MEDIA ALERT



Wednesday, 31 January 2017

PUBLIC SECTOR UNION TAKING ACTION FOR PUBLIC EDUCATION

Tomorrow, hundreds of Department of Education workers will take action in support of public education.

The action will take place at 12 noon at Wellington Square, where CPSU/CSA members will plant over 400 red hearts in the ground, symbolising the jobs that are being targeted by this government.

The list of roles to be axed include: project officers, administration assistants, managers, support officers, health and safety specialists, Aboriginal education coordinators and regulatory officers. Less administration assistants will mean more time teachers need to spend at the desk rather than developing lesson plans and teaching West Australian children.

CPSU/CSA Secretary Toni Walkington says the government needs to reverse the job cuts decision and keep critical public education services.

"The jobs that are being targeted are critical to the function of the Department. When we cut services the head office does, the work gets left to schools and principals to pick up – with no extra training, staff or resources.

"Specialist roles such as Aboriginal Support Officers provide essential services based on culture and community liaising for aboriginal students and their families.

"I was at the Moora rally recently and I can see first-hand the impact closing down the residential college will have on the families who use it.

"This government needs to reverse the cuts and look at ways to increase revenue for this state, not cut services to those who need them the most."

EDUCATION ACTION:

- Thursday, 1 February 2017
- 12pm
- Wellington Square, East Perth

Toni Walkington is available for comment. Please call 0421 934 794 to arrange.