

My main concern with regard to the publishing of school data relates to my extensive experience in lower SES schools. The teachers in these schools, from being willing to try new ideas and caring deeply for the wellbeing of their clientele, appear to me have become very cynical about the education process. All we hear about now is NAPLAN results, not only because schools are rated according to them, but also because so much funding is tied to improving in these areas alone. Nothing is important or valuable anymore unless it can be measured with numbers and compared to 'standards'. This, for me, is beginning to destroy teaching and teachers. The pressure is phenomenal, teachers are giving up because they know their clientele and know what they can realistically achieve. Morale is at an all time low and I can't see a way ahead for improving this under current conditions. WE ARE NOT CREATING HAMBURGERS!! We are dealing with people, emotions, personalities, egos, friendships, trust, care and passion. These are not numbers!!