



## Inside



**Computers In Classrooms**



**Bullying In Schools**



**The Lost Boys**

## Enterprise Bargaining – No Bargain For Schools

**Negotiations have begun between the AEU and DECS, for a new Enterprise Bargaining Agreement (EBA). You might think this is just about wages and conditions and that it doesn't affect how your child is taught. Think again....**

The EBA goes well beyond teacher salaries and conditions. It also determines how your school is funded. A crude, teacher-focussed, 'step' funding model decides how many teachers your school is entitled to, effectively blocking the flow of funds into your school, unless you have exactly the 'right' number of students.

For example, just two extra students could make the difference between your school having two classes of 14 students, or one class of 26.

SAASSO is calling on the State Government to end the funding blockade, remove the school funding model from the EBA and implement a model that focuses on our children...and let parents and staff on Governing Councils back into the decision making process.

Give our schools true flexibility to respond to our children's needs, allow individual schools to be staffed in a manner that best suits student needs, reduce stress on teachers and principals, allow Governing Councils to function properly, support initiatives like the New SACE and most importantly – improve the quality of education.

In short, let the AEU focus on the salaries and conditions of teachers and let schools focus on educating our children.

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# Your Association



## SAASSO's Role

The South Australian Association of State School Organisations is the peak training, support and advisory body for state school Governing Councils.

## SAASSO's Clients

Our clients are the affiliated schools and Governing Councils and pre-school management committees. SAASSO represents more than 90 per cent of state primary and secondary schools.

## SAASSO's Purpose

Our purpose is to support Governing Councils acquit their roles & responsibilities, to improve and enhance student well-being and achievement.

## SAASSO's Services

### Professional Development for Councillors:

The governance of a school is a demanding task, with numerous responsibilities. SAASSO provides a range of training courses, specifically designed to address the skill set required by Governing Councils.

- Governance – School & Pre-School
- School Budget – School & Pre-School

- Out of School Hours Care
- Canteen
- Meeting Procedures
- Aboriginal Participation
- Principal Selection Panel

### Advisory Service:

Governing Councils are required to adhere to the Education Act, a constitution and the DECS Administrative Instructions & Guidelines. Pre-schools are bound by the Children's Services Act. The amount of information and legislation can be overwhelming. SAASSO provides, to its Affiliates:

- a repository of useful and required information on the SAASSO website
- up to date information, data and research via School Post
- a telephone advisory service for specific queries.

### Representation:

Despite the recent advancements in local governance of schools, there is still much to be achieved. Through its staff and volunteer board, SAASSO represents Governing Councils on

dozens of committees, boards and research bodies to further enhance the quality of education and student well-being in South Australia.

### Mediation & Lobbying:

As an independent, not for profit association, SAASSO can work for and on behalf of education and individual Governing Councils in issues with DECS, The Minister and the Federal Government, ensuring that the voice of parents and the needs of local communities are heard.

### Grants:

SAASSO is directly involved in several financial education grants and provides expert advice on a range of financial assistance packages available to schools and students.

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### **School Post**

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