



THE HON JULIA GILLARD MP
DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER

Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Mr Angelo Gavrielatos
Federal President
Australian Education Union
Ground Floor
120 Clarendon Street
SOUTHBANK VIC 3006

Dear Mr Gavrielatos

The Rudd Government is committed to:

- the transformative power of high quality education
- the value of transparency and accountability for ongoing school improvement
- effective assessment and reporting of student achievement including the diagnostic value of the NAPLAN
- the power of accurate data to provide comparable national reporting of school effectiveness
- ensuring that educational disadvantage is addressed, and
- an opposition to the misuse of student performance data including simplistic league tables.

The Rudd Government has pursued these commitments in the development and delivery of the Education Revolution including the My School website.

The Rudd Government, in conjunction with state and territory governments, has consistently stated its intention to add to the My School website by including value added data such as the improvement in student performance across two tiers of educational achievement, the resources available to schools and other measures of school effectiveness.

Further, the Rudd Government is committed to consultation between ACARA and stakeholders in this process.

The Rudd Government will ask ACARA to form a working party of educational experts including literacy and numeracy specialists, principal organisations and representatives of the AEU and the IEUA to provide further professional advice on the use of student performance data and other indicators of school effectiveness as ACARA develops additional improvements to the My School Website which will include the 2010 NAPLAN data, in line with Government commitments above.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Julia Gillard".

Julia Gillard
Minister for Education