

## PM Turnbull Must Not Palm off Responsibility for Public Schools, say Parents.

April 1, 2016

Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull must abandon his plan to palm off responsibility for public school funding if Australia wants a world-class education system, parents said today.

Mr Turnbull announced that the federal government would hand responsibility for public school funding to the states but continue to finance private schools.

NSW P&C Federation president Jason Vials said the lines of responsibility for public schools are clear and the federal government should step up to the plate.

The Gonski Review found that the federal government needs to inject an extra \$5 billion annually into the school system nationally to give every child a chance at a high quality education.

“The Coalition government has failed to come up with the funding that the Gonski review identified as needed to create a world-class education system in Australia,” Mr Vials said.

“Parents are appalled that the federal government would attempt to sidestep its responsibility for public education funding by palming it off to the states.”

Even granted the power to collect income tax, the states would have a restricted number of sources from which to raise funds for schools in comparison to the federal government.

“Mr Turnbull should stop shirking responsibility for public schools if he wants an innovative and agile economy,” Mr Vials said.

“Every child is entitled to a top class education and economists say that it is the number one driver of economic development.”

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