



Australian Council of State School Organisations

One voice for every child in public education

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A new day and a new Minister

The Australian Council of State School Organisations (ACSSO) congratulates the new Minister for Education and Training, The Hon. Dan Tehan MP on his appointment to this vitally important position.

ACSSO will continue to lobby for Fair, Simple and Transparent education policy – with funding based on true need and no special deals. There are complex policy issues at play in the discussions with states and territories around the new funding model and the implementation of the recommendations of the Gonski panel's review to achieve educational excellence in Australian schools.

"We note with interest the Minister's past experience as Social Services Minister and the inherent opportunity to address disadvantage in education, and trauma informed practice" Was the response today of the President of ACSSO, Phillip Spratt.

"After the farcical events of last week and the piercingly shrill cry of entitlement from the Catholic Bishops where the right wing of the Liberal party appears to have abandoned all pretext of caring about the interests of the students, parents, staff and wider communities of our nation's fully inclusive public schools we need to see stability, fairness and renewed objectivity in education policy

"Dan Tehan's priority must be to reaffirm the integrity of Fair, Simple and Transparent, and truly needs based funding agreements with no special deals. With speculation around a new special deal for Catholic schools we urge him to be resolute and resist the temptation to give in to such powerful vested interests

"The National School Resourcing Board has delivered the report on its review of the socio-economic status score methodology in a way that should resolve those issues for non-government sectors. The States and Territories are close to signing their new agreements with the Commonwealth and the children, families, and educators in our nation's fully inclusive public schools need the certainty and knowledge that their future is secure with no last-minute special deals for non-government schools

"As advocates for public education we look forward to meeting with the Minister at the earliest opportunity where we can continue to put the case for improving policy; with so much at stake for our children's future it has to be right" concluded Mr Spratt

For further information

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