



# Australian Council of State School Organisations

*One voice for every child in public education*

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## PRIME MINISTER ABANDONS PUBLIC EDUCATION..?

**MEDIA RELEASE**

“The latest announcement with regard to the funding of public education by the Prime Minister of Australia leaves us nothing short of total astonishment.” This was the response today of the President of the Australian Council of State School Organisations (ACSSO), Phillip Spratt.

“The Prime Minister appears to have abandoned Public Education” he says

“Our children are our nation’s future and should be a Federal government’s top priority. Instead, it appears that the Prime Minister has little regard for 2.4 million of Australia’s school children – those who attend our public schools, together with the parents and communities that support them. Is he sidestepping the funding lobby and absolving his responsibilities to make a political point?”

The Federal Government has the responsibility for gathering the nation’s tax and distributing for the benefit of all Australians according to need. Public education is one such public good - it is the foundation of what this country is built on.

“We need a funding system that is simple, transparent and fair. We know from the recent report by the Grattan Institute that disadvantage has a huge impact on educational outcomes – this can only be exacerbated by this proposed arrangement” he continued

The board of the Australian Council of State School Organisation will be meeting this weekend in Canberra to deliberate the outcomes of COAG with regard to Public Education and its future.

For further information

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