



OUR SHIELD HOPES ARE IN SAFE HANDS

CROUCHED behind the stumps in his family's backyard, he's a picture of concentration.

This little tacker has grown up into one of Australia's top bowlers, whose efforts have given the SA Redbacks a chance to win their first Sheffield Shield title in 20 years. Today, pacerman Chadd Sayers, inset, will help lead the charge as SA takes on reigning champions Victoria in the desert heat at Traeger Park, Alice Springs.

In Sport, read Richard Earle's profile of Sayers, the competition's leading wicket-taker, whose 54 scalps for 2016-17 must surely have caught the eye of Test selectors.



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Parents slam bonus to quit

TIM WILLIAMS
 EDUCATION REPORTER

PARENTS have overwhelmingly rejected State Government plans to offer \$50,000 "burnout bonuses" for older teachers to leave the profession.

More than 90 per cent of parents who responded to a survey by the SA Association of State School Organisations opposed the move.

The wideranging survey by the key parent group also found just a quarter of mums and dads

believed anti-bullying policies at their children's schools were effective.

More than 80 per cent also wanted unvaccinated children banned from preschool - in line with a State Government proposal and a Federal Government push for bans.

Teachers aged over 55, who have not done "significant" professional development in teaching methods in the past three years, will be eligible for the teacher renewal program, dubbed the "burnout bonus".

The scheme is designed to refresh the workforce by creating 100 vacancies for contract and graduate teachers to move into permanent jobs.

As well as a parent backlash, 70 per cent of the 76 principals who took part in the survey opposed the payouts. Sixty per cent of teachers gave support.

Overwhelming majorities of parents and principals said the Government should focus on rewarding good teachers and making it easier to fire bad ones. "Parents ... find it ridiculous

to have to financially induce underperformers and people who were no longer invested to stop teaching their children," SAASSO director David Knuckey said.

The Education Department labelled the survey a "push poll", with "a number of extremely leading questions".

It noted the teacher renewal program had the support of both the primary and secondary principals' associations. The move would give principals "the opportunity to make long-term

appointments to deliver the programs their school communities want", a spokesman said.

Of 837 respondents, more than 90 per cent were parents and 35 per cent worked in schools, including 134 teachers.

The survey found: ONE in seven teachers and more than a third of parents did not know if their school had an anti-bullying policy.

MORE than 40 per cent of the teachers who took part believed their school's anti-bullying plan was ineffective.

THREE-QUARTERS of parents did not want students to call teachers by their first name. FEWER than 10 per cent of parents backed use of emojis in NAPLAN test questions.

State Health Minister Jack Snelling said legislation was being drafted that would bar unvaccinated children being enrolled in preschools.

"This is about protecting SA children from contracting preventable diseases that often result in serious disability, impairment or death," he said.

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