

MEDIA RELEASE

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NATIONAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE 2009

Schools – heart of our community

*Wrest Point Hotel, Hobart, Tasmania
12–13 October 2009*

The Australian Council of State School Organisations (ACSSO) and the Australian Parents Council (APC) are proud to present a truly National Education Conference to consider and explore issues bearing on the effective learning and positive personal development of young people in school communities in all parts of Australia.

The two organising bodies - the peak national bodies representing the interests of parents of students in both public and private schools in Australia - have brought together leading international and national researchers and commentators to explore the current state and future directions of education and how it shapes our society.

Children's academic learning and social development improves when schools, families and community work together. How then, do we build strong partnerships that reflect community values?

The needs and responsibilities of parents, students, teachers and principals have changed in the 21st Century. How then, can we meet these emerging needs and responsibilities?

Addressing Australian educators, parents, academics and policy makers, leading figures in education from Australia and overseas will present at this conference:

- **The Hon David Bartlett MP**, Premier of Tasmania and Minister for Education
- **Dr Neil Hawkes** – UK educator and international education consultant and adviser
- **Professor Ian Hay**, University of Tasmania
- **Greg Gebhart**, Australian Communications & Media Authority (ACMA) - one of Australia's leading education technologists
- **Randal Markey**, Communications Manager, Australian Mobile Telecommunications Association (AMTA)
- **Tamerlaine Beasley**, Managing Director, Beasley Intercultural - international management consultant and facilitator
- **Dr Becky Shelley**, Tasmanian Manager, Smith Family
- **Dr Philip Hughes**, Christian Research Association & Ruth Pinkerton, Scripture Union, Tasmania
- **Lyn Allison**, former leader of the Australian Democrats
- **Dr Tim Sprod**, Association for Philosophy in Tasmanian Schools
- **Angie Wilcock**, Director, High Hopes Educational Services
- **Bronwyn Sheehan**, Director, The Pyjama Foundation - Queenslander of the Year 2008
- **Dr Denis Muller**, University of Melbourne

AUSTRALIAN COUNCIL OF STATE SCHOOL ORGANISATIONS (ACSSO)

The national voice of parents of students in Australia's public schools and their school communities

These speakers and more will be available for limited media interview and photo opportunities during the two days of the conference, as will the Presidents of the organising bodies:

Peter Garrigan, President, ACSSO

Caz Bosch, President, APC

For further information media opportunities, contact the Australian Council of State School Organisations:

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