



Australian Education Union - Federal Office

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EDUCATION REVOLUTION SHOULD START AT COAG

The Australian Education Union calls on all levels of government to commit to properly resourcing Australian public schools at today's Council of Australian Governments meeting.

"This is a first and golden opportunity for the new Federal Government and the states to work together to actually address education funding shortfalls," said Acting AEU Federal President Angelo Gavrielatos.

"The blame shifting games of the last eleven years have delivered a situation where, according to a government report, public schools are under-funded to the tune of \$2.9 billion per year.

"Australia's children deserve better.

"The Rudd Government should waste no time in redressing the decade of Coalition neglect.

"Australia is now ranked 3rd last against 26 other OECD nations when it comes to public expenditure on education.

"We have above average class sizes and below average teacher salaries.

"Teachers accept our responsibility to continue to strive to achieve the highest standards of excellence for every child in our classrooms. However teaching doesn't occur in a vacuum.

"It's time governments fulfil their responsibility to properly fund our schools.

"The Education Revolution should begin at this COAG meeting and it should begin with an injection of substantial funding for public schools.

"Our great public schools can be even greater with proper funding."

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