

August 2017

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Message from the General Secretary

Dear Colleague,

Welcome to this first rep bulletin of the new session; I hope you enjoyed your break.

With the Governance review moving apace and this year's salary claim still to be settled, alongside the ongoing challenge of excessive workload, 2017-18 will be as busy as ever.

I would like to take this opportunity to express the Institute's gratitude for all the work which you carry out on behalf of the members. School reps are absolutely the backbone of the Institute and I thank you for the selfless work you do on behalf of colleagues.

You will see below details of our first national reps conference. This is part of our strategy to increase support for school reps. If you have any practical ideas in this regard, we would be delighted to hear from you, or to organise a visit from one of our officers to discuss matters. Just email a message to Karen Nicholson (knicholson@eis.org.uk).

Best wishes.



Larry Flanagan

General Secretary

Recruitment

As you will be aware, it is always important at the start of term to identify new staff members and to ensure that their membership details are transferred or, in the case of new teachers and probationers, that they are recruited into the union. Statistics show that the single biggest reason individuals give for not joining a union is that they are simply never asked. Your role as a school Rep or Branch Secretary, therefore, is absolutely vital in this regard.

Members can join on the EIS website www.eis.org.uk or additional membership packs can be acquired from the Organisation Department at HQ. If you require any additional materials or support, please let us know.

Action for Representatives and Branch Secretaries:

Please make every effort to sign up new eligible staff in your establishment for EIS membership. If it would be of assistance, EIS speakers can be organised to attend school meetings.

EIS Equality Reps

We are now recruiting members who are interested in becoming Equality Reps for a new tranche of Stage one training starting in the new 17/18 session. The scheduled dates are Friday 1st September, Friday 29th September and Friday 27th October. You must attend all three days of Stage one, then a further two days of stage two to become fully accredited. The training will be held in the EIS HQ offices and will run from 9.30am until 3.30pm each day with lunch provided. Please contact your Local Association / Branch Secretary to seek approval to attend.

Further information on the role of Equality Reps is available on our web site http://www.eis.org.uk/Become_Active/Equality_Reps.htm or contact the Equality Department (agray@eis.org.uk).

Action for Representatives and Branch Secretaries:

Please encourage your members to undertake the training and circulate the details.

STUC Disabled Workers' Committee Survey

The STUC Disabled Workers' Committee has been working with the Beatson Cancer Charity to raise awareness of cancer in the workplace and the issue many cancer patients and their carers face trying to remain in employment while dealing with a life limiting illness.

We are looking at developing training and support for trade union reps and the Beatson Cancer Charity have developed a short survey aimed at identifying the challenges involved in supporting individuals in the workplace who have a cancer diagnosis, and those who care for them, as well as seeking views on what they feel would help them support members more effectively.

The survey can be found at: www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/MJSR8YC.

Action for Representatives and Branch Secretaries:

Please take the time to complete this survey.

Supporting Older Women in the Workplace: Guidance for EIS Representatives

The 2016 AGM instructed Council to consult with older women (women aged 50-64 as defined by the STUC and in the Scottish Commission on Older Women Report – Older Women and Work: Looking to the Future) members on the issues which affect them at work and thereafter prepare specific guidance on supporting older women members in the workplace.

Consultation took place during the last session, and the resulting guidance is now available on the EIS website. It can be found at: www.eis.org.uk/Gender_Equality/womenworkplace.htm

If you have any questions or comments about this guidance please contact National Officer Jenny Kemp (jkemp@eis.org.uk)

Action for Representatives and Branch Secretaries:

Please familiarise yourself with this guidance, publicise it amongst members, and raise ensuring equitable treatment of older women members as an agenda item at your local negotiation fora.

Headteachers' and Depute Headteachers' Conference 2017 – Change of Date

Please note that the Headteachers' & Depute Headteachers' Conference 2017 has been rescheduled and will now be held on Friday 1st December at the Radisson Blu Hotel, Glasgow.

Conference themes are school governance, assessment, professional learning and their relevance to addressing the poverty-related attainment gap.

Keynote speakers include EIS General Secretary Larry Flanagan, Graeme Logan (Interim Chief Inspector and Chief Executive Advisor Education Scotland) and Professor Louise Hayward (University of Glasgow).

A series of workshops will be included throughout the day and further details of these will be made available as soon as possible.

For further information please contact John Harris in the Equality Department (jharris@eis.org.uk)

Action for Representatives and Branch Secretaries:

Please make relevant members aware of the rescheduling of the conference and that further information is soon to follow.

National Reps' Networking Conference – Change of Date

The EIS will be holding its first National Rep's Networking Conference. It will be based on the theme "Organising – Building Power, Delivering Change." It will be a key opportunity for Reps from all around the country to participate in discussion, exchange experiences, participate in workshops relevant to your role and generally build our unions networking ability. This will be held in the TEI Building, St Enoch Square, Glasgow, it is a full day event and will be on Saturday 11th November 2017. It is aimed at all workplace Reps whether new in the role and experienced Reps.

