

NEiTA MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release: Tuesday 14 July 2009



Last chance to nominate inspirational teachers

Education continues to rank highly on the nation's agenda because it impacts on so many aspects of our lives, but often one of the biggest parts of the education spectrum is overlooked—hard-working, inspirational teachers.

Nominating a teacher, principal, or director for the ASG Inspirational Teaching Awards through the NEiTA teaching awards program, provides parents, school and early childhood communities with a unique opportunity to say thank you to an outstanding and hard-working teacher.

However, time is running out as nominations close on **Friday 31 July 2009**.

NEiTA's Chairman, Terry O'Connell says the role of the teacher is always important, but especially in the current education climate.

"Teachers are expected to impart information, help our children's discovery of themselves and the world around them, while also tending to their social and emotional needs," he said.

"Whichever education spectrum a teacher works in, when the extra hours of tuition teachers give to their students during lunch breaks, after school, and on weekends are considered, the amount of time worked is substantially more than the average work-week of other Australian professionals," Mr O'Connell said.

NEiTA has already received hundreds of nominations from across Australia for the awards. But this is your last chance to nominate and say thanks to the hard-working, inspirational teachers and leaders at your school or early childhood centre.

"It is generally acknowledged that encouragement and appreciation are valuable tools in human development—the teaching profession is no different," Mr O'Connell said.

Why you should nominate?

- Nominating a teacher for an award is a celebration for the whole school and early childhood community.
- Nominations keep the focus on high standards of education in our schools and centres.
- Grants and prizes promote professional development.
- Great teachers change the future today and they deserve recognition.

Who can nominate?

Parents, school and early childhood communities can nominate through their School Council, Committee of Management, Parent Association, or Secondary Student Council. Parents can also nominate teachers and school leaders independently.

How can I nominate?

Nominating a teacher is easy and simple.

- You can nominate online at www.neita.com.au and click on the *Nominate Now!* link.
- To receive a nomination form by mail or fax, contact the NEiTA Secretariat by phone 1800 624 487 or email neita@asg.com.au or fax (03) 9276 7798.

For more information about NEiTA and its awards program, please visit the website: www.neita.com.au

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