

Submission
No 37

INQUIRY INTO INQUIRY INTO THE RECRUITMENT AND TRAINING OF TEACHERS

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Theme:

Summary

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The members of the executive at Nyngan High would like to make a submission to the inquiry into the recruitment and training of teachers. Nyngan is an isolated rural school with a high turnover of staff. Most of the classroom teachers are in their early years of teaching. We would like to address the following terms of reference.

1. We believe the best means of attracting teachers are:

- * early hiring of graduates
- * providing allowances that will cover the costs of moving to isolated rural areas
- * more scholarships with bonds
- * extension of schemes such as "Beyond The Line" that allow students in their final years of training to experience teaching in rural areas.
- * subsidising prac students if they will come out to isolated areas

4. The existing initiatives.

- * We were involved in the making of promotional material for Teach NSW last month. The quality of the team sent to film and photograph was excellent.

6. The role etc. of university pre service education

- * We feel that all courses should include both theory and practical work on classroom management. This is the major struggle for our beginning teachers. If they have this background to support them in their early weeks they have more chance of being successful. We of course realise that we must support them with our beginning teacher program but we note a wide difference in students from different universities.
- * Those teachers who have been through an internship program are better prepared for teaching.
- * The material taught at uni needs to be Australian orientated rather than American .
- * A quote from one of our beginning teachers - most of our uni training was crap .. it needs to be more relevant with more emphasis on how to teach.
- * More preparation is needed for teaching in classrooms where there are students with intellectual disabilities integrated into the classroom.

7. We feel that these issues are also important

- * Each school with beginning teachers should have a teacher mentor
- * Teachers should be supported in their start to teaching with reduced face to face teaching.

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