



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY
SELECT COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES 2012-2013

Amanda Bresnan MLA (Chair), John Hargreaves (Deputy Chair),
Alistair Coe MLA, Meredith Hunter MLA, Brendan Smyth MLA

**SURVEY OF COMMUNITY AND INDUSTRY GROUPS ON THE ACT BUDGET 2012-2013,
TO BE PRESENTED BY THE ACT GOVERNMENT ON 5 JUNE 2012**

If you wish to respond to this survey, please return it completed to
committees@parliament.act.gov.au, by 9.30AM Tuesday 12 June 2011.

If there is insufficient room for any of your comments, below, please feel free to
append your comments in an extra page. In any appended pages, please give your
comments after you state what question/s you are addressing.

1. Full name of group/organisation:

Association of Parents and Friends of ACT Schools Inc. (APFACTS)

**2. Name and honorific (Ms, Mr, Dr, etc.) of your organisation's/group's contact person
for this survey and their telephone number and email address:**

Mr Peter Murray,

**3. Has your organisation/group developed a written analysis of the Budget that it
would like to submit to the Committee?**

Yes (If yes, please email it to the Committee Secretariat with your completed
Survey.)

No

**4. Please list, in order of priority, your three main areas of concern regarding the ACT
Budget 2012-2013:**

- a. No progress has been made in addressing the significant difference in the funding of non-government schools compared to government schools, ie. in the ACT the Government only contributes less than 12% of the average government school recurrent cost per capita compared to the average figure of around 22% nationally.
- b. No additional funding has been provided to non-government schools to assist them in meeting the significant cost of capital works whether it be new buildings or upgrading or replacing old and obsolete facilities. The negative impact of the closure of the Interest Subsidy Scheme in 2003 has never been addressed in subsequent budgets.
- c. There appears to be no recognition in the Budget that the proportion of children attending non-government schools in the ACT is over 40% and in high schools this proportion has now reached 50%.

5. What are your views on the Budget in relation to your priority areas?

Refer to the areas of concern identified above.

We note that a one-off grant of \$2m to support existing students with disabilities in non-government schools has been provided, however it is not clear to what extent this will close the existing gap in funding of a disabled student in a non-government versus government school. We believe it fair and equitable that a disabled student should be funded at the same level irrespective of which school sector they attend, and when a student with a disability changes sectors, the full funding should follow the student.

We note that the indexation level applied to recurrent funding was 3.7% while it is our understanding that the education element of CPI is greater than 5%.

6. Are there any other particular issues with the Budget that you would like to bring to the Committee's attention? If so, please append a brief outline of the issue/s, in order of priority.

Yes No

If yes, please comment:

7. Did you provide a budget submission to the Government?

Yes (go to question 8) No (go to question 9.)

8. Do you think that the Budget has addressed the issues raised in your submission?

Yes No

Comment (if you wish):

Please refer to previous comments at 4 and 5 above.

9. Does your organisation/group wish to give its views in a Committee public hearing on 15 June 2012, at the Legislative Assembly, London Circuit, Canberra.

Yes No

If you indicate yes, and the Committee decides to invite you to appear at the hearing, the Committee Office will contact you by close of business Wednesday 13 June 2012 to confirm arrangements for your appearance . Please note that the Committee may not be able to hear from all groups/organisations who indicate that they wish to appear.

Thank you.
