



Dear P&C President

Local Schools, Local Decisions is one of the biggest changes to public education in decades. These reforms are about our students. The needs of students and schools are unique and principals should have the authority to make decisions about how to use the resources at their disposal to get the best outcomes for students.

I want our principals to have the freedom to work with teachers and parents to innovate and try new ways to support student learning. At the moment we have a system that sometimes gets in the way of school innovation.

I believe the reforms will strike the right balance between giving your child's school more authority to innovate while maintaining a strong and equitable public education system.

I would like to take this opportunity to dispel some misinformation that is circulating in the community.

The Minister for Education, Adrian Piccoli has committed to retaining a state-wide staffing system. Incentive transfers will remain to assist in staffing all schools, especially our rural and remote schools. When a teacher vacancy occurs, schools will be able to choose how to fill every second position after incentive transfers and Aboriginal employment applicants have been placed.

The Minister has also given assurances that the class size policy will remain in place and permanent teachers will not lose their jobs.

The Minister has recorded a vodcast in which he responds to a range of claims being made about Local Schools, Local Decisions. You can view the vodcast and learn more about the reforms on the Department's website at www.schools.nsw.edu.au/lslsd

I also encourage you to read the article by Robyn McKerihan, Regional Director for Local Schools, Local Decisions in the next issue of the P&C journal.

Thank you for your continued support of our schools and for taking the time to read this letter. I encourage you to share the contents of this letter with your local association and parents.

Warm regards

Dr Michele Bruniges AM
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MANAGING DIRECTOR OF TAFE NSW
18 June 2012