and conditions of work for the ECE teachers from day one. It is indeed very pleasing to note that the Ministry is seriously contemplating to restore / review the areas of need submitted by the Union.

The upgrading of schools and establishment of HOD positions are also being considered.

CTCL NEWS

It is exciting to report that construction work of the Hideaway Vuda Project is finally going to commence in the next few weeks. The first stage which will take 12 months to complete will have 20 up-market villas with all amenities. Members will be offered yet another opportunity to invest and seek excellent returns.

Latest Assessment – Fiji Hideaway Resort is in the top 10, out of the 170+ hotels and resorts in Fiji.

TEACHER / EDUCATION SALARY STRUCTURE 2014

	ED1A	ED1B	ED1C	ED1D	ED1E	ED1F
+	\$47,291	\$47,981	\$49,179	\$50,737	\$52,280	\$53,587
01	\$45,327	\$45,696	\$47,138	\$48,987	\$50,963	\$52,555
02	\$43,792	\$43,520	\$45,101	\$47,103	\$49,701	\$50,530
03	\$42,230	\$41,447	\$43,491	\$45,508	\$48,019	\$49,280
04	\$40,802	\$39,997	\$42,227	\$44,097	\$46,394	\$47,614
05	\$39,421		\$40,995	\$42,691	\$44,824	\$45,945

	ED2A	ED2B	ED2C	ED2D
+	\$42,000	\$43,052	\$44,556	\$45,670
01	\$40,367	\$41,257	\$42,146	\$43,894
02	\$39,536	\$39,672	\$40,983	\$42,207
03	\$38,014	\$38,964	\$39,596	\$40,584
04	\$36,731	\$37,646	\$38,966	\$39,939
05	\$35,661	\$36,552	\$37,831	\$38,775

	ED3A	ED3B	ED3C
+	\$38,961	\$39,592	\$40,978
01	\$37,105	\$38,405	\$40,112
02	\$35,338	\$36,575	\$38,572
03	\$33,655	\$34,836	\$37,089
04	\$32,792	\$33,614	\$35,835
05	\$31,646	\$32,751	\$34,791

	ED4A	ED4B	ED4C
+	\$35,144	\$36,370	\$37,643
01	\$33,466	\$34,638	\$35,727
02	\$32,185	\$32,990	\$34,189
03	\$30,654	\$31,726	\$32,872
04	\$29,577	\$30,613	\$32,069
05	\$29,062	\$29,542	\$31,134

	ED5A	ED5B	ED5C	ED5D	ED5E
+	\$30,672	\$30,909	\$32,451	\$33,028	\$34,430
01	\$29,743	\$29,971	\$30,910	\$31,761	\$32,789
02	\$28,326	\$28,544	\$29,971	\$30,251	\$31,530
03	\$26,980	\$27,542	\$28,544	\$29,543	\$30,031
04	\$26,037	\$26,579	\$27,543	\$28,504	\$29,504
05	\$25,125	\$25,648	\$26,579	\$27,511	\$28,473

	ED6A	ED6B	ED6C	ED6D
+	\$27,890	\$28,950	\$30,003	\$30,465
01	\$26,562	\$27,573	\$28,572	\$29,570
02	\$25,299	\$26,261	\$27,213	\$28,162
03	\$25,299	\$25,008	\$25,919	\$26,340
04	\$24,496	\$25,008	\$25,011	\$25,918
05	\$23,637	\$24,493	\$24,095	\$25,008

	ED7A	ED8A	ED8G	ED9A
+	\$27,156	\$25,964	\$27,010	\$13,648
01	\$25,863	\$25,187	\$25,720	\$13,203
02	\$25,863	\$25,187	\$24,499	\$12,775
03	\$24,713	\$24,704	\$24,499	\$12,360
04	\$23,848	\$23,524	\$23,411	
05	\$23,252	\$22,785	\$22,899	
06		\$21,793	\$22,157	
07		\$20,832	\$21,438	
08		\$20,960		
09		\$20,230		
10		\$19,505		
11		\$18,786		
12		\$18,056		
13		\$17,333		
14		\$16,610		

Members must note that teachers did not receive any increase since 2006 except 3% in 2012. We would have received an annual increase of 4% if our 2006 agreement had been honoured.

Percentage Increases

1. \$10,292	-	\$16,159	> 23%
2. \$16,160	-	\$20,944	> 18%
3. \$20,945	-	\$26,844	> 12%
4. \$26,845	-	\$36,529	> 10%
5. \$36,530	-	\$46,553	> 8%
6. \$46,554	-	\$49,739	> 7%
7. \$49,740	-	\$60,556	> 5%
8. \$60,557	-	\$75,970	> 4%

You can log onto www.psc.gov.fj for all PSC publications and circulars. ED 8A, steps 7 and 8 to be corrected. PSC has been asked to rectify the anomaly with Ministry of Finance. We have also pointed out that for some grades the Salary is same for two steps. It has to be corrected as well.