



## INDEPENDENT EDUCATION UNION OF AUSTRALIA – QUEENSLAND AND NORTHERN TERRITORY BRANCH



# MEDIA RELEASE

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Msc4lb

### **NAPLAN Breakthrough: Deputy Prime Minister Agrees to *MySchool* Overhaul**

The Independent Education Union of Australia – Queensland and Northern Territory branch (IEUA-QNT) supports the decision by Deputy Prime Minister Julia Gillard to establish a working party (including the IEUA) to prevent the misuse of student performance data on the *MySchool* website and to ensure greater clarity around the data it reports.

IEUA-QNT Secretary Terry Burke said our union welcomes this move by the federal government to address the current misuse of NAPLAN data on the *MySchool* website.

“The Deputy Prime Minister has finally seen good sense and acknowledged that a formal review needs to be undertaken to improve the use of NAPLAN data on the *MySchool* website,” Mr Burke said.

“In light of the teacher unions’ campaigning for an end to NAPLAN data being misused to establish simplistic league tables and poor comparisons of ‘like’ schools on *MySchool*, this positive move by the federal government is an important step for school communities in ensuring this data is no longer used to unfairly compare schools,” he said.

Mr Burke said this decision by Ms Gillard to establish a working party under the auspices of the Australian Curriculum and Reporting Authority (ACARA) as requested by unions is a positive move towards ensuring NAPLAN test data is used appropriately and that the *MySchool* website has credibility.

“Our union looks forward to working with the federal government through ACARA to ensure accurate and transparent data is developed for the *MySchool* website to positively support teachers and their school communities,” Mr Burke said.

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*“The Queensland Independent Education Union represents nearly 15,000 non-government education sector employees including teachers, principals, school support staff, grounds and maintenance staff, early childhood education staff and employees in business, international and English language colleges.”*