Committee Secretary
Senate Select Committee on School Funding
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Submission to the Senate Select Committee on School Funding

My name is Sue and I am a teacher at an inner suburban school in Melbourne. Our school is committed to providing all the children with the best possible education that we can, as we believe that all children have a right to learn and get the support they need in order to be able to do so, for themselves and their communities. Sadly, this goal is difficult for some students. Through no fault of their own they have learning, social, emotional and academic issues that can compromise their wellbeing and the achievement of their potential.

The government committment to providing for on-going support for all students is a necessary first step in assisting us to do our jobs. I would like to see the full implementation of the Gonski reforms. This would go some way to recognising and funding the necessary support for all students, and the extra support for those students for whom learning is a real challenge. We can no longer do more with less.

The benefits of on-going and up graded funding for our school would mean that we could employ more teachers to provide the special help that some of our students need in order to learn. It would provide the teachers with on-going professional development to continue to make decisions about our teaching when combined with the best reasearch.

For the students it would mean that they would get the help they need in order to live productive and fulfilling lives.

A committment to the Gonski reforms would provide a more caring and compassionate society, and a belief that the most vulnerable are being supported.

Submitted by Sue Worcester, Teacher Friday 14 March 2014