



11 June 2014

Bishop Barry Jones
Bishop of Christchurch
Catholic Dioceses of Christchurch
PO Box 4544
CHRISTCHURCH 8140

NZEI Te Riu Roa response to the Consultation Report on the Process to establish the new St Francis of Assissi Catholic School. Author Yvonne Preece – January 2014

NZEI Te Riu Roa has a number of concerns about the quality and validity of the report. We are astounded that this report was accepted by the church and then forwarded to the Ministry of Education. It is confused and misleading. We would have expected given the number of references to NZEI that it would have been made available to us for comment prior to it being accepted.

While it would be possible to take issue with quite a lot of the report we offer four examples of matters that we take issue with.

- 1 The first paragraph of the Executive summary states "...there was no agreed position on the size of the new school by the staff at Our Lady of Fatima." It is not the business of the staff to determine that nor would they have the information to do so. The size of the school is surely a matter for the proprietor.
- 2 In the Surplus Staffing provisions section the writer takes issue with our position that teachers can access the surplus provisions and quotes cl 13.6. However if she had read cl 9.1 – 9.3 of the same section she would realise that teachers can indeed volunteer to be surplus.
- 3 The entire section headed *Participation of NZEI* is misleading, incorrect and one statement pure conjecture with no basis in fact.
- 4 In the Executive summary there is a reference to the two staffs not having met yet. It should be noted that the Our Lady of Fatima staff urged Yvonne to call a meeting of both staffs with attendance compulsory; however, she declined to do so.

NZEI Te Riu Roa would like the entire report withdrawn and for it be recalled from the Minister of Education. It should not have been taken into account when the future of these two schools was being considered. We believe that any publication of the report would reflect badly on a number of organisations and we would urge you to ensure it is not made public.

Yours

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lance Win'.

Lance Win
Field Officer

Cc: , Senior Adviser, Ministry of Education