



Promoting Public Sector Education in an Age of Austerity

Resolution on Privatisation and Educational Inequality

Submitted for adoption by NASUWT (UK) to the ETUCE Conference, the Regional Conference of Education International, meeting in Budapest on 26-28 November 2012, adopted on 27 November 2012

Privatisation and Educational Inequality

The Conference

1. believes that education should be considered as a basic public service that promotes social cohesion, equity and equality of opportunity;
2. deplores the predatory privatisation and marketisation of education which is a blatant and direct attack on equality and social justice for all;
3. notes with serious concern the attack on social and employment rights, anti-discrimination protections and lack of concerted action to end poverty under the cloak of economic deficit reduction;
4. further notes the evidence that confirms the causal link between income and wealth inequalities and unequal educational outcomes;
5. asserts the importance of equality and fair treatment for students, teachers and the wider workforce in schools as the best way to secure outcomes for all;
6. is appalled by emerging evidence that the ideological drive towards privatisation and marketisation of education is resulting in increased discrimination, social fragmentation and widening inequality, the most affected being those with fewer resources.
7. notes with concern that economic austerity is having a devastating and disproportionate impact on the lives of students from less privileged family backgrounds;
8. endorses further action by the ETUCE to highlight and campaign vigorously against privatisation in education, with particular regard to the objective of securing equal opportunities for teachers and students.