



FEDERATION OF PARENTS AND CITIZENS' ASSOCIATIONS OF NEW SOUTH WALES

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**\*\*\*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE\*\*\***

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MEDIA RELEASE

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***P&C Federation announces Annual Conference 2008***  
***Public Education: Building Australia's Future***

The Federation of Parents and Citizens' Associations of NSW Annual Conference will be held on July 25, 26 and 27 at the Commercial Club (Albury), 618 Dean Street, Albury.

The Conference theme this year is "***Public Education – Building Australia's Future***" and will showcase the qualities of diversity, inclusion and excellence that make Public Schools the greatest sphere of change for the next generation.

Once every four years a "Country Conference" is held to bring the Federation to all parts of NSW. Previous country locations include Coffs Harbour and Dubbo. The Federation is looking forward to celebrate in Albury this year.

The Conference will be **officially opened by the Hon. Virginia Judge**, Parliamentary Secretary for Education and Training at 12.45 pm on Friday, 25 July.

Many workshops have been planned to address hot topics in education and to equip parents to get more involved in the school community. Workshop themes include: Connected Classrooms, Gender Equity in Education, Writing Successful Grant Applications, Pathway Opportunities for Young People and more.

The Federation is delighted to welcome back Professor Nick Klomp, Head of the School of Environmental and Information Sciences for Charles Sturt University as this year's Keynote Speaker. Professor Klomp is also well known as the Science Correspondent for ABC Radio. Professor Klomp will be speaking at the Conference Dinner sponsored by Teacher's Credit Union at 6.00 pm on Saturday, 26 July. He will be addressing the Conference theme and elaborate on the unique position of Public Schools to impact the future.

This year the Conference delegates from every region of NSW will be voting to elect the positions of President, Metropolitan Vice-President, and Country Vice-President.

One of the major functions carried out at Annual Conference is the evaluation of Federation's policy and procedures. Following the success of the recent internal review, delegates will be debating proposed reforms to the structure and function of the Federation to ensure the organisation is prepared for new opportunities arising in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

With the changes in the teacher staffing system over the past year, discussions about this impact on schools from every region will provide vital insight for the role of parents in the year ahead.

One of the most critical segments of this year's Conference will be during the fifth and final business session on Sunday, 27 July. During this session, space has been set aside to raise new issues. The revelations of disproportionate funding for the wealthiest private schools, real-terms budget cuts for public

education and no practical plans for how to accept and maintain the Digital Education Revolution funding are some of the key concerns likely to be tackled.

Media are invited to attend the Conference, please contact Sharon-Roni Briggs on 0402 918 799 to arrange for a pass.

Contact:	Dianne Giblin, President	0404 802637
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Friday, 18 July 2008