**SAMPLE LETTER TO SEND TO CANDIDATES**

**(Insert Your P&C Associations Letterhead)**

Dear (Insert Candidate’s name),

The (insert school name) Parents and Citizens Association has long supported the rights of all children to attend an education system that is free, secular and open to all and has committed to highlighting areas of need within the public education in New South Wales.

As the 2023 state election draws closer our P&C Association seeks to gain a clearer view on your policies and most importantly, your stand on education in the public sector.

We have attached a list of questions that we believe are of the most relevance to our P&C members and would greatly appreciate a written response on these questions raised so that we may relay the outcome on to our members and our community.

1. What is your party’s position on NSW funding of Public Education?
2. *(Please choose either a) or b) depending on your members status in the government)*
3. **Question for a current sitting member of the government** - Why do you fund public education so poorly, given that Public Schools accommodate –
* 64.5% of all school students in NSW\*
* 82.9% Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students\*
* 1 in 5 NSW public school students who have a disability\*\*
* 85% of NSW public school students with disability learn in mainstream schools, 12% learn in

support classes and 3% in schools for specific purposes\*\*

1. **Question for a non-sitting member of the government** – With taking into consideration that

Public Schools accommodate –

* 64.5% of all school students in NSW\*
* 82.9% Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students\*
* 1 in 5 NSW public school students who have a disability\*\*
* 85% of NSW public school students with disability learn in mainstream schools, 12% learn in support classes and 3% in schools for specific purposes\*\*

\*Australian Bureau of Statistic 2021

\*\*NSW Department of Education. Progress Report 2021

How do you intend to ensure that there is serious progression in the current funding and resourcing models that are relevant to these statistics, in a time frame that you can be held accountable to?

1. How will you actively assist ensuring there is a quality teacher in every classroom across the state, with a lower student number per teacher for optimum learning opportunity being the end goal?
2. How do you propose to ensure that public school children have adequate resources inside and outside of the classroom such as libraries, sporting complexes and community activities that support the wellbeing and educational outcomes for all public school students?

The Parents and Citizens Association of (insert school name) appreciates your answering these questions raised.

Yours Sincerely

(Insert name)

**(Insert Title) of P&C Association (insert school name)**