



New South Wales Teachers Federation
a branch of the Australian Education Union
AEU NSW Teachers Federation Branch ABN 86 600 150 697



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NSW Teachers Federation Media Release

Educators unite to urge Premier to hold the line with Feds on schools funding

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Education organisations representing teachers and principals have today written to NSW Premier Mike Baird, asking him to maintain his “highly principled and very public position” that the state’s six year Gonski funding agreement with the Commonwealth be honoured in full.

The correspondence was the shared response of the NSW Teachers Federation, the NSW Secondary Principals’ Council and the NSW Primary Principals’ Association, to news that the Prime Minister was seeking a short term deal with the states to restore some of the \$80 billion in funding cuts inflicted by the Federal Government on state education and health services.

NSW Teachers Federation President Maurie Mulheron said today that school students in NSW deserved more than a quick and dirty deal that would erode education gains already starting to be made through the Gonski agreement.

“Schools across NSW are reporting significant improvements in student learning outcomes due to Gonski funding.”

“Premier Baird must reject the temptation to help out a Prime Minister in electoral trouble who is clearly seeking to shut down Gonski as a public issue ahead of the Federal election, just as his predecessor, Tony Abbott, attempted before the last election.”

“The students and parents of NSW deserve full Gonski funding and strongly support that outcome. As educators, we call on the Premier to hold the line and not capitulate to an inferior outcome that would see programs shut down and resources lost.”

The correspondence from the three organisations to Premier Baird states: “As your government has pointed out, a failure to deliver the full funding will have a profound impact on school education in NSW with students from disadvantaged backgrounds the most affected.”

“As you have repeatedly stated, the Gonski agreement was signed in good faith with the Commonwealth in 2013. The State Government has made provision for the full funding and is right to expect the Commonwealth to honour it.”

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