



District Meeting

Hackney District NEU



How do we win on pay and funding?

Ed Harlow junior vice-president elect will update us on the current situation with our ballot and introduce a discussion on how we can win over pay and funding.

There will also be reports from schools



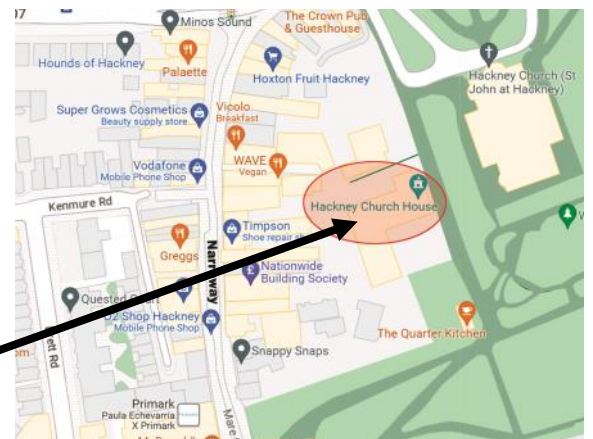
Monday 18th March @ 5pm

All education workers who are members of the NEU are welcome

Hackney Church House

1 Lower Clapton Rd E8 1FX

(opp St John at Hackney Church, just off the narrowway between Santander and Vicolo down Dispensary Lane)



Childcare expenses and cab fares for groups to the meeting will be paid

Agenda

1. Request for Suspensions
2. Minutes from previous General Meeting and matters arising (10 minutes)
3. Fixed business (see above)
4. Secretary's and Officers' report;
5. Motions
6. AOB

Advance notice The AGM will be on 20.05.24 @ 5pm. The Round Chapel E5 0LY



If you need zoom access please email carole.buxton@neu.org.uk

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@hackneyneu

Hackney NEU

Minutes: Hackney NEU GM – 26th February 2024

Minutes and matters arising.

Agreed to take emergency motion on Closure of Nurseries and Children's centres.

Fixed business LGBT+ History Month:

Nicola Field from Lesbian and Gays Support the Miners spoke about the 1984-5 miners' strike

Experiences of discrimination and bigotry in the 1980s: being sacked, mothers losing right to bring up children, violence and 'queer bashing'.

Conference amendments

Six amendments to conference motions agreed. See text below.

Secretaries report

Pay and Funding: see Schoolcuts.org.uk – crucial issue, made worse by falling rolls. We already face four schools being closed.

Others are under threat. Funding meeting after half term:

Funding as well as pay is on the ballot

Can members call meeting at own school? Hold as our ballot is launched on 4th March

Parents support is fundamental

Check membership and check people have voted

Support staff ballot will start -16.03.24

Motions

Motion on Palestine Education Conference: 23rd March.

HNEU agrees to fund up to 6 delegates on Palestine on Saturday 23d March, 11 – 4 at Hamilton House. Agreed unanimously.

Safeguarding Children's Centres: motion with amendment carried unanimously.

Safeguarding children's centres and affordable childcare

Hackney NEU notes:

High-quality, affordable childcare is critical to children's development, especially the most vulnerable, and has been shown to enhance educational outcomes.

[Childcare costs are a driver of poverty](#), particularly for single parents (90% of whom are women), and access to affordable childcare is essential for the wellbeing of working families. A third of mothers out of work with young children say childcare costs are the leading reason for not working.

National Labour Party policy is for the increase of provision of affordable childcare - this is a key commitment outlined in [Stronger Together. Labour is looking at giving more support for poorer families](#), which is exactly what the council-subsidised spaces already do. For the lowest-income families the cost for a FT place for an under-2 is £207 a week - the average in inner London is £395.

In spite of this, Hackney council is proposing to cut 148 affordable childcare places in 3 Children's Centres, over 25% of total spaces.

Serious concerns have been raised by a parent-led campaign that the data around occupancy rates used as a rationale for closures is incorrect.

Hackney NEU therefore concludes:

Affordable childcare places are essential to the wellbeing of Hackney children and this key provision must be safeguarded now and into the future.

Hackney NEU therefore:

Calls on the Mayor of Hackney to:

immediately halt the consultation on proposed closures of Sebright and Fernbank, and proposed changes to Hillside and Oldhill commit to safeguarding all subsidised childcare places and children's centres in Hackney.

Hackney Amendments for Conference

A/ Amendment to Motion 22 on Anti-Racism

Add to Conference notes''

The rise of in antisemitic attacks in 2023, to a total 4,103, two thirds of which occurred after 7th October, as reported by the Community Security Trust.

A sevenfold increase in Islamophobic attacks since 7th October, as reported by Tell Mama.

New paragraph after Conference further condemns:

Conference believes:

It is our responsibility as educators to challenge all forms of racism and scapegoating, including antisemitism and islamophobia, and to challenge stereotypes perpetrated by far-right bodies, the media and at times government

It is important to provide proper information and to facilitate open, respectful debate in schools and colleges, including that surrounding difficult and challenging issues such as the conflict in Gaza.

