

Committee Secretary
Senate Select Committee on School Funding
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600
Australia

Submission to the Senate Select Committee on School Funding

135 students. Warrnambool.

Warrnambool West currently has a significant number of students who are 'at risk' both academically and in the area of mental health. The additional resources would be used to effectively deliver a wide range of literacy and numeracy intervention programs. The school currently has the staff members trained and some of the resources required. However, we are currently unable to free up these trained staff members to deliver such the intervention that would have a direct positive impact of student achievement. The resources would also be used to fund a staff member who could link closely with the community and support organisations to deliver programs and approaches that will support families, improve student mental health and subsequently improve student achievement

Warrnambool West features students in all the areas listed above. The use of additional resources includes all students, including Koorie, ESL and low SES students.

Additional resources would allow staff to further enhance their knowledge of intervention programs, enable them to work more consistently in Professional Learning Teams and permit a greater number of staff to be educated in the appropriate intervention programs

Warrnambool West Primary School is currently in a position where the only way

intervention programs can be done is either by doubling up classes or by completing the intervention programs within the general classroom. Both of which reduce the effectiveness of the intervention. It is also vital that the school have the ability to use this funding in the areas to which it sees as the most vital. If the Gonski money was to come via the State Government and then be tagged for use in certain ways, it may not be the best use of resources. I agree with a high degree of accountability but the school should have a significant role in determining the expenditure of the Gonski funding

Submitted on behalf of Warrnambool West Primary School

Monday 3 March 2014