Dear Member

The 4 teacher unions [INTO, UTU, ATL and NAHT] acting together have agreed to a series of actions to draw attention to and raise awareness of the pathetic pay offer made to teachers by the managing authorities.

Our first joint action will be on **Tuesday 8th November 2016** when teacher union members in schools are asked to come together and demonstrate at the school gates - at **lunchtime for post-primary schools and at end of school for primary schools**, to highlight the insulting pay offer and how lack of funding is impacting on the Education Service.

If your school plans to participate please notify your union’s local headquarters by October 28th and we will supply you with the supporting literature. This will be a leaflet outlining the teachers’ case and invite parents to contact their local MLA in support of teachers.

In advance of November 8th, a joint letter from all 4 unions will be sent to Boards of Governors of each school notifying them that this demonstration is taking place and asking for their support by writing to the Education Minister highlighting the dire funding situation which has resulted in no salary increase for teachers for last year. We have been led to believe that the money set aside to back-pay teachers for 2015/16 was returned to Westminster!

Failing to pay teachers any increase at all in 2015/16 is illustrative of the worsening situation schools are having to face year-on-year since the austerity measures were introduced. Teachers have been extremely patient in accepting below inflation increases for five years but the failure to award a cost of living rise at all for 2015/16 has been the straw to break the camel’s back and teachers are quite rightly incensed at what they believe to be the exploitation of their goodwill to date. The belated offer of back-dating of ½ % is merely adding insult to injury!

We will be announcing our future plans for action over the next few weeks. This is YOUR opportunity to add weight to our action. Remember – YOU are the unions and acting together we can make sure the employers and the Department of Education know how angry you are!

Please do not hesitate in contacting us if you would like to discuss or get involved in the Campaign.

Yours sincerely

Mark Langhammer  
NI Director  
ATL

Gerry Murphy  
Northern Secretary  
INTO

Fern Turner  
Regional Officer  
NAHT

Avril Hall-Callaghan  
General Secretary  
UTU