

Preliminary Agenda

Motions for Annual Convention 2026



AMENDMENTS TO MOTIONS FOR
ANNUAL CONVENTION, 2026
MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE GENERAL SECRETARY,
TO REACH HEAD OFFICE NOT LATER THAN
JANUARY 31st 2026 (RULE 72(d)).

Branches may asterisk **eight** motions
from the Preliminary Agenda indicating
their choice in order of priority.

**Motions which are already
Association Policy have been annotated.**

ASTI
A century of service

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL TO MEMBERS

SECTION I

SALARIES AND ALLOWANCES, POSTS OF RESPONSIBILITY, SUPERANNUATION, EXAMINERS AND SUPERINTENDENTS, REDEPLOYMENT

SALARIES AND ALLOWANCES

1. That the ASTI demand wage increases to match cost of living increases. **(Cork South Paddy Mulcahy)**
2. That the ASTI enter into negotiations with the Department of Education and Youth to ensure that all Professional Master of Education students are remunerated for the classes they teach during school placements. **(Dublin South Central)**
3. That the ASTI negotiate with the Department of Education and Youth for the reinstatement of the AEN (SEN) allowance to teachers' salaries for:
teachers who hold the relevant postgraduate qualification in AEN (SEN)
and that this allowance be backdated to the time the teacher received the relevant postgraduate AEN (SEN) qualification. **(Fingal)**

4. In light of the 6% real pay decrease suffered by teachers since 2015 according to the OECD's 2024 edition of Education at a Glance, the ASTI undertake escalating industrial action in September 2026 to add 6% to all levels of the pay scales to counter these real pay decreases. **(Sligo). (Requires a ballot)**
5. That the ASTI negotiate that the Department of Education and Youth conduct in depth research on the impact of unequal pay and pension conditions among the members of the teaching profession. **(Wicklow)**

EXAMINERS AND SUPERINTENDENTS

6. That the ASTI negotiate with the Department of Education and Youth and with the SEC, that all serving teachers employed by the SEC for state examinations' purposes have their expenses calculated solely from their place of residence. **(East Galway)**

SECTION II

CONTRACTS OF INDEFINITE DURATION, PART-TIME AND FIXED TERM TEACHERS, CLASS SIZE, CONDITIONS OF WORK

CONDITIONS OF WORK

7. That the ASTI set up a sub-committee to examine the impact of over assessment in light of current and recent curricular reforms. **(Carbery)**
8. That the ASTI demand that parental leave be made available to teachers with the same flexibility as other public sector workers. **(Carbery)**
9. That the ASTI set up a sub-committee to examine the impact of the process of inspections on teaching and learning. **(Carbery)**
10. That the ASTI advocate for a revision of the inspection schedule to ensure:
 - inspections do not occur during the week immediately following a school holiday.
 - notices of inspection are not issued during the week preceding a school holiday. **(Clare)**
11. That ASTI demand that teachers can opt in or out of the Supervision and Substitution scheme.
(Cork South Paddy Mulcahy) (Already Policy)
12. That the ASTI engage with the Department of Education and Youth to resolve the inability to find cover for personal days due to the demands of the S&S roster. **(Cork South Paddy Mulcahy)**
13. That the ASTI demand that teacher working conditions be positively changed to attract and retain teachers. **(Cork South Paddy Mulcahy)**
14. That the ASTI demand that teacher workloads be reviewed to achieve a better work life balance.
(Cork South Paddy Mulcahy)
15. That the ASTI seek to abolish the Croke Park hours as part of the next Public Service Agreement to be negotiated in 2026. **(Dublin North East)**

16. That the ASTI support the immediate resourcing and training of teachers assigned to deliver EAL supports. **(Dublin North East)**
17. That the ASTI campaign for the Counselling in Primary Schools Pilot (CPS-P) model to be extended to Post-Primary schools in order to provide in-school support for students. **(Dublin North East)**
18. In relation to a teacher returning to work after a period of absence due to sick leave, that the ASTI publicly campaign and negotiate with the Department to ensure that the teacher's own medical practitioner(s) and not Medmark alone determines when the teacher is fit to return to work, in the interest of teacher wellbeing. **(Dublin North West)**
19. Given that a key function of the Department Inspectorate is to offer support to schools and teachers during inspections, that the ASTI advise members to provide information to inspectors during school inspections regarding problems faced due to under resourcing, to include but not be limited to, overcrowding in classrooms, lack of specialist room facilities, deficits in digital resources and lack of supports for teaching SEN. **(Dublin North West)**
20. That the ASTI campaign for funding to be made available to reduce the cost of PME courses so as to encourage more graduates to enter the teaching profession. **(Dublin South Central)**
21. That the ASTI engage with the Department of Education and Youth to explore the implementation of a four-day class contact teaching week. **(Dublin South Central)**
22. That the ASTI insist that substitution cover, similar to that allocated for teachers upskilling in SPHE/RSE, Guidance Counselling and Inclusive and Special Education, be provided for post-primary teachers who undertake to upskill in all programmes aimed at addressing the shortage of qualified teachers in specific subject areas. **(Dublin South Central)**

