
From: John Miller
Sent: Monday, 30 March 2009 11:59 AM
To: Committees
Subject: Submission - Inquiry into School Closures and Reform of the ACT Education System

Submission
Inquiry into School Closures and Reform of the ACT Education
System
Standing Committee on Education, Training and Youth Affairs

Dear Sir / Madam

My family is very disappointed at both the process used, and the ultimate closure of, the Flynn Primary School.

The process used in the closure of Flynn Primary School was a complete waste of both our tax dollars and our time in attending the three 'public participation' sessions. The consultant's outcome did not reflect what the Flynn residents said. It was obvious that the government was going to do what it wanted to do. The 'public participation' exercise was futile and left me sceptical of motives of both the ACT Labor Government and of Government funded consultants.

The closure of the school has deprived the Flynn community of a very significant asset. The closure has resulted extra costs (in both dollars and time) as people now have to transport children across town to other schools. Action now has to run extra buses and children have longer school hours. Children have lost friends. Flynn residents have lost our (only) community hub.

I do not believe that there has been any net saving in closing of the Flynn Primary School.

I am not surprised that there is a growth in private schooling in Canberra as we do not want our children subjected to this type of poor management and myopic planning.

Further - I am yet to be convinced that the current Minister for Education adequately understands the educational needs of children and their parents.

Yours faithfully

John and Helen Miller