



Dear Committee Secretariat

I wish to voice my concern over the demise of the teacher librarian in Victorian Schools.

As a Literacy support teacher (20 years teaching), I believe the teacher librarian is crucial to improving literacy standards across Australian schools. In schools where a committed full time

Teacher--librarian is employed, students are actively engaged in Literacy reading groups, lunchtime book clubs

encouraged with reading promotions and visiting authors, all aside from the important task of teaching information literacy skills.

1. My previous **two** schools have had **no qualified teacher librarian**. (with the result of a run down facility and little student/teacher use)
2. Principals are cost cutting and governments are turning a blind eye.
3. Students and teachers are being cheated out of crucial literacy support and direction.
4. Principals are employing anyone who 'walks in the door' to run the school library (A **Year 12 student** was employed to run our school library - she lasted 2 months)
5. Doctors manage medical clinics/ Teacher librarians should manage school libraries. (5 years university training is being made a mockery of)
6. We have a beautiful new library facility (Thanks to the BER grant) **but no librarian** - an empty building...what a disgrace!

I suggest a full time teacher librarian be made a requirement for every school with > 400 enrolments (and part thereof for smaller schools) and that Information literacy skills be made a compulsory subject.

Yours sincerely,

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