**Principals and Deputy Principals Association Conference 2013 Final**

**General**

**Area 1**

1. In recognition of the growing social problems experienced by families during this time that the Department of Education and Skills reverse the cuts in guidance provision and restore ex quota provision.

**Area 10**

1. That PDA executive as a sub-committee of TUI should have a representative sit on the executive of TUI and PDA request that TUI executive bring this as an executive motion to TUI Congress 2014.

**Area 12**

1. Conference vehemently calls on the TUI to demand that the DES brings to an immediate halt the introduction of tutor lead programmes in the PLC sector.  Tutor led programmes will lead to the erosion of the teaching profession and creating an untenable position in schools whereby registered qualified teachers are being paid unqualified rates to accommodate programmes led by unregistered and unqualified tutors, securing the jobs of tutors whilst jeopardising their own teaching profession.

**National Executive**

1. PDA requests that as a matter of urgency the T.U.I seek legal opinion in respect of TUI representation for the Principal teacher in a school or College

**Terms and Conditions**

**Area 9**

1. Conference calls on the TUI to respect the fact that PDA members are TUI members. PDA members must not be demeaned or abused in official TUI bulletins and publications.

# Area 7

1. Conference to request the TUI to put pressure on the government to ensure that posts of responsibility vacant in our schools are filled without further delay.

**Area 7**

1. Conference requests the PDA to seek an immediate meeting with the Department on Principals’ and Deputy Principals’ conditions of service which have been eroded over the past 5 years.
2. **Area 10** PDA asks that the TUI concentrates its campaign to lift the embargo on Posts of Responsibility directly at the Department of Education. PDA feels that the current campaign involving reinterpretation of Union Directives and the rigid implementation of same within schools has targeted Principals and is having a direct impact on the working lives of members, school morale and ultimately on school enrolments/teaching jobs. The Department of Education is not affected in any way by the current campaign and therefore we feel that it will not succeed. We ask that the TUI develop a campaign of action that people outside of the school community, including the DES, are aware of and impacted by.
3. **Area 7** requests that the PDA/TUI seek a meeting with DES over the failure to replace secretaries and caretakers on sick leave. Schools cannot cope with increasing administrative and legal obligations without the necessary support of such staff.
4. **Area 7** requests that the PDA Branches and general TUI Branches increase communication and work closer together to put forward a united voice.
5. **Area 7** instructs the National Executive to work with the TUI to ensure that there will be no further increases to pupil/teacher ratios at second level and PLC.
6. **Area 7** requests PDA/TUI to lobby the Department to prevent further cuts to capitation grants to Post Primary, Youthreach, VTOS and PLC Colleges.

**National Executive**

1. That the Department of Education and the ETBI be called on to review support structures in middle management for overworked Principals and Deputies

**National Executive**

1. That the practice of WSEs/MMLs in schools in the month of May be examined by the Department Inspectorate

**Junior Cert Reform**

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1. **Area 1**

That the Junior Cycle is not implemented until a comprehensive, and fully costed, implementation strategy is produced. This strategy to include the provision of teacher professional development and the identification of roles of responsibility within school

1. **Area 7** Conference requests the PDA/TUI to urge the department to fully resource all schools to enable them to comply with the New Junior Cert and to ensure that continuous provision of in-service will be given to all teachers. Area 11 That negotiations are entered into with the DES with a view to having an ICT Co coordinator appointed to every school as a matter of urgency to ensure that a modern, educationally sound ICT infrastructure is in place in every school. This is essential

particularly with the introduction of the new Junior Certificate and the new short courses.

1. **Area 5** With a view to the implementation of the new Junior Certificate in a manner which will provide for public confidence, fair and consistent assessment of students, and parity of esteem regarding the quality of each certificate across the country we propose:

-the establishment of an effective, impartial national assessment-monitoring process to ensure implementation of fair and consistent assessment standards across the country

We request that resources are provided to manage the obvious increased administration load which this new innovation will have on schools.

**Further Education**

1. **Area 11** That the Pupil; Teacher Ratio at Post Leaving Cert Level be reversed from 1: 19 to 1:17
2. **Area 1** That PDA ensure the vital role of FE colleges in our national educational landscape is properly recognised and enhanced in the new Further Education and Training Landscape, through a fit-for-purpose model of resourcing and operations, through proactive engagement with SOLAS and ETBs.

1. **Area 1** That PDA seek direct representation for FE College Principals and Deputy Principals on those strategic implementation groups that are leading the determination of processes and policy for the new FE landscape

1. **Area 1**1 That a curriculum Development Coordinator be appointed to every school immediately to ensure the satisfactory implementation of all new courses and strategies eg New Junior Cert , Literacy and Numeracy Strategy and School Self Evaluation

*Referred to Executive*

*Area 9*

*That the PDA requests the TUI executive to agree operational arrangements with the Dept. of Education and Science in relation to SCP provision in secondary schools*

*Area 7 requests the PDA to explain the impact of the €20 long term unemployment bonus to VTOS and Youthreach participants. This will disadvantage marginalized adult learners.*

*Area 10 In light of the implementation of the Haddington Road Agreement PDA wishes to recognise the nature of work in FE colleges and the custom and practise that has developed in these centres with regard to the use of the Supervision and Substitution Hours. TUI confirms that the needs of adult colleges and their students are different to those of children and is happy to continue to recognise those differences by maintaining the approach used by colleges of FE in their use of the Supervision & Substitution Scheme hours to the use of hours from the Haddington Road Agreement.*