A failure to create safe spaces for discussion and support in schools and colleges is likely to lead to students seeking information

from untrustworthy and potentially dangerous sources

Add to Conference instructs the Executive new point d and re-letter:

d. Continue to support the production and dissemination of resources challenging antisemitism and islamophobia.

B/ Motion 10: The failure to recruit and retain teachers

New start:

Conference condemns short term and gimmicky measures which fail to address the address the reasons why our schools struggle to recruit and retain teachers, including bonuses for teachers in some subject areas, higher starting salaries which are not sustained and now the supposed introduction of teacher apprentices.

Add new point 2 and re-number:

Teach First attracted 1335 recruits in the year 2023-4, missing its target of 1750.

Under Conference believes add new point:

The proposals for teacher apprenticeships, which would allow new entrants to train on the job while acquiring a degree and teaching qualification are unfair on both the entrants themselves and our students, particularly those in areas of higher need, as well as likely to create additional workload for schools, including those needed to guide and mentor apprentices.

Under Conference instructs add new points vi and vii:

vi. Oppose the apprentice teachers scheme, and publicise our opposition to parents and the wider community

vii. If necessary ballot members who face additional workload for which inadequate time and resources have been made available.

C/ Motion 20: Anti-sexism and the rise of online misogyny

In conference believes, replace point 2, add new 3 and renumber:2. The continued rise in online sexism, misogyny, and bullying through social media and online 'influencers' such as Andrew Tate presents a real challenge to those committed to promoting gender equality.

3. Recent surveys suggest that such high-profile figures are continuing to contribute to an increasing problem not only in schools but in wider society, particularly among young men who see feminism rather than our shared oppression as a problem

In conference further believes, add new point v:

v. More work needs to be done to fully embed the use of the toolkit across the union.

In conference instructs the executive, add new point e:

d. Hold a national conference open to all members to support districts and members in challenging sexism and misogyny conferences, and encourage districts to hold local events to follow this up.

D/ Motion 3: An Inclusive Curriculum for All

Under Conference notes, add:

4. The lack of positive representation regarding Disabled people and their struggle for rights in the curriculum and in exam syllabuses.

5. The Welsh government have conducted a curriculum review and have been actively working on developing more content re Disability equality.

6. That ITV News carried out a survey in December 2023 and found only 13% of schools celebrated Disability History Month and most teachers said they did not have enough resources or time to include UKDHM in the curriculum.*

Under Conference believes:

Add to iii: add after perspectives including those of black women

V A truly inclusive curriculum will reflect the experiences and perspectives of Disabled people

Under Conference instructs the executive, add:

To a. The review to also include the perspectives of Disabled people

To d: and a sister site for resources concerning the perspectives of Disabled people

To e. and the contributions of Disabled people

f. to continue to promote and support UK Disability History Month and other Equality Months.

E/ Amendment to Motion 17 SEND in Crisis

Add new point 1 under Conference Condemns and renumber.

"1. The Government's policies that have undermined inclusion in mainstream schools and achievement for all SEND students which include:

Narrowing the breadth of the curriculum to knowledge based learning and loss of creative based subjects;

High stakes testing and league tables leading to increased pressures to suspend and exclude through unresponsive zero tolerance behaviour policies;

Loss of alternative forms of accreditation;

Consistent failure to enforce the Public Sector Disability Equality Duty and the Reasonable Adjustment Duty in Schools (Equality Act 2010);

Not providing resources, support and insufficient priority to all teachers being trained in inclusive education; and

Failing to adjust school budgets especially the Higher Needs Budget to keep up with inflation, leading to real term significant loss of funding for SEND. "

Add new point under 'Conference notes'

"viii United Nations Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities has consistently criticised the UK Government for not having an Inclusive Education Strategy in England ."

Add under 'Conference believes':

"V Government must develop an inclusion strategy to incorporate the above points" (187 w ords)

F/ Amendment to motion 18 on Prioritise Mental Health and Wellbeing

Under Conference notes, add new points:

6. The failure of government to properly fund post-Covid recovery, and to ignore the long -term effects of social isolation, delayed early years development and child mental health issues

7. Childhood is being blighted by austerity, poverty and declining health, as well as the loss of youth and leisure services

8. Zero-tolerance behaviour regimes and a continuing obsession with a narrow range of educational outcomes are detrimental to our students and contributing to dropping attendance

After Conference believes add new paragraph:

Conference welcomes the call by the Association of Directors of Children's Services (ADCS) for a national plan for childhood

After Conference instructs the Executive, add:

e. Calls upon a future Labour government to work for properly funded, coherent services for young people of all ages, through increasing the resources available to schools, colleges and local councils

f. To work with ADCS and others to involve young people in discussion of their needs