

Primary principals welcome Labor education funding commitment

The Australian Primary Principals Association (APPA) welcomes the Labor Party's commitment to fully implement and fund school education based on the School Funding arrangements proposed in the Review of Funding for Schooling (Gonski Review).

APPA President, Dennis Yarrington, said that today's announcement is important for primary schools across the country.

Mr Yarrington said,

"The early years are where the educational foundation for a child's future is established and where parents and schools work together to deliver the best outcomes for every child.

"In an internationally competitive environment, the demands upon schools and school principals continue to grow. APPA has long held the position that our schools must have the staff and physical resources to meet the needs of children from all backgrounds and every circumstance. We know, too, that the investment in early and sustained intervention reaps the greatest reward.

"Australians have high aspirations for primary education and primary school principals are determined to see each child reach his or her potential."

Mr Yarrington also said that meeting the challenges ahead requires schools having high quality leadership.

"APPA welcomes the proposal for a national approach to formal school leadership pathways.

"We look forward to working with the Leader of the Opposition, the Hon Bill Shorten MP, and Shadow Minister, the Hon Kate Ellis MP, in building the capacity of our school leaders and their staff."

APPA is the professional association representing over 7,000 Government, Catholic and Independent primary school principals across Australia.

28 January 2016

**Media contact: Dennis Yarrington (APPA President)
0466 655 468**