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| NSW/ACT Independent Education Union |
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| **To:** | IEU School Reps | **Fax:** |  |
| **From:** | Dick Shearman | **Date:** | 17 September 2010 |
| **Re:** | Australian Curriculum – Staffing Issues | **Pages:** | 1 |

Dear IEU Rep,

Yesterday, the IEU had a constructive meeting with the NSW Board of Studies and can report a positive outcome regarding the issue of teaching hours across the curriculum. (see IEU website story *Teachers Fear Job Losses Due To Australian Curriculum)*

The President of the Board, Mr Tom Alegounarias, confirmed to the Union that:

* There will be no change in NSW to the indicative hours across key learning areas for k-10 into the future. The Board has no intention to change any of the NSW time allocations due to the implementation of an Australian Curriculum.
* In its submissions, the NSW Board of Studies has advised ACARA that the Australian Curriculum should be in line with the current NSW time allocations.
* The Education Minister has confirmed in Parliament that she will not endorse any national curriculum that is inferior to our current NSW curriculum.
* The NSW Board of Studies is developing a communication strategy to teachers to ensure that they are fully informed of decisions and of NSW directions regarding the Australian Curriculum.

The Union welcomes these assurances.

The strong and collective action of teachers and their Union has resolved this particular issue. Continued attention will be required over the next period for other issues regarding the structure, content and achievement standards of the new curriculum and other important implementation questions about timing, resources and teacher support.

Please circulate this information to all teachers and the principal. You can also visit [www.ieu.asn.au](http://www.ieu.asn.au) or contact Sandra White at the IEU ([sandra@ieu.asn.au](mailto:sandra@ieu.asn.au)) for further information.

Yours sincerely,

Dick Shearman

General Secretary