

## AMENDMENT TO TASSO CONSTITUTION

### ITEM 1

**PROPOSED BY:** TASSO Management Committee

**CONTACT PERSON:** Lindie Read **Phone:** 6234 9488

**SUBJECT:** MEETINGS OF THE COMMITTEE

**SECTION:** Rule 27. (5)

**PREAMBLE:**

Current wording:

- (5) If half an hour after the time appointed for a special meeting a quorum is not present, the meeting is to be dissolved.

Rules for conducting Special Meetings are dealt with in section 13 therefor not relevant to this section of the Constitution.

**MOTION:**

**That Rule 27.5 be deleted and subsequent paragraphs renumbered.**

**ACTION MOTION TO ANNUAL CONFERENCE & AGM  
ITEM 2**

**PROPOSED BY:** TASSO Management Committee

**CONTACT PERSON:** Lindie Read **Phone:** 6234 9488

**SUBJECT:** **QUALIFIED SUPPORT STAFF IN SCHOOLS**

**PREAMBLE:**

Earlier this year a Coronial Inquest into the suicides of six teenagers heard that Tasmania's Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services in Tasmania is the most poorly resourced in the country. Dr Fiona Wagg, a Psychiatrist with this service suggested its staffing was a third to one quarter of what it should be. The Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) is usually the first to be called by state schools and families and may be the only resource available to regional communities, often with limited access to mental health services for children and adolescents.

It is pleasing to see that after mental health experiencing funding cuts including CAMHS, that monies was found to provide some funding.

Additional resourcing for qualified Psychologists within our school communities has been identified as an ongoing identified need. More funds to ensure that more school aged children receive the assistance and early intervention to aid in better mental health outcomes, are still required, more professionals who may then be able to communicate and work in conjunction with other community based health services like CAMHS to provide continuity of care.

At many previous Conferences, there have been a number of motions to provide additional qualified support staff including School Psychologists and Social Workers in schools. These in-schools services are a valuable resource to assist students, their families, school leaders and educators.

**MOTION:**

**That this Conference demands that the Department of Education provides additional funding resources to allocate a greater number of qualified support staff including Psychologists and Social Workers, to meet the growing demand for student services in schools.**

## **ACTION MOTION TO ANNUAL CONFERENCE & AGM**

### **ITEM 3**

**PROPOSED BY:** TASSO Management Committee

**CONTACT PERSON:** Lisa Gillard **Phone:** 6234 9488

**SUBJECT:** **HOME SCHOOL AREA and TRANSPORT REVIEW**

#### **PREAMBLE:**

In 2012 the Tasmanian State School Parents and Friends Conference called on the Minister for Education to direct the Department of Education to complete the review of school home-area boundaries before further consideration of the Procedures for the enrolment of students in out-of-home-area-schools.

Wind the clock forward to June 2015 and the school home-area and associated transport reviews remain incomplete.

Whilst the Tasmanian Government has promised it will not force any state school to amalgamate or close, Minister Rockliff said, "he was happy for schools to continue the voluntary merger or closure process where they wished and was considering incentive payments". (Mercury Newspaper article May 25<sup>th</sup> 2014).

In order for schools to plan their future needs and direction, it is imperative that each school know their home-area catchment and the availability and capacity of transport.

#### **MOTION:**

**That this conference calls on the Minister for Education and Skills to direct the Department of Education to complete the School Home-Area and Transport reviews.**

## **ACTION MOTION TO ANNUAL CONFERENCE & AGM**

### **ITEM 4**

**PROPOSED BY:** TASSO Management Committee

**CONTACT PERSON:** Ant Dry **Phone:** 6234 9488

**SUBJECT:** **EXTENDED HIGH SCHOOLS PROGRAM**

#### **PREAMBLE:**

Over the past two years the Tasmanian Government has extended year 11 and 12 options to be available at a number of regional district high schools and extended a number of other regional high schools.

This process is part of a ten year plan and will require a significant investment of funds. The Tasmanian public education sector has had to endure a number of changes over the past decade with the introduction of Essential Learning and the Tasmanian Tomorrow plan. These programs have been very expensive to implement and have not been successful.

To ensure the program to extend high schools to years 11 and 12 is sustainable and meets the expected outcomes, including higher completion rates, a review must be conducted to identify any issues, ascertain the impact and outcomes on the schools already extended, before committing millions of additional funds to extend other high schools.

#### **MOTION:**

**That this Conference calls on the Minister for Education and Skills to direct the Department of Education to conduct a review of the outcomes of the program to extended high school to years 11 and 12 prior to committing additional funds to extend other state high schools post 2017 and that the results of the review be made public.**

**ACTION MOTION TO ANNUAL CONFERENCE & AGM  
ITEM 5**

**PROPOSED BY:** TASSO Management Committee

**CONTACT PERSON:** Lindie Read **Phone:** 6234 9488

**SUBJECT:** **PROGRAMS IN SCHOOLS**

**PREAMBLE:**

There are a growing number of extra curricula programs into schools provided by outside agencies during class learning time. Leadership, wellbeing, community health, animal rights and safety programs are among those provided by outside groups and agencies.

To ensure that all programs and their content are appropriate for use in state schools, they must be reviewed and endorsed by the Education Department.

**MOTION:**

**That this conference calls on the Department of Education to review and endorse all community based programs and initiatives prior to them being provided to students in state schools.**

## **ACTION MOTION TO ANNUAL CONFERENCE & AGM**

### **ITEM 6**

**PROPOSED BY:** Southern Support School

**CONTACT PERSON:** Nigel Jones **Phone:** 6243 0915

**SUBJECT:** **FEDERAL FUNDING**

#### **PREAMBLE:**

Tasmanian state schools welcomed needs based funding from the Federal Government as part of the Fairer Funding model, following the recommendations made as part of the Gonski reforms equivalent to the first four years of a six year funding model.

In Tasmania the funds have been allocated since January 2014 to support the Better Schools Tasmania program.

Tasmanian Education Minister, Jeremy Rockliff said he is committed to the Gonski reforms, which emphasise equal opportunities for children whatever their school background. In May 25<sup>th</sup> 2014 in an article for the Mercury Minister Rockliff said, "We're disappointed quite clearly that the fifth and sixth years (of Gonski) are not going to be funded from the Federal Government, we remain committed however to the funding".

#### **MOTION:**

**That this Conference calls on Tasmanian Federal politicians, the Federal Education Minister and Shadow Education Minister to reinstate and commit to the Gonski reforms and demand that funding equivalent to that outlined in years 5 and 6 of the Gonski Agreements be immediately provided.**