



FEDERATION OF PARENTS AND CITIZENS' ASSOCIATIONS OF NEW SOUTH WALES

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

MEDIA RELEASE

P&C Federation announces Annual Conference 2009
Public Education: Building Australia's Future

The Federation of Parents and Citizens' Associations of NSW Annual Conference will be held on July 31st, and August 1st and 2nd at the Penrith Panthers Club, Mulgoa Road Penrith NSW 2750 .

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.

The Conference will be **officially opened by the Hon. Verity Firth**, the Minister for Education and Training at 1:20pm on Friday, 31st July 2009.

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: The Resilience Doughnut, Technology in classrooms, Positive Behaviour for learning and Canteen Management.

The Federation is delighted to welcome Fred Watson, Astronomer in Charge of the Anglo-Australian Observatory at Coonabarabran as this year's key speaker. Fred is well known for his astronomy slots on a number of local ABC Radio stations, has a regular column in "Australian Geographic" and has written a number of books including "Why is Uranus Upside Down?" Fred is a strong supporter of public education being a Director of the Public Education Foundation and, most importantly, is a very entertaining speaker. Fred will be speaking at the Conference Dinner.

The Conference has on its agenda a number of items for debate include flueless gas heaters; the sale of land at Hurlstone Agricultural High School; Ethics in Special Religious Education time for non scripture goers and bus times.

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

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 21st Century.

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

Contact: Dianne Giblin, President 0404 802637
 Sharon Johnson, Publicity Officer 0402 918 799

Wednesday, 29th July 2009