INQUIRY INTO TEACHER SHORTAGES IN NEW SOUTH WALES

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 16 August 2022

Partially Confidential

Hello,

I am writing to lodge a late submission to the Teacher Shortage Inquiry. Please refer to my original information below for consideration of how mandatory vaccination has impacted not only existing Teachers, but Pre-Service Teachers also. In addition to the information below, I confirm I have also successfully completed both literacy and numeracy LANTITE tests.

In 2015 I started studying a BED K-12 with UNE to make a move away from Financial Planning, even though I knew it would involve a pay drop. I studied hard and balanced paid employment with studies, along with juggling the life of parent of two children. I saved my 4 practicums until the end of my degree as I had to give up all my clients/work, as they could not place their workflow on a hold a month at a time for each practicum, which is naturally very understandable.

I have completed one primary practicum, and had one left, plus two secondary practicums. I refused to get vaccinated so have not been able to continue with the degree. However, in order not to miss a job opportunity (as I had to provide for my family) within my previous Financial Planning sector, I had to be degree educated, so took the exit option of Bachelor of Educational Studies, advising my employer that I would be officially graduating in August 2022, as being degree level educated was part of the employment contract.

Now, the BED K-12 award requires 192 credit points, my transcript shows only 36 credit points (6 subjects) remaining, noting that one of those subjects has had the theory completed but not the practicum (so really only 5 and a half). Refer below. I have attempted to reapply for a Masters In Primary Teaching and have been offered a place, however only given credit for 3 subjects. This means I would have to complete another 13 – the majority of which subjects I have actually already completed in my undergraduate degree, so why could I teach with those, but now being told I can't get credit for them and they are not good enough for a Masters? If they want to get serious about getting more Teachers into schools, then they need to start looking at degree structure and alternative pathway options for those of us who were disadvantaged and discriminated against because of the vaccine mandates. I will not be accepting the offer, and as such there goes a career changer who was happy to consider a \$30,000K pa FTE pay drop just to make a difference to our future champions! Just food for thought.....

