

Queensland Teachers' Union
Proceedings of Council on Saturday, 10 March 2018
Commencing at 9.00 am

First Session

Opening

The President (Mr K Bates) in the Chair. Mr Bates opened the meeting at 9.00am.

Traditional Owners Acknowledgement

Mr Bates acknowledged the original people on whose land the meeting took place and paid respect to the traditional owners, the Jagera and Turrbal peoples and Elders past, present and emerging.

Proxy Representatives

Benowa Branch	Ms R Lachmund by the branch
Caloundra Branch	Ms T Sleeman by the branch
Cairns Branch	Ms S Blocksidge by the branch
Coolum Branch	Mr L Merrett by the branch
Darling Downs North Branch	Ms C Tickel (apology – unable to attend) for Ms K Gilliland
Deception Bay Branch	Ms A Christensen by the branch
East Brisbane Branch	Mr R Kitchell for Mr C Wood
Hervey Bay Branch	Ms J Streeter by the branch
Mackay North Branch	Mr C Morrison by the branch
Maleny Branch	Ms M Peters for Ms L Carter
Peak Downs Branch	Mr B Horsfall for Mr D Brace
Redlands Branch	Mr C Wecker for Mr A Beattie
Stanthorpe Branch	Mr D Anderson for Mr C Smith
Thozet Branch	Ms B Walker by the branch
Thuringowa Branch	Mr G Whiteford for Ms C King
Upper Gold Coast Branch	Mr M Ezmailzadeh for Ms A Dart
Warrego Branch	Mr A Johnstone by the branch
Western Downs Branch	Ms H Hubbard for Mr B Hubbard
Windsor Branch	Mr M Gillam by the branch
Gold Coast Area Council	Ms F Mutch by the area council
Logan Redlands Area Council	Ms A Ormonde by the area council
Sunshine Coast Area Council	Mr B Brown by the area council
Observers	Ms A Gilbert
	Ms S Bowman
	Mr T Leavitt

Mr G Moloney moved, Ms C Swaine seconded:

THAT the proxy delegates and observers be endorsed.

Motion Carried

3. THAT QTU State Council note the AEU international resolution and refer that to relevant officers for further consideration.

Motion Carried

Ms K Ruttiman moved, Ms B Darben seconded:

1. THAT the QTU send their congratulations and express solidarity with teachers in West Virginia for the historic action of a nine-day strike to secure a 5 per cent salary increase.
2. THAT the QTU express solidarity and support to the students and teachers in the United States who are rising up against gun violence in American schools.
3. THAT the QTU make a \$US1,000 donation to the student-led movement 'March For Our Lives'.

Ms Ruttiman reported that West Virginia was a "right to work state" which was the American government's term for breaking the power of unions. This action supported the strength of activism, the right to bargain and join together to strike and to force the legislature to recognise unions. Ms Ruttiman spoke regarding students leading a movement in Florida to cease gun violence in schools following the Valentine's Day shooting in Parkland, Florida. Ms Ruttiman stated that the student action was admirable but students should not be forced to take action to ensure their schools were safe.

Extension of Time

Ms P Taylor moved, Dr P Darben seconded:

THAT Council extend for up to 15 minutes.

Procedural Motion Carried

The motion was put after Ms J Swadling spoke in support.

1. THAT the QTU send their congratulations and express solidarity with teachers in West Virginia for the historic action of a nine-day strike to secure a 5 per cent salary increase.
2. THAT the QTU express solidarity and support to the students and teachers in the United States who are rising up against gun violence in American schools.
3. THAT the QTU make a \$US1,000 donation to the student-led movement 'March For Our Lives'.

**Motion Carried Unanimously
Acclamation**

Mr P Monsour foreshadowed the following motions:

Mr P Monsour moved, Ms P Taylor seconded:

THAT this meeting of QTU State Council condemns the detention of Palestinian children and their trial by military courts.

Mr P Monsour moved, Mr Skerritt seconded:

THAT this meeting of QTU State Council reaffirms its support for previous State Council resolutions on Palestine and particularly support for the Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions (BDS) campaign which is the Palestinian-led movement for freedom, justice and equality.

Mr P Monsour moved, Mr G Moloney seconded:

In line with the policy of State Council, the Queensland Teachers' Union commits to respect the Palestinian picket line and honours the call for Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions (BDS) to uphold the simple principle that Palestinians are entitled to the same rights as the rest of humanity. Focusing on the key international campaigns that target companies who are complicit in the ongoing occupation and colonisation of Palestine, such as the global corporate giants Caterpillar, G4S, and Hewlett Packard.

Mr P Monsour explained the circumstances behind the motions including the arrest and detention of a 16 year old Palestinian girl late last year. Mr Monsour referred to the campaign by over 170 civil society organisations calling for similar principles to the international boycott of apartheid in South Africa involving academic, cultural and economic sanctions. The third motion was a practical activity which could easily and simply provide support for the boycott. Mr Monsour stated that these motions were not despite the many terrible situations in other countries, including Australia, but were linked and assisted by gaining strength and solidarity internationally as well as locally for human rights.

Mr G Moloney spoke in support of the motion.

Extension of Time

Ms P Taylor moved, Dr P Darben seconded:

THAT Council extend for up to 5 minutes.

Procedural Motion Carried

Mr K Bates ruled that he would put the three motions en bloc.

Mr P Monsour moved, Ms P Taylor seconded:

1. THAT this meeting of QTU State Council condemns the detention of Palestinian children and their trial by military courts.
2. THAT this meeting of QTU State Council reaffirms its support for previous State Council resolutions on Palestine and particularly support for the Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions (BDS) campaign which is the Palestinian-led movement for freedom, justice and equality.
3. In line with the policy of State Council, the Queensland Teachers' Union commits to respect the Palestinian picket line and honours the call for Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions (BDS) to uphold the simple principle that Palestinians are entitled to the same rights as the rest of humanity. Focusing on the key international campaigns that target companies who are complicit in the ongoing occupation and colonisation of Palestine, such as the global corporate giants Caterpillar, G4S, and Hewlett Packard.

**Motions Carried Unanimously
Acclamation**

QTU Standing Committees – Annual Work Plans for 2018

Mr S Tibaldi moved, Mr L Holcombe seconded:

THAT QTU State Council note the QTU standing committees' annual work plans for 2018.

Motion Carried