

Mike Baird to maintain push for full Gonski funding

Education

Date

April 29, 2014

- [Read later](#)

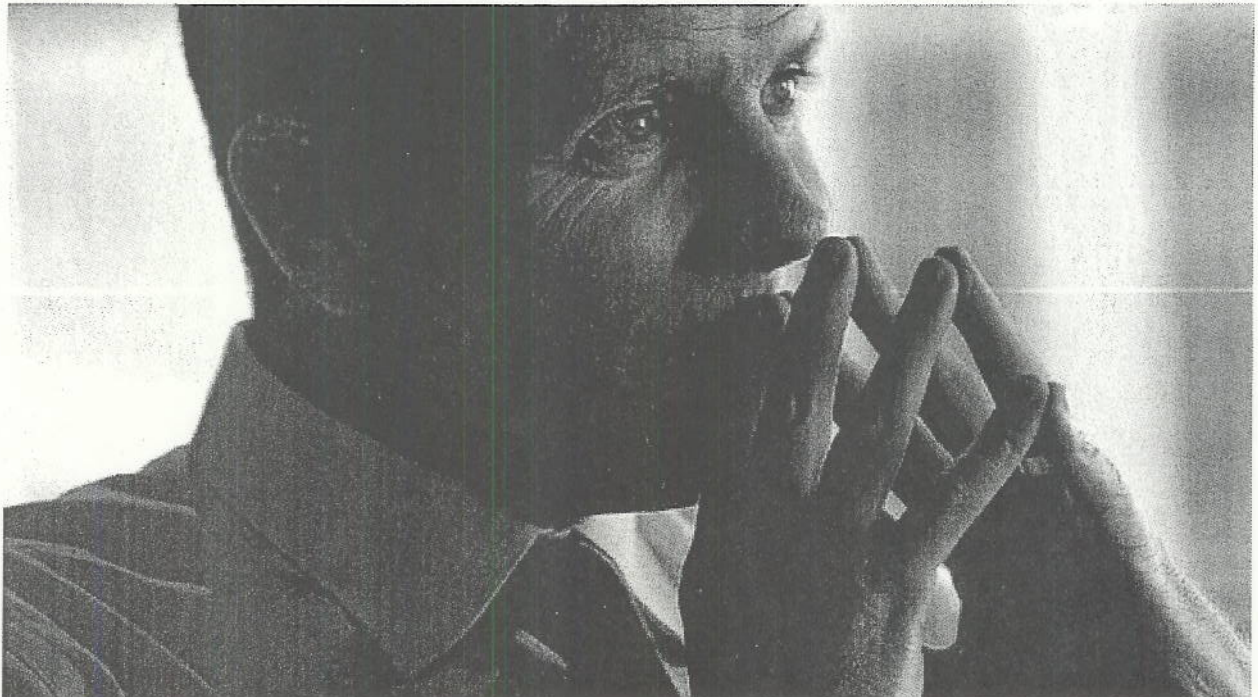
Alexandra Smith

Education Editor

[View more articles from Alexandra Smith](#)

[Follow Alexandra on Twitter](#) [Email Alexandra](#)

-
-
-
- [inShare](#)
- [submit to reddit](#)
- [Email article](#)
- [Print](#)
- [Reprints & permissions](#)
-



Premier Mike Baird is pushing the federal government to stick to its Gonski promises.

The NSW Premier Mike Baird says he will not shy away from pressing his federal counterparts to fund the full six years of the Gonski school funding reforms.

The Premier said he would insist that the federal government stick to the signed agreement.

The Abbott government has committed to fund existing state-federal agreements for four of the six years and then renegotiate them.

"The NSW Government remains committed to the agreement and we will strongly advocate that the commonwealth government similarly agree to maintain the agreement for the full six-year period," Mr Baird said.

"NSW has always supported the Gonski reforms, and remains committed to the National Education Reform Agreement. We have amended our Education Act to change the way we fund non-government schools in accordance with the NERA."

It is understood the funding model will be discussed on Friday at the Council of Australian Governments meeting. Mr Baird has been urged by NSW principals to continue the fight started by his predecessor Barry O'Farrell.

In a joint letter sent to Mr Baird on Tuesday, the NSW Secondary Principals' Council, the NSW Primary Principals' Council and the NSW Teachers Federation urged the premier to push for the funding agreement to be honoured.

"The refusal of the federal Treasurer, to date, to guarantee the federal government's share of the fifth and sixth years of Gonski funding in this year's federal Budget is deeply worrying," the letter said.

"Your predecessor as Premier was a strong supporter of the Gonski funding model and we are hopeful that this support will continue under your leadership."

The letter said that "to its credit" the state government had committed its share of the funding and "expressed its support for the six-year funding model that is designed to lift all schools to a minimum school resource standard".

"We believe it is essential that the federal government does not break the agreement," the letter said.

Read more: <http://www.smh.com.au/national/education/mike-baird-to-maintain-push-for-full-gonski-funding-20140429-zr1at.html#ixzz33dEDhRMm>