

Australian Council of State School Organisations Limited

One voice for every child in public education



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MEDIA RELEASE

Today, May 28, Public Education Day is celebrated in public school communities across Australia.

"This day provides an additional opportunity to highlight the wonderful achievements of public education and its place as a cornerstone of Australian society," announced Andrew Bidwell, President of the Australian Council of State School Organisations (ACSSO). "Many schools normally take this opportunity to plan and celebrate with a variety of activities., It may look very different this year, but it is still just as significant."

"This year Public Education day also provides an ideal opportunity to reflect on and acknowledge the excellent work undertaken by school staff, families and students in these times of isolation with COVID-19. New classroom structures, such as online learning, have enabled our young people to stay connected to their schools, their teachers and their friends during this difficult time. It's also been a powerful example of the importance of family and community engagement"

"Our local politicians must gain a greater understanding of how important a well-funded public education system is to their local communities and our nation. Government acknowledgement, both state and federal, of the true value of public education is critical to the future of a democratic Australia."

Lessons learned from the COVID-19 experience make it clear that public education requires optimum resourcing to ensure a sound economic future for our nation.

"Education funding in Australia must be fair, simple and transparent to allow all young people, of all backgrounds, the freedom to succeed in their local schools. As a smart country we must place the future of our young people of our nation, particularly those who face challenges, first."

"Our public schools are increasingly the first choice for families and should rightly be the number one investment priority for all government levels." Mr Bidwell concluded.

Happy Public Education Day!

For further comment:

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