



This week's stories from the media

- No more goodwill teachers make call on mid-SACE strike
- Strike to have severe impact on students doing final exam
- SACE Board says exams to go ahead despite teacher strike
- Violence report on 12 of SA's toughest schools
- Managing exam stress
- Half of First Nations people sacrifice essentials for Internet

Strike To Have Severe Impact

A clinical psychologist says a teachers strike would have a "severe impact" on students already battling anxiety before facing their final exams.

A leading clinical psychologist has said a proposed teacher strike during exam period could "severely impact" Year 12 students' grades.

Clinical psychologist Darryl Cross, who has worked with children for more than two decades, said a teacher strike would cause "undue stress" for the students, who are already under the pump.

"Any exam situation will create undue stress because it's performance related," Dr Cross said.

"On top of that particular stress, you're putting an extra stressor which is the unknown."

Dr Cross said students would be left questioning if, on the day of their exam, they will have a teacher available.

"To not have support, for some students it's going to be significant and may impact their grade," Dr Cross said.

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No More Goodwill Teachers Make Call On Mid-SACE Strike

Public school teachers have voted to walk off the job next week, amid year 12 exams, unless the state government makes them a better offer on pay and conditions.

The teachers union revealed late on Thursday that its members have voted in favour of a full-day strike on Thursday, November 9, if the state government does not make an improved offer.

"Teachers have had enough, no more goodwill," branch president Andrew Gohl declared, adding current conditions were "just sucking teachers dry of time for themselves and time with their families".

The union is seeking pay increases of between 5.5% and 8.6% per year until 2026, and extra time away from the classroom for lesson planning and administration.

It is a crucial time of year for year 12 students who are preparing for exams.

Students will sit tests for physics and accounting on November 9, and biology and modern history the following day.

It will be the second time teachers have gone on strike this year, as the union aims to put pressure on the state government in increasingly tense negotiations.

The union has about 12,100 members in SA, although not all work in schools or preschools.

The union is also asking for more than \$1bn in extra classroom support to ease workload pressures and manage children with complex needs, and a 20% drop in face-to-face teaching time.

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“...It is a crucial time of year for year 12 students who are preparing for exams....”

SACE Board Says Exams To Go Ahead Despite Strike

Non-educators will be called in to supervise Year 12 exams if teachers walk off the job in a proposed union strike, South Australia’s secondary education assessment board has said.

The SACE Board has reassured students they will still be able to sit their final tests despite the possibility of teachers striking on November 9 during exam period.

“During an examination, students must be supervised at all times and schools appoint exam invigilators for their school site,” the spokeswoman said.

“They are not required to be teachers.”

But Education Minister Blair Boyer said a strike “will be of concern for families who have students doing exams”.

“I very much want to avoid that,” Mr Boyer said.

“I was surprised and disappointed to learn the union is planning further industrial action, particularly during the Year 12 exam period.”

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Violence Report On 12 Of SA’s Toughest Schools

Bullying and schoolyard fights troubling 12 of SA’s most “complex” secondary schools are dramatically falling, and Christies Beach High’s principal says new support like employing security staff on sites is “money well spent”.

Education Minister Blair Boyer said recent data showed 115 reported violent incidents in Term One across the 12 public schools targeted for extra support, this fell to 87 reported incidents in Term Two and 78 in Term Three.

The schools were identified as having complex needs like social disadvantage or having reported previous violent incidents.

“I feel relief to be honest, that these things can work,” Boyer said.

“This figure of 32% is well over and above what was expected, and it’s good solid evidence as part of this trial.

“It’s suggesting this stuff can actually work.”

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Managing Exam Stress

Year 12 students are heading into the final stretch of study before exams start - typically a very intense period.

But research shows, it is also important to rest during this time.

Students who took a “do nothing” break performed 40% better on a subsequent test.

Keep all screens out of the bedroom: people struggle with sleep because they’re tempted to check their phone.

Screens also emit blue light: this can interfere with your body’s circadian rhythms.

Don’t use a smartphone as an alarm: get an old-fashioned alarm clock instead.

[Full Story](#)

Day Of Tolerance

November 16 is UNESCO’s International Day of Tolerance



First Nations People Sacrifice For IT

A report found just under half of Indigenous communities in Australia have no mobile service due to infrastructure and affordability constraints in rural and remote areas.

RMIT research said 43% of the 1,545 First Nations communities across Australia either share a public phone or have no communication access, despite almost all modern-day learning and communications occurring online.

The affordability constraints led to 53.3% of First Nations people surveyed saying they had sacrificed paying for essentials such as food or bills to stay connected, compared to 19.1% of other Australians.

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