



educational  
transformations

Monday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2010

Committee Secretary  
Senate Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Committee  
PO Box 6100  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Committee Secretary,

**Inquiry into the administration and reporting of NAPLAN testing**

I respond to the invitation to provide a submission to the Inquiry, and offer the following commentary, on terms of reference

(c) the impact of the NAPLAN assessment and reporting regime &

(d) international approaches to the publication of comparative reporting of the results, i.e. 'league tables';

1. A copy of *'Why Not the Best Schools?' What we have learned from outstanding schools around the world. By Brian J Caldwell and Jessica Harris. 2008.* I include particular reference to Chapter 9. Strategies for an Education Revolution.
2. *A Principled Stand on National Testing. (January 2010)* This article was in response to the Australian Education Union's recent call for a boycott of the NAPLAN testing. It examines some shortcomings of the testing regime, and specifically looks at the international experience of testing.
3. *Where is the Innovation, where is the Passion? (March 2010)* Innovation and passion are alive and well in schools throughout Australia. However capacities in these areas are increasingly constrained in a command-and-control approach that is leading to an unprecedented level of centralisation, standardisation and bureaucratisation.

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission to the enquiry.

Yours Sincerely

Brian J Caldwell

*Managing Director of Educational Transformations and Professorial Fellow at the University of Melbourne, where he served as Dean of Education from 1998 to 2004.*