

## Teachers send strong message to COAG

April 13, 2018

State and federal ministers in Adelaide for a Council of Australian Governments (COAG) meeting have been presented with a letter signed by 5900 teachers, principals, support staff and parents calling for fair funding of public schools.

Australian Education Union (AEU) President Correna Haythorpe was joined by teachers' union representatives, including NSW Teachers Federation, to deliver the letter to members of COAG's Education Council.

The letter set out four key demands, including:

- the restoration of the \$1.9 billion cut from public schools in 2018 and 2019
- the funding of schools to 100 per cent of the School Resourcing Standard (SRS)
- increased disability funding
- a call for the Commonwealth to allocate a capital funding stream for public schools.



"Fair and equitable school funding based on student need is fundamental for public schools to ensure every child gets the high-quality education they deserve," Ms Haythorpe said.

"It's time our leaders looked parents and teachers in the eye and guarantee our children a bright education future."

The letter was co-signed by more than 5900 individuals as well as the leadership of 23 allied education groups from across the country, including the NSW Primary Principals' Association, the NSW Secondary Principals Council and the NSW P&C.

Federation President Maurie Mulheron urges parents, teachers, and community members to show their support by signing up for the campaign at [FairFundingNow.org.au](http://FairFundingNow.org.au).

"2018 should have been a year of celebration for our schools with the biggest investment in education in decades," Mr Mulheron said. "But the Turnbull Government tore up the NSW Gonski funding agreement which will result in a cut of \$856 million from NSW public schools over the next two years alone."