Committee Secretary Senate Select Committee on School Funding PO Box 6100 Parliament House Canberra ACT 2600 Australia

Submission to the Senate Select Committee on School Funding

I am a secondary educator in the early stages of my career as a classroom teacher currently employed at Erindale College in the ACT. I have worked across 5 different schools in both the private and public sectors in my 5 years of teaching, the vast majority of which was spent in the public education system.

Proper funding for education, as brought about from the original Gonksi recommendations would allow schools to adequately meet students' needs in all aspects of their education.

A full 6 years of Gonski funding would provide more programmes to assist underperforming students; better support for young people finding themselves homeless and struggling to cope with school and independent living; proper support for students with individual learning needs and disabilities; vital infrastructure and resources to ensure that students become productive in the new "digital age"; and so much more.

Proper, full level, 6 years of Gonski funding would ensure that the current generation grow up with the skills and education required to fix the mess that is the legacy from the mostly self-serving baby boomer generation and leave a new legacy of a sustainable and equitable Australian society, or not.

Submitted by Heath Cooper, Teacher regarding Erindale College Friday 14 March 2014