23. That the ASTI negotiate with the Department of Education and Youth, with the aim of establishing an independent and mandatory audit of teachers' psycho social hazards and stresses in each school. This audit should be carried out on a biennial basis.
(Drogheda Sean Higgins)

24. That the ASTI negotiate with the Department of Education and Youth, with the aim of revising the terms of Parent/Teacher meetings as outlined in Circular M58/04, in order to accommodate the one hour class timetable and earlier closing hours adopted by schools. **(Drogheda Sean Higgins)**

25. That, as a matter of priority, the ASTI negotiate with the Department of Education and Youth with the aim of seeking a reduction in the number of inspections and a reduction in the models of inspection, in order to alleviate teacher workload and stress.
(Drogheda Sean Higgins)

26. That ASTI negotiate with the Department and its Inspectorate to oppose the introduction of common level classes in 2nd year core subjects of English, Irish and Maths.
(Sligo)

SECTION III

EDUCATION, SCHOOL RESOURCES, TEACHING COUNCIL, CONTINUOUS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, ASSESSMENT, CERTIFICATE EXAMINATIONS

EDUCATION

27. That the ASTI demand that the NCCA publish peer reviewed empirical research for any reforms or initiatives they plan on implementing, and that adequate time be given to the ASTI to respond to this published research. **(Clare)**
28. To ensure effective coordination and alignment between the NCCA, the SEC and Oide, that the ASTI demand by negotiating with the Department and highlight in a public media campaign that these three organisations be amalgamated and that the new organisation be given full control of all aspects of both curriculum design, assessment and CPD provision and that the Council of this new body would have a greater percentage representation of practising teachers than is currently the case on the NCCA Council. **(Dublin North West)**
29. That the ASTI insist that all three teacher unions be represented on the Department of Education's Teacher Supply Steering Group. **(Dublin South Central)**

SCHOOL RESOURCES

30. In light of the Additional Assessment Components in Senior Cycle, that the ASTI demand that the Department of Education and Youth provide all schools with sufficient funding to upgrade existing ICT systems and invest in devices for use by students in completing and uploading reports for SEC for exam accreditation. **(Clare)**
31. That the ASTI lobby for a dedicated, ring-fenced and predictable annual funding stream for the provision of adequate technological devices for all second level teaching staff. **(Cork South Paddy Mulcahy)**
32. In light of OECD reports, that the ASTI demand the lack of investment in schools be addressed. **(Cork South Paddy Mulcahy)**

33. In order to address the increased demands for ICT resources at Senior Cycle, that the ASTI negotiate with the Department of Education and Youth to provide each Leaving Certificate student with:
 - a laptop computer with access to durable & functional charging stations, and cloud storageand that schools are resourced with a further Assistant Principal I post to support and facilitate students in dealing with ICT issues that arise. **(Fingal)**

TEACHING COUNCIL

34. In light of the increase in the number of fitness to teach cases taken against teachers by the Teaching Council in the area of Special Educational Needs, the ASTI insist in negotiations with the Department that, in order to protect its members: more teaching places be made available in Special Educational Training (SET) courses and more supports are made available including an improved support service for Special Educational Needs Coordinators (SENCOs)/ Special Education Teams (SETs). **(Dublin North West)**
35. That ASTI demand the Teaching Council expedite the initial stages of fitness to teach complaints against teachers, in the interests of teacher wellbeing. **(Galway)**

CONTINUOUS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

36. That the ASTI demand all subject teachers of the redeveloped Leaving Certificate subjects receive a comprehensive programme of CPD for their subject, which addresses their needs and is developed in consultation with practising teachers of each subject, in the year prior to the new subject specification being implemented. **(Wexford Tony Boland)**

