



MEDIA RELEASE

Australian Council of State School Organisations Limited

Parents say thank you to our Primary School Principals

Today, Friday August 5, is set aside to celebrate National Primary Schools' Principals Day 2022. The Australian Council of State School Organisations (ACSSO) supports this initiative recognising the vital role principals play in our schools across the nation, particularly in the early years.

Great principals are key to setting a constructive tone and culture within a school. Particularly when it comes to Family Engagement. They provide the leadership essential to ensure collaboration and commitment to establish opportunities and access for the students in their care.

"This year we've noted, once again, the high calibre and immense capacity of our principals through their leadership during the challenges of teacher shortages, floods and the ongoing illnesses of influenza and of course COVID-19" claimed Sharron Healy, President. "The strength of their expertise and knowledge brings a significant contribution to the school they lead, the staff and the community it serves.

"2022 has added to the complexities of last 2 years as the pandemic has become less predictive and far more aggressive. We also are changing the way we deal with the virus and its ongoing mutations, proving quite a challenge with ongoing absenteeism. MORE THAN EVER, the role of the Principal, with the understanding of their school community and relationships they have built, has been critical to the continuity of education across the nation."

In 2019, Australia's Primary Principals were at the forefront when they identified anxiety as a major cause for concern in our primary aged students. The challenges of the last two and a half years has only exacerbated that issue – we are keen to work with our school leaders on this.

Today we encourage school communities across Australia to take the opportunity to acknowledge the work of their principal and celebrate the achievements they have led.

For further comment:

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