If you are interested, please contact Jennifer Cook (jcook@eis.org.uk) at Moray Place for further details.

Action for Representatives:

A leaflet for your attention is included with this bulletin.

Professional Learning Conference

The EIS is holding a Professional Learning Conference on the morning of Saturday 30 September 2017 in the IET Teacher Building in Glasgow.

The programme is based around the theme of teacher leadership and will include a choice of interactive workshops. There will be presentations from keynote speakers including Dr. Carol Campbell, Associate Professor of Leadership and Educational Change at the University of Toronto.

Delegates can attend 2 workshops and should give a third choice to be used as a reserve if required. Please see the details of the workshops via the link below.

The Conference will run from 9.15 am until 1.15 pm.

We are expecting a high level of interest in the event therefore early notice of your attendance is advised and should be registered no later than 12 noon on Friday 15 September 2017.

Please register the following details with Ashley Gray (agray@eis.org.uk):

Full name and contact email address

Establishment/Place of work

Two workshop choices and please give a third to be used as a reserve

Any dietary/access requirements you may have

Further information can be found at www.eis.org.uk/Meetings_and_Events/PLConference17.htm

Action for Representatives and Branch Secretaries:

Please circulate amongst your members, make them aware of the details and encourage them to attend.

Professional Learning Opportunities from the EIS

New training courses and workshops are available to book now:

Equality and Human Rights in the Classroom - a free, one-day course looking at the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Equality Act 2010 and how to bring a rights-based approach to learning. Open to both teachers and college lecturers.

Building Teacher Leadership - Leadership Skills for Classroom Teachers - a free, two-part course delivered over two Saturday mornings, aimed at unpromoted teachers and lecturers, which will explore pedagogical and other types of leadership in the school / college setting.

Globe Education Shakespeare workshops - three different workshops, each lasting two hours, will be delivered by the Globe Education team - one aimed at primary and SEN teachers, one at Drama teachers and one at secondary English teachers. They will take place in the Festival Theatre, Edinburgh and are offered at a cost of £25. Places are limited for this fantastic opportunity.

Action for Representatives and Branch Secretaries:

Please make members aware of training courses and encourage them to attend. Further details of all courses and how to apply can be found at www.eis.org.uk/CPD/Training&Workshops.htm

Gwen Mayor Trust

The Gwen Mayor Memorial Trust was established in March 1996 following the tragic events in Dunblane Primary School on 13 March 1996, when teacher, Gwen Mayor, lost her life along with 16 pupils.

The purpose of the Trust is “to advance education by providing financial support for projects in connection with the arts, culture, music or sport submitted to the Trustees by primary schools or departments in Scotland.”

Applications are now invited from primary schools and departments in Scotland. Proposed projects should fall within the purpose of the fund as set out above. Requests for full or partial funding of projects will be considered.

A letter is enclosed giving full details of the Gwen Mayor Trust and how to apply for funding support.

Action for Representatives in primary schools and primary departments only:

Please pass the enclosed letter to your Headteacher.

EIS Political Fund Ballot

The current mandate for the EIS Political Fund ends in October 2017; it is planned to hold a ballot to renew the mandate in October i.e. as soon as the EIS receives the legally required approval from the Certification Officer.

Action for Representatives and Branch Secretaries:

Please distribute the leaflet/s included with this bulletin within your establishment.

EIS Financial Services – Win-A-Car Competition

Last chance to enter EIS Financial Services Win-A-Car Campaign in conjunction with our General Insurance partner, Cornmarket Insurance Services. All members need to do to enter is register their details at www.eisfs.co.uk/winacar or click on the respective links on the EIS Facebook page. Terms and Conditions apply (see website for full details).

Action for Representatives and Branch Secretaries:

Please make members aware of the competition and encourage participation.



EIS Financial Services are giving one lucky member a chance to win a Renault Clio Play. To enter the draw register online at www.eisfs.co.uk/winacar

No purchase necessary.



*Based on new car insurance quotes given by Cornmarket Insurance Services to Teachers in October 2016, who met acceptance criteria. Terms, conditions and acceptance criteria apply. Applicants must be a member of the Educational Institute of Scotland. Full details are available on our website. EIS Financial Services' personal lines insurance products are administered by Cornmarket Insurance Services Ltd, First Floor, Boucher Plaza, 4-6 Boucher Road, Belfast, BT12 6HR, Company No. NI 30039. Telephone number 028 9044 2211. Calls may be recorded for our mutual protection. Cornmarket Insurance Services Ltd is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (Reg No 308099).