



AGPPA
Australian Government
Primary Principals
Association

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21 July 2022

The Honourable Jason Clare MP, Minister for Education

Dear Minister

I write to you as the president of the Australian Government Primary Principals Association (AGPPA), which is the peak body of government school primary principals in Australia. AGPPA congratulates you on your elevation to the Federal cabinet as the Minister for Education. As president, I look forward to working with you to enhance educational outcomes for students across Australia. Our national organisation represents over 5300 primary school leaders and 1.6 million students across all state and territories. The Association is keen to establish a collaborative partnership with you to help transform student results in this country. As a former student of a government primary school, I am sure you share our members' passion and commitment to ensure that government primary schools are positioned to deliver high levels of literacy and numeracy for every student.

Primary schools play a pivotal role in leading and building communities and fulfilling the aspirations of a nation. Our members inform us that their school communities want a government that prioritises investment in public education to help deliver long-term economic and social growth for Australia. With the change in government our members are hopeful that you and your colleagues will listen to the voices of those leading the profession to determine and implement education policy. The most pressing need is for every student in a government school to receive 100% of the Schooling Resource Standard (SRS) in the next bilateral funding agreements.

Research indicates that school leaders play an instrumental role in shaping the vibrant learning cultures within their schools. For this to occur, school leaders must remain healthy, and the work demands of the profession be realistic. There is significant longitudinal research conducted by Deakin University to indicate that the wellbeing of school leaders has decreased over the last decade. We look forward to working with you to address this decline and help make teaching and school leadership the highly valued and sought-after vocations they once were.

AGPPA also looks forward to:

- Engaging in regular consultation in an open and willing manner.
- Enhancing school leader wellbeing through early identification of risk factors and increased resourcing.
- Boosting the funding for every primary school student, so that the Schooling Resource Standard (SRS) for all Australian students is the same. The SRS funding amounts in 2021 were \$12,099 for each primary school student and \$15,204 for each secondary school student.
- Ensuring that all students in Australian government primary schools receive a minimum of 100% of the SRS.
- Working with states and territories to ensure that government primary schools are fit for purpose to deliver the contemporary Australian Curriculum in full.
- Guaranteeing that state and territory education departments utilise the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data (NCCD) to deliver the full allocation of resourcing to schools for students with complex and additional needs.

The AGPPA National Council represents:

- New South Wales Primary Principals' Association (NSWPPA)
- Victorian Principals' Association (VPA)
- Queensland Association of State School Principals (QASSP)
- Australian Capital Territory Primary Principals' Association (ACTPPA)
- South Australian Primary Principals' Association (SAPPA)
- Western Australian Primary Principals Association (WAPPA)
- Tasmanian Principals' Association (TPA)
- Northern Territory Principals' Association (NTPA).

The AGPPA national executive has over the last six years developed a very strong relationship with the former shadow education spokesperson, Ms Tanya Plibersek. Ms Plibersek was always prepared to engage with the profession to develop and articulate good education policy that would serve the nation well. Our organisation looks forward to working with you to strengthen the economic foundation of this country through investing in government primary school education.

Our executive officer has attempted to arrange a meeting with you, so that we might ensure that the voice of the Association that represents 1.6 million students in government primary schools is heard.

I wish you every success in your new role and look forward to developing a long-term partnership with you to help reshape the educational foundation of this country to maximise outcomes for every Australian student.

Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Pat Murphy', enclosed within a simple, hand-drawn oval border.

Pat Murphy
President
Australian Government Primary Principals Association