ASSESSMENT

37. That the ASTI demand all work undertaken by teachers in relation to Additional Assessment Components be covered by full indemnity. **(Carbery)**
38. That the ASTI demand that one CBA per subject be required to be completed only, as part of the Junior Cycle curriculum. **(Dublin North 1 Miriam Duggan)**
39. That the ASTI demand that students be solely responsible for the authentication and submission of the completed AAC to the State Examinations Commission. **(Dublin North 1 Miriam Duggan)**
40. That the ASTI direct its members not to carry out any work (including preparation of specialist rooms and digital uploading of coursework) in relation to Additional Assessment Components of the new Senior Cycle outside of their class contact time until adequate professional time is given to teachers to carry out this work.
(Dublin North West) (Requires a ballot)
41. In view of the very serious Health and Safety concerns that have been highlighted by science teachers, university academics and the professional organisation of science teachers, the ISTA, regarding the implementation in school science laboratories of the AAC laboratory-based research investigations in the new Biology, Chemistry and Physics curriculum specifications, the ASTI direct its members not to proceed with the implementation of any AAC research investigations in these science subjects where, in their professional opinion, this implementation could give rise to Health and Safety concerns resulting in risk of injury to students, teachers or other school staff.
(Dublin North West) (Requires a ballot)
42. That the ASTI adopt the position that all aspects of senior cycle assessment should remain the responsibility of the State Examinations Commission. That the ASTI direct teachers not to engage in any scheduling, administering, supervising, authenticating, collecting, storing or correcting of the additional assessment component associated with the senior cycle redevelopment.
(Requires Ballot) (Dublin South County)

43. That the ASTI reaffirms existing policy that our members will not assess their own students work for State Certification purposes including LPL1 and LPL2 portfolios. **(Dungarvan)**

CERTIFICATE EXAMINATIONS

44. The ASTI demand that all state exam papers for each subject be differentiated into higher, ordinary and foundation levels, in line with preceding Junior Certificate and Leaving Certificate examinations, to allow all students to achieve optimum results. **(Carbery)**
45. That, as a matter of priority, the ASTI negotiate with the Department of Education and Youth with the aim of seeking a moratorium on inspections for Leaving Certificate Tranche 1 subjects up to August 2027, in order to alleviate teacher workload and stress. **(Drogheda Sean Higgins)**
46. That the ASTI demand that Leaving Certificate Tranche 1 subject specifications be re-opened for meaningful consultation, prior to the publication of any reviews. That this action be immediate. **(Dublin North 1 Miriam Duggan)**
47. That, as a core demand in any resolution of the dispute around the 'Senior Cycle Redevelopment - Implementation Support Measures', the ASTI insist on two hours of timetable remission as professional time for all Senior Cycle teachers. **(Dublin North East)**
48. ASTI demands that the MFL and Irish Orals no longer take place during the Easter holidays, and revert to previous arrangements whereby they took place during term time. **(Dublin North East)**
49. That the ASTI demand a delay of one year in the implementation of Tranche 3 subjects and all subsequent tranches of the redeveloped Leaving Certificate. **(Wexford Tony Boland)**
50. That the ASTI negotiate that the Department of Education and Youth conduct in depth research on the impacts of Senior Cycle reform on teacher workload and wellbeing. **(Wicklow)**

RULES AND CONSTITUTION, ORGANISATION AND ADMINISTRATION

RULES AND CONSTITUTION

51. That Rule 5 of "ASTI Rules and Constitution" be deleted. (Sligo)

52. Amendment to Rule 96 :

"No member shall serve on Standing Committee in excess of 12 years "be added to rule 96 at point (i),

Thus Rule 96 would read as follows:

a) The President, Vice-President, Honorary Treasurer, Immediate Past-President (from August 1st to the end of next Annual Convention), President Elect (from Annual Convention to July 31st), Honorary National Organiser and regionally elected representatives shall be members of Standing Committee. Members may not hold office concurrently as regionally elected representatives and as President, Vice-President, Honorary Treasurer, President-Elect or Honorary National Organiser.

b) For the purposes of electing representatives to Standing Committee on a regional basis, the branches of the Association shall be divided into eighteen regional divisions as defined in Appendix C of the Rules and Constitution of the ASTI.

c) The branch elections of representatives to Standing Committee shall be by the proportional representation system at secret ballots held at a specific time, date and venue or venues as determined by the branch in accordance with (f) below; such determination shall be reached following agreement with the candidates concerned and where such agreement is not possible, the matter shall be determined by Standing Committee.

d) Members in the branches in the regions defined in Appendix C of the Rules and Constitution of the ASTI, shall elect a member from the region to Standing Committee; such election shall be held in accordance with (c) above in the respective region during the period commencing not more than eight weeks before the first day of Annual Convention and ending not less than two weeks before the first day of Annual Convention and the elected member shall take up office at the end of Annual Convention.

e) Candidates for election as regionally elected representatives on Standing Committee shall be

nominated from amongst those who are full members of the Association for at least two years, by a branch in the relevant region or by 50 members in a branch or branches in the relevant region. Notice of nomination shall be given, on the appropriate nomination form, to the General Secretary not later than 7th January of the year in which the election is scheduled. Copies of the appropriate nomination form shall be available from the General Secretary. Not later than 31st January, the General Secretary shall forward to each branch secretary in the appropriate region the names of those candidates duly nominated for election in that region.

f) The elections shall be conducted and the votes counted in accordance with procedures approved by CEC from time to time.

g) The successful candidate shall be the one securing the highest cumulative vote cast at the branch meetings in the respective region.

h) The term of office for regionally elected representatives shall normally be two years and a member may be re-elected to serve for a maximum of three consecutive full terms.

Members of Standing Committee who serve as regionally elected representatives for the maximum number of consecutive terms shall have the right to stand for election to office as regionally elected representatives after a minimum period of one term out of office. At the end of the first year of the first term of office of the regionally elected representatives on Standing Committee, half of the seats of the regionally elected representatives, chosen in alternate numerical sequence, shall become vacant and an election shall be held to fill such vacant seats; all subsequent terms of office for all regionally elected representatives on Standing Committee shall be of two years' duration other than in the case of a by election as provided for in (j).

i) **No member shall serve on Standing Committee in excess of 12 years.**

j) In the event of a vacancy for a regionally elected representative on Standing Committee arising, other than at the end of a term of office, such vacancy shall be filled by election held within 70 school days of the vacancy occurring. The timetable for nominating candidates and for the

conduct of the ballot will be as decided by Standing Committee. The organisation of the ballot shall be in accordance with the standard procedures as approved from time to time. The successful candidate shall serve until the expiry of the term of office of the representative from the relevant region.

- k) Regionally elected representatives on Standing Committee shall have the right to attend branch meetings in their regions, and the role and activities of regionally elected representatives of Standing Committee shall otherwise be as defined by Standing Committee from time to time.
- l) A review of regional electoral divisions and procedures shall be undertaken by a special committee, consisting of the Honorary National Organiser and five members, elected by Convention for that purpose every five years.

(Wexford Tony Boland)

ORGANISATION & ADMINISTRATION

- 53. That any person receiving more than €15000 in expenses from the ASTI have the total amount claimed published in the financial report for convention. **(Clare)**
- 54. This Convention demands that any future sale of Secondary School land for housing development, must include provision for affordable housing for teachers to buy and or rent as an incentive to alleviate the teacher shortage. **(Dublin South County)**
- 55. That the ASTI seek the support of affiliate unions within ICTU to enter into discussions with the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform with the aim to ensure that future Public Service Agreements be compliant with term 5.5.1 of the Public Service Agreement 2024-26 which reads as follows:

5.5.1 The benefits of the Agreement will be confined to those staff and employees represented by unions in membership of the Irish Congress of Trade Unions or other unions or representative associations which have notified the WRC of their intention to comply with the Agreement.

That the ASTI report back to CEC on the results of such discussions at the earliest possible date.

(Drogheda Sean Higgins)

- 56. To facilitate an increase in attendance at ASTI Branch meetings that members, who travel in excess if 10km to attend, shall be eligible to claim travel expenses from their branch at the relevant ASTI rate. Such expenses to be paid following the last branch meeting of the school year, upon verification of attendance from the minute book of the branch. **(Dungarvan)**
- 57. That ASTI contact other relevant unions to initiate the formation of an umbrella organisation, along the lines of Teachers United, to discuss and coordinate on matters of mutual interest and concern. **(Galway)**
- 58. That ASTI contact all relevant Government departments and organisations to request the streamlining of Garda vetting such that vetting from one organisation is automatically transferable to another organisation, removing the need to seek repeat vetting for the same clearance. **(Galway)**
- 59. If a motion is proposed at Convention, and a relevant motion pertaining to this has been passed by Convention or CEC within the preceding five years, an update on the previous motion's progress shall be provided by the General Secretary ahead of its introduction. **(Sligo)**
- 60. That the ASTI establish a Youth Committee of 7 members under 35 years of age, elected every two years at Convention. **(Wexford Tony Boland)**