

MOTIONS FOR ANNUAL CONVENTION 2025

SENIOR CYCLE

MOTION 14: In view of the fact that teachers are required to certify that Additional Assessment Component coursework submitted to SEC is solely that of the student, that the ASTI demand that all teachers be indemnified against any subsequent actions or legal cases taken by students against teachers as a result of the SEC withholding results due to suspected cheating with the aid of AI or other means. **(Clare)**

MOTION 48: That the ASTI refuse to cooperate with the introduction from September 2025 of the redeveloped Senior Cycle unless the following demands are met:

- Specifications for all subjects meet our demands for depth of treatment
- Assessment weightings respect the unique nature of each subject and are not restricted to a 'one size fits all' 40-60 per cent approach
- All necessary documentation including specifications, sample papers, sample marking schemes, and teacher guidelines are made available to teachers in advance of the introduction of any new specification
- Full training is provided to all teachers of the subject
- Agreed ICT resources necessary for Senior Cycle are available in all schools
- All science labs in all schools are brought up to agreed minimum standards.

(Dublin North East) (Requires a ballot)

Amend Motion 48 by the:

- (a) removal of '40-60 percent approach' after 'one size fits all' to be replaced by 'minimum of 40 percent approach' in the second bullet point.
- (b) insert 'at least one year' after 'teachers' and before 'in advance' in the third bullet point.

The amended motion will then read as follows:

That the ASTI refuse to cooperate with the introduction from September 2025 of the redeveloped Senior Cycle unless the following demands are met:

- Specifications for all subjects meet our demands for depth of treatment
- Assessment weightings respect the unique nature of each subject and are not restricted to a 'one size fits all' minimum of 40 per cent approach
- All necessary documentation including specifications, sample papers, sample marking schemes, and teacher guidelines are made available to teachers at least one year in advance of the introduction of any new specification
- Full training is provided to all teachers of the subject
- Agreed ICT resources necessary for Senior Cycle are available in all schools
- All science labs in all schools are brought up to agreed minimum standards.

(Clare)

MOTION 41: 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, storing or correcting of the additional assessment component associated with the senior cycle redevelopment. **(Dublin South County) (Requires a ballot)**

MOTION 51: That, no change to state examinations be introduced until a minimum of two years after sample papers and marking schemes have been published and training for teachers has commenced. **(Galway)**

HEALTH AND SAFETY

MOTION 19: With regard to physical aggression in the classroom, that the ASTI conduct a survey of its members with regard to physical aggression experienced in the workplace and negotiate with the Department of Education to provide the following measures for injured school staff, namely:

1. immediate financial assistance to cover expenses relating to medical bills, therapy sessions and medication.
2. assault leave for teachers for the duration of their medically certified leave.
3. a comprehensive support system for teachers who have become victims of violence.
4. research the correlation between mental health issues and physical escalation by students and establish a best practice model for teachers, should such a correlation be found. **(Drogheda Sean Higgins)**

MOTION 23: That, as a matter of priority, the ASTI negotiate with the Department of Education with the aim of amending the sick leave scheme, as outlined in Circular 0013/2024, so that sick leave days exclude weekends and public holidays. **(Drogheda Sean Higgins)**

MOTION 30: That, in order to support teachers who fall ill, the ASTI seek a doubling of the current sick leave entitlements as a step towards the restoration of the arrangements pertaining before the economic crash of 2008. **(Dublin South 1)**

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF WORK

MOTION 12: That the ASTI negotiate with the Department of Education that any hours spent on extracurricular activities be considered part of Croke Park hours. **(Carbery)**

MOTION 10: That the ASTI commission an independent report into the different options that are available to members so that they can make a more informed choice in choosing the best possible option available to them to improve their pension. This would consider associated costs and benefits for specific pension schemes (AVCs, PRSAs and Notional Service etc). **(Clare)**

EDUCATION

MOTION 44: That the ASTI demand that the grading bands currently used in the Junior Cycle exams be revisited, re-examined and replaced with a fairer system which adequately recognises and rewards the different standards of student results. **(Cork South Paddy Mulcahy)**

Amend Motion 44 by the insertion of “includes a percentage mark and” after the word “which”.

The amended motion will then read as follows:

That the ASTI demand that the grading bands currently used in the Junior Cert exams be revisited, re-examined and replaced with a fairer system which includes a percentage mark and adequately recognises and rewards the different standards of student results. **(Desmond)**

MOTION 43: That the ASTI demand that higher level and ordinary level exam papers are available for all subjects in the Junior Cycle examination, except for Irish, English and Maths where higher, ordinary and foundation levels will be available for examination. **(Cork South Paddy Mulcahy)**

MOTION 11: That the ASTI negotiate with the Department of Education that the role of Additional Educational Needs Coordinator (AEN) is ex quota to ensure the full needs of all AEN students be met. **(Carbery)**

MOTION 35:

Composite Motion:

That the ASTI demand that an independent review be carried out by an international organisation, outside of Ireland, into the quality of all aspects of curriculum design and procedures being undertaken by the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment, including aspects that prevent subject development groups having access to submissions made as part of the public consultation process. **(Dublin North West) (Clare)**

MOTION 39: That the ASTI, in partnership with the TUI, seek to ensure that a comprehensive programme of subject specific CPD take place in the year prior to the implementation of subject specifications in schools. **(Wexford Tony Boland)**

POSTS OF RESPONSIBILITY

MOTION 9: That the ASTI negotiate the allocation of timetabled time allowance for post holders in voluntary secondary schools, equivalent to the provisions currently afforded to colleagues in Education and Training Board (ETB) and Community and Comprehensive schools. **(Stillorgan)**

MOTION 7: That the ASTI negotiate with the management bodies that all vacant AP1 and AP2 posts advertised include details of the duties within that post. **(Carbery)**

EQUALITY

MOTION 20: That the ASTI negotiate with the Department of Education with the aim of introducing paid leave for members who have suffered a miscarriage or who are undergoing IVF treatment. **(Drogheda Sean Higgins)**

MOTION 21: That the ASTI negotiate with the Department of Education with the aim of introducing menopause leave which will allow teachers to request suitable workplace adjustments such as flexibility, time off to attend medical appointments and work task adjustments when teachers are experiencing symptoms. **(Drogheda Sean Higgins)**

SALARIES AND ALLOWANCES

MOTION 3: In order to address the worsening teacher supply crisis, the ASTI, in conjunction with the other teacher unions, urgently demands that teachers' salary scales be shortened in line with other public servants' pay scales especially in light of the negative impact of such long salary scales on teachers' pensions. **(Dublin North West)**

MOTION 6: That the ASTI seek the support of all affiliate unions of ICTU to ensure a reversal of the Increment freeze imposed on ASTI members as a result of FEMPI legislation. **(Wexford Tony Boland)**

MOTION 15: That the ASTI demand that job sharing teachers not be timetabled for more than 3 days per week, if that is the job sharer's preference. **(Cork South Paddy Mulcahy)**

CERTIFICATE EXAMINATIONS

MOTION 49: That the ASTI immediately embark on a high profile and sustained media campaign (including social media) to highlight teachers concerns about the impact of the junior cycle and the new senior cycle on educational standards in Ireland. **(Dublin North West)**

MISCELLANEOUS

1. MOTION 61:

Composite Motion:

That Annual Convention elect a committee of six to;

- research and review ASTI membership levels in our schools
- research the extent of engagement by members at both school and branch level
- explore solutions to the problem of the lack of participation and involvement of teachers in the union (lack of attendance at branch meetings, participation on ASTI national committees and shortage of delegates at convention by some branches)
- find mechanisms and ways to encourage members to get involved.

This Committee should report back with recommendations to Annual Convention in 2026.

(Wexford Tony Boland) (Dublin South County) (Dublin North West) (Drogheda Sean Higgins)