

MEDIA RELEASE

for immediate release: Monday 14 November 2011

ACT NOW FOR PUBLIC EDUCATION

Tomorrow, 15 November 2011, parents, teachers and principals will be participating in a **National Day of Action** in support of fairer funding to Public Education.

Speaking on the eve of the Day of Action, Peter Garrigan, President of the Australian Council of State School Organisations, stated, "We are calling on all public school communities to send a clear message to the Gonski Review Panel and the Federal Government that the current model of funding is inequitable and needs urgent overhaul."

"This is the first time in 30 years that the funding to education has had such an in-depth review and as school communities we need to ensure that our message is clear. Public Schools educate nearly 70% of all young Australians. Public Schools educate the majority of students with disabilities. Public Schools educate the majority of our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students. Public Schools are inclusive of all."

"Therefore it is absolutely essential that the processes for funding education are fair, open and transparent. For far too long the taxpayers of Australia have been saddled with a funding model that is biased, convoluted and hidden."

"There is absolutely no doubt that Public Education is the backbone of the Australian Society – it is now up to the Federal government to ensure that public education receives the funding it deserves to deliver education of the highest quality, fit for the 21st Century for these young Australians."

"We are calling for parents, teachers and principals to unite on the National Day of Action tomorrow. On this day we are encouraging the public education community to send a message to David Gonski, Minister Garrett and your local member about the benefits of greater investment in public schools for young Australians and our nation."

To participate: www.forourfuture.org.au

For further comment:

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Australian Council of State School Organisations

<http://www.acsso.